

THE SIERRA MADRE POLICE DEPARTMENT PARTICIPATES WITH THE ZERO TOLERANCE DISTRACTED DRIVING ENFORCEMENT OPERATION

Sierra Madre, CA. – As part of April's Distracted Driving Awareness Month campaign, the Sierra Madre Police Department will be actively ticketing those texting or operating hand-held cell phones for the month of April. Drivers who break the law and place themselves and others in danger will be cited with no warnings. The current minimum ticket cost is \$159, with subsequent tickets costing at least \$279. In April 2012, over 57,000 tickets were written statewide for texting and hand-held cell use. There were nearly 450,000 convictions in 2012. Whether it's a ticket or a crash, as the campaign theme states, "It's Not Worth It!"

Distracted driving is a serious traffic safety concern that puts everyone on the road at risk. In recent years, hundreds have been killed and thousands seriously injured in California as a result of collisions that involved at least one driver who was distracted. Nationally, an estimated 3,331 died in 2011. As a result, law enforcement across the state, including the Sierra Madre Police Department are increasingly cracking down on cell phone use and texting. This April will see over 225 local agencies plus the CHP conducting zero tolerance enforcements.

"We all know that talking on our cell phones while driving is distracting, but that doesn't stop some people from continuing to do it," said Sierra Madre Police Chief Larry Giannone. "This effort is intended to educate our community about the dangers of cell phone use while driving. We hope that once people see the statistics and realize the danger involved, they will change their driving habits to help protect themselves, their families, and others on the road."

Drivers who use hand-held devices are four times as likely to get into crashes serious enough to injure themselves. Younger, inexperienced drivers under 20 years old have the highest proportion of distraction-related fatal crashes. In addition, studies show that texting while driving can delay a driver's reaction time just as severely as having a blood alcohol content of a legally drunk driver.

Studies also show that there is no difference in the risks between hands-free and hand-held cell phone conversations, both of which can result in "inattention blindness" which occurs when the brain isn't seeing what is clearly visible because the drivers' focus is on the phone conversation and not on the road. When over one third of your brain's functioning that should be on your driving moves over to cell phone talking, you can become a cell phone "zombie."

To avoid a distracted driving ticket or crash, the Sierra Madre Police Department offers drivers the following tips:

- Turn off your cell phone and/or put it out of reach while driving;
- Include in your outgoing message that you can't answer while you are driving; and
- Don't call or text anyone at a time when you think they may be driving.



Creative Arts Group

108 N. Baldwin Ave., Sierra Madre, CA 91024  
626-355-8350 ✪ [www.creativeartsgroup.org](http://www.creativeartsgroup.org)

Student Art Sale

Sunday, March 17, 9-4pm – on the front patio  
The Jameson Gallery featuring the work of  
Southern California artists will also be open.

This Week's Highlights:

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5	PASADENA/ALTADENA	7	ARCADIA				
		8	MONROVIA/DUARTE				

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JOAN CROW CHOSEN AS OLDER 'SIERRA MADRE' AMERICAN OF THE YEAR

The City of Sierra Madre Community Services Department and the Senior Community Commission are happy to announce that Joan Crow has been selected as the Older American of the Year for Sierra Madre. Joan Crow is a longtime resident of Sierra Madre and active member of the Sierra Madre Civic Club for more than 30 years serving as president from 1983-1984. In addition to her community support through Civic Club, Joan is a Eucharistic Minister at St. Rita's Catholic Church and has served as the Chair for the St. Rita Women's Retreat and St. Rita Feast Day. Joan is a faithful supporter of the Friends of the Library, Creative Arts Group, Sierra Madre Playhouse, and much, much more



Each year the President of the United States, the Governor of California and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors designate the month of May as Older American Month. In recognition of Joan Crow's dedicated volunteer service to the community, Sierra Madre will be honoring her at a local reception held at the Hart Park House Senior Center on Friday, May 10, 2013 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Previous Honorees include: Jerry & Nan Carlton, Pat Alcorn, Fran Garbaccio, Ken Anhalt, Eph Konigsberg, Russ Anderson, George Throop, Loyal Camacho, John Grijalva, Joylouse Harte-Smith, James Heasley, Midge Morash, James Tyler, Isbella Paegal, Bonnie Garner, Rose Fafach, Ed Wellman, Celeste McCreary, Dorothy Tillquist, Doris Webster, Elsie Dammeyer, George Mauer, and Karl Teigler.

For more information on the Older American Reception or on how you can assist with honoring Joan Crow, please contact the Senior Services Desk at 626-355-7394. Original photo by Bill Cobutn

FOUNDATION PRESENTS FIRST GRANT OF YEAR TO LEGENDARY TRAIL RACE



Mt. Wilson Trail Race Chair Pete Siberell receives check from Foundation Chair Erica Blodgett. Photo courtesy of Sierra Madre Community Foundation

At a private reception on March 2, the Sierra Madre Community Foundation presented its first grant of the year to the Mt. Wilson Trail Race Committee in the amount of \$1,250 to help support the 2013 Kids Run at the annual Mt. Wilson Trail Race on May 25. Foundation Board Chair Erica Blodgett presented the grant to Trail Race Committee Chairman Pete Siberell (above) in front of a crowd of about 60 guests. Those in attendance included former Foundation Board members, leaders of various community and civic groups, and friends and family of current Board members all invited to celebrate the accomplishments of the Foundation over the last year. In 2012, the Sierra Madre Community Foundation distributed grants to Creative Arts Group, the Sierra Madre Playhouse, the Sierra Madre Public Li-

brary, and the 4th of July Committee in addition to establishing the Eph Konigsberg Memorial Fund. The fund was created through a bequest to the Foundation from the estate of the late Konigsberg, a well-known Sierra Madre volunteer, to support staff development at the public library. According to Siberell, the grant to the Mt. Wilson Trail Race Kids Run meant that the race committee would be able to keep the kids event free for the children who participate. This was the first grant the Foundation has made to the Race itself, though the Foundation is the trustee organization for the Fletcher Fund whose resources go to maintaining the world renowned Mt. Wilson Trail. Donations can be made to the Fletcher Fund through the Foundation to help the volunteers who maintain the trail with the supplies they need.

During her brief remarks, Blodgett took time to share some of the history of the Foundation – from its involvement in the auditorium restoration at Sierra Madre Elementary School to the support of creation of Goldberg Park – and to honor the work and vision of past Board members. "We who serve on the Board now take very seriously the responsibility of stewarding their vision for this organization," she said. Blodgett noted that all the work of the Foundation, past and present, is done by volunteers. The reception was held at the home of Gina and Steve Long. Event coordinator was Michelle Keith. Catering was donated in part by Claude Beltran and beverages by The Bottle Shop. For more information about the Sierra Madre Community Foundation visit [www.sierramadrefoundation.org](http://www.sierramadrefoundation.org).

## Weather Wise

## 5-Day Forecast

## Sierra Madre, Ca.

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

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

CITY OF SIERRA MADRE  
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

NEXT CITY COUNCIL MEETING:  
Tuesday, March 26, 2013  
6:00 pm

3/16 - Library Ancestry Class  
3/17 - Garden Club Plant Booth at Wistaria Festival  
3/17 - Chamber of Commerce Wistaria Festival

3/18 - Community Services Commission 6:30

3/19 - Library eReader Class  
3/19 - Chamber and Woman's Club Meeting  
3/20 - Library Parenting Workshop  
3/20 - Library Ancestry Class

3/20 - Tree Advisory Committee 8:00

3/21 - Library Book Club  
3/23 - Alverno High School Gala

3/25-3/29 - Sierra Madre School Spring Break

3/25 - Rotary Music Competition

3/26 - City Council Meeting 6:30

3/26 - Alverno High School Living Stations  
3/27 - Library Parenting Workshop  
3/27 - Library Trustees Meeting 7:00  
3/28 - CERT Training  
3/30 - Volunteer Firefighters Easter Egg Hunt  
3/30 - Library eReader Class

1630 AM EMERGENCY RADIO &  
Free on-air publicity for local events

Sierra Madre's EMERGENCY 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*. The station covers the city of Sierra Madre, plus surrounding areas of Pasadena, Arcadia, and Monrovia. Your event must:

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

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

# ED CLARE

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## 2013 HUCK FINN FISHING DERBY AND CAMPOUT

*The Fishing Frenzy is about to begin in Sierra Madre!*

The annual Huck Finn Fishing Derby and Campout will be here before you know it: Friday, April 5 – Sunday, April 7. The weekend long event is held at the Sierra Madre Settling Ponds next to Dapper Field and behind the Public Works Yard. The event is sponsored by the City of Sierra Madre Community Services Department, Sierra Madre Civic Club and the Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club.

## Campout (Friday, April 5)

Participants must sign up in advance for campsites which are available on a first come, first serve basis. Camping registration is available starting Monday, February 25 through Friday, March 29 and must be done at the Community Service office located at 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. The cost is \$55 per campsite which includes derby contest for four kids and family fishing on Saturday.

## Fishing Derby (Saturday, April 6)

Youths ages 3-15 years are encouraged to participate in the Fishing Derby which is held from 7:00 – 11:30 am on Saturday, April 6. Participation in the derby is \$10 per youth and registration will be accepted the morning of the event only. Participants will pay at the entrance located next to Dapper Field in Sierra Vista Park. All skill levels are welcome and experienced Fishing Guides will be on hand to assist all participants. The Kiwanis Club will provide food available for purchase.

## Family Fishing (Saturday, April 6 and Sunday, April 7)

Family Fishing is open to all ages and will be held Saturday from 12:30-4:00 pm and Sunday from 7:00am-4:00pm. Admission is \$20 for a family of four.

For more information, please contact the Community Services 26.355.5278.

## THE SIERRA MADRE KIWANIS CLUB

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

## Sierra Madre 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](mailto:peggybeau@gmail.com) and visit our Facebook page Rotary of Sierra Madre.

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

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Open House  
Friday, March 22, 2013  
6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

**Congratulating the Class of 2013  
who were each accepted into the high school of his  
or her first choice!**



## Creative Arts Group Presents

## Art of the Garden

A Garden Tour

April 21, 2013, 10:30 – 4:30 pm

Tickets \$25 pre-sale, \$30 day of tour

108 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, CA 91024  
626•355•8350 [www.creativeartsgroup.org](http://www.creativeartsgroup.org)

PREPARE FOR A MEDICAL  
EMERGENCY - FILE OF LIFE  
PACKETS AVAILABLE

Sierra Madre, CA. Medical emergencies are almost always stressful for the patient and everyone in the patient's household. The time to assemble important medical information is before the medical emergency occurs rather than during the actual medical crisis. Medical information assembled in a period of calm is likely to be more accurate and more thorough than information assembled in a moment of crisis.

The File of Life program enables Sierra Madre residents to compile important medical information into one complete packet and make it available to the local paramedics in case of a medical emergency. The information is stored in a plastic envelope in the resident's refrigerator, and a decal on the resident's front window alerts EMS personnel that the information is available on the premises.

File of Life Packets, made possible by the Senior Community Commission, can be obtained free of charge at the Hart Park House Senior Center or Sierra Madre Fire Department. Instructions for completing the packet will be provided upon pick up. For more information, please call the Hart Park House Senior Center at 626.355.7394.



COMPLETE  
WISTARIA  
FESTIVAL  
DETAILS IN  
SECTION B

VILLAGE VINE ONLINE  
(FORMERLY RADIO FISHBOWL)  
THIS WEEK

MONDAY - 10 - 11 am Barry, Rich & Lisa Show  
Trivia and Humor at it's finest. Just try to keep up with their wit! JOIN THE FUN!!!

WEDNESDAY - Noon Carol Canterbury & Tina Salvatore  
'CANTERBURY TALES'

Join Carol and Tina as they interview Marite Cochard and Sarah Sparks two real estate short sale specialists!!! Find out the truth about real estate short sales, modification loans, and fore-closures!!

THURSDAYS - Noon Catherine Adde's  
OUR TRAVEL AFFAIR  
This week Catherine and her guest, Lisa Milne, will guide us through the African Continent.

FRIDAY - Noon Gene Goss'  
VILLAGE INTERSECTIONS  
Gene's guest on Village Intersections this week is GeTom Love, Sierra Madre's Representative on the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District Board of Directors. Gene and Tom will discuss a number of timely local water supply issues.

SATURDAY MORNINGS D. J. Boddington

DJ Boddington AKA James Faulkner returns Saturday morning at 7:00 until 10:00 with his Saturday Morning Mix show. Lovers of music - tune in!

Village Vine Online Sports presents Little League Baseball this Wednesday night, March 20th, at 5:00 PM:

The Sierra Madre Brewers host the Pasadena Central Red Sox. The broadcast team of Gene Goss and Erik Zimmerman will provide play by play coverage and commentary live from Heasley Field.

Set your smart phone and or computer browsers to  
[www.villagevine.org](http://www.villagevine.org)

# A+

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JUDY WEBB-MARTIN

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judywm@podley.com

DRE #00541631

The market is red hot!!!

Inventory is extremely low! If you have been sitting on the fence about selling, now is the time!  
Please call us for a complimentary evaluation of your home. You'll be pleasantly surprised!

The following properties have entered or closed escrow so far in 2013:

ESCROWS OPENED:

ADDRESS	LIST PRICE
92 West Laurel Avenue	\$375,000
197 West Montecito Avenue	\$459,800
506 West Sierra Madre Blvd. #C	\$535,000
286 West Montecito Avenue #M	\$548,000
82 Victoria Lane	\$575,000
103 Esperanza #F	\$579,000
83 West Highland Avenue	\$625,000
665 Edgeview Drive	\$729,000
43 Windsor Lane	\$748,000
436 Theresa Lane	\$879,000
635 Edgeview Drive	\$980,000
665 Edgeview Drive	\$980,000
471 San Gabriel Court	\$1,060,000
317 North Lima Street	\$1,150,000
359 Grove Street	\$1,195,000

ESCROWS CLOSED:

ADDRESS	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE
76 Big Santa Anita Canyon	\$45,000	\$45,000
619 Woodland Drive	\$175,000	\$175,000
684 West Sierra Madre Blvd. #21	\$275,000	\$235,000
807 Skyland Drive	\$299,992	\$270,000
363 Camillo Road	\$382,000	\$438,299
263 East Sierra Madre Blvd. #J	\$509,000	\$509,000
225 Sturtevant Drive	\$499,000	\$510,000
339 Camillo Road	\$520,000	\$510,000
552 Manzanita Avenue	\$529,000	\$520,000
600 West Sierra Madre Blvd.	\$525,000	\$525,000
555 West Sierra Madre Blvd. #I	\$559,000	\$540,000
89 North Mountain Trail	\$589,000	\$575,000
181 North Baldwin Avenue	\$675,000	\$650,000
1965 Vista Avenue	\$875,000	\$831,000
314 North Sunnyside	\$799,000	\$835,000
415 Auburn Lane	\$798,000	\$865,000
58 West Carter Avenue	\$1,195,000	\$1,195,000
258 Rancho Road	\$1,090,000	\$1,200,000

Information obtained from Multiple Listing Service (CMRMLS).

PODLEY PROPERTIES | 30 N. Baldwin Avenue, Sierra Madre, CA 91024

# SIERRA MADRE

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

## REMEMBRANCES

### CHRISTOPHER R. LALONE

Christopher R. LaLone of Sierra Madre passed away on March 16, 2013 from cancer at the age of 62. He was at home under hospice care and the comfort center and the comfort of this family.

Christopher was born September 7, 1951 at St. Luke Hospital in Pasadena, Ca. to Earl and Margaret LaLone. He was preceded in death by his father Earl LaLone, who passed away in February, 2012. Christopher is survived by his mother Margaret, sister Marsha, son Philip and daughter Melissa.

Chris worked for various medical device and infusion therapy companies in the Los Angeles, Orange County areas as a corporate executive. His 25 years of senior management experience helped him develop new business ventures from startups to nationally recognized organizations.

He attended Sierra Madre Elementary, Pasadena High School and Pasadena City College. He was a recent member of the Arcadia Elks Lodge.

Chris enjoyed his "Orchid Camp", photography, and making stained glass windows and objects of art. He loved playing his Ovation guitar and recently a harmonica. His harmonica skills were excellent while Chris kept wanting to improve. He loved the local Sierra Madre bands and worked diligently to sit in on some sets.

Chris would make annual trips to Blue Lake and he and cousin Ron LaLone would routinely provide their special music to patrons of the Likely Saloon, Modoc County, California.

Chris was an avid trout fisherman and spent most summers and fall at June Lake Loop, camping and fishing with family and friends.

Christopher Robin will be missed and never forgotten. We all loved his joke telling, music and wit, "Happy trails to you – until we meet again."

The family will only have a private graveside service at Sierra Madre Cemetary.



### WILLIAM (BILL) FRANCIS BIRGENSMITH

Born August 6, 1930 in Stanton, Virginia in the Shannon Valley, he died on February 12, 2013.

Bill attended public schools in Stanton – Stonewall Jackson primary, Thomas Jefferson Grammar School and Robert E. Lee High School. During the Korean War, Bill enlisted in the United States Air Force and was appointed to Electronics School at Lowry Air Base in Denver, Colorado. There Bill studied gun laying for the famous F-86 Saberjet.

Bill took advanced classes in AP6-30 gun laying from the fighters. He was then transferred to Okinawa. There he was assigned to Naha, Okinawa where he was attached to the 4th All Weather Interceptor Squadron.

In June of 1972, Bill volunteered for Korea at Taque. After this he was transferred to Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas to teach gun laying to fighter pilots going to combat.

While in Las Vegas he finished his 4 year service. After his tour of duty in 1955, he married Ester R. Davis and they moved to California. Their daughter Virginia Susan was born on October 21, 1955.

Bill was employed at Transformer Engineers, then by CEC until 1968. In 1968 Bill became owner of Union Oil 76 in Sierra Madre retiring in 1997.

During his retirement, he enjoyed working in his garage on bird houses, model airplanes and with his two cats for company.

Bill expired after several months of illness on February 12, 2013.

He is survived by his daughter Virginia and friend Joyce Wilcox.



City of Sierra Madre

### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

**From:** The City of Sierra Madre

**Subject:** **2008-2014 Housing Element, including General Plan Amendment (GPA 13-01 A, B, and C), Municipal Code Text Amendment (MCTA 13-01) and Zone Change No. 13-01**

**Applicant:** City of Sierra Madre

**Project Location:** Properties in the City of Sierra Madre, County of Los Angeles, State of California

The City of Sierra Madre gives notice, pursuant to State of California law, that the Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing to consider a General Plan Amendment (GPA 13-01A) to adopt the 2008-2014 Housing Element, which is a State mandated General Plan element. The Housing Element must be updated pursuant to California Government Code Section 65588 for the 2008-2014 planning period. Implementation of the new Housing Element requires two additional GPAs (13-01B) to adopt a new Land Use Category RH1 (Residential High Density, up to 20 dwelling units/acre), and GPA 13-01C to change the Land Use designation of property located at 271-293 Mariposa Avenue from RH (Residential Medium/High Density, up to 13 dwelling units/acre) to RH1 (Residential High Density, up to 20 dwelling units/acre). The final aspect of the project includes a Municipal Code Text Amendment (MCTA 13-01) to add a new zoning category R-3H (Multiple Family Residential High) and a Zone Change (ZC 13-01) to rezone 271-293 Mariposa Avenue from R-3 to R-3H.

#### DATE AND TIME OF HEARING

City of Sierra Madre  
Planning Commission meeting  
Thursday, **April 18, 2013**  
(Hearing begins at 7:00 p.m.)

#### PLACE OF HEARING

City of Sierra Madre  
City Council Chambers  
232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.  
Sierra Madre, CA

All interested persons may attend this meeting and the Planning Commission will hear them with respect thereto.

**ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:** The project qualifies for a Negative Declaration pursuant to the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Initial Study/Negative Declaration document and Draft 2008-2014 Housing Element are available for review at the Development Services front counter, the Sierra Madre Library, and on the City's website (under the Development Services page) at [www.cityofsierramadre.com](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com). The public comment period for the Initial Study/Negative Declaration ends on April 15, 2013.

**APPEAL:** The decision of the Planning Commission is subject to a 10-day appeal period to the City Council. If in the future anyone wishes to challenge the decision of the Planning Commission in court, one may be limited to raising the issues that were raised or presented in written correspondence delivered to the Planning Commission at, or before, the scheduled public hearing. For further information on this subject, please contact the Development Services Department at (626) 355-7138.

City of Sierra Madre

### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

**From:** The City of Sierra Madre

**Subject:** **MUNICIPAL CODE TEXT AMENDMENT 12-03 (MCTA 12-03)**

**Applicant:** City of Sierra Madre

**Project Location:** Properties in the City of Sierra Madre, County of Los Angeles, State of California

The City of Sierra Madre gives notice, pursuant to State of California law, that the City Council will conduct a public hearing to consider an Ordinance amending the development standards for single-family residences in the City. The following chapters of the Municipal Code are proposed to be amended: 1) Chapter 17.20 ("R-1 One Family Residential Zone") regarding various definitions (attic, habitable attic space, bedroom, driveway, gross and net floor area, flag lot, and front lot line), permitted uses, floor area calculation, setbacks, building floor area calculation, height, and parking, among others; and 2) Chapter 17.68 ("Parking") regarding parking requirements, tandem parking, and pavement of parking areas associated with single-family residential uses subject to R-1 development standards. At their meeting on March 7, 2013, the Planning Commission recommended approval of MCTA 12-03 to the City Council.

#### DATE AND TIME OF HEARING

City of Sierra Madre  
City Council meeting  
Tuesday, **March 26, 2013**  
(Hearing begins at 6:30 p.m.)

#### PLACE OF HEARING

City of Sierra Madre  
City Council Chambers  
232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.  
Sierra Madre, CA

All interested persons may attend this meeting and the City Council will hear them with respect thereto.

**ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:** The project qualifies for a Negative Declaration pursuant to the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

**APPEAL:** If in the future anyone wishes to challenge the decision of the City Council in court, one may be limited to raising the issues that were raised or presented in written correspondence delivered to the City Council at, or before, the scheduled public hearing. For further information on this subject, please contact the Development Services Department at (626) 355-7135.

## Sierra Madre Police Blotter

*For the period March 4-10, 2013*

### Monday March 4, 2013

The owner of the pharmacy located on North Baldwin Avenue reported that an attempt entry was made over the weekend. Pry marks were found on the rear door but entry was not accomplished. A week earlier, the surveillance camera that monitored this area had been removed by unknown individuals.

### Tuesday March 5, 2013

At approximately 2pm, an unknown suspect broke into a vehicle parked in the Bailey Canyon Parking lot by smashing a side window. Small items that had been left on the passenger seats were removed and the suspect departed without being seen.

At approximately 3pm an unknown suspect broke into a vehicle parked in the recreation center parking lot at 611 E. Sierra Madre Boulevard. The suspect smashed the right side window of the vehicle, entered and removed property from the front passenger seat. Later that day, the victim was alerted that an unknown suspect used her credit cards at two locations in the City of Arcadia.

Between the hours of 8:30am and 2pm, an unknown suspect entered a residence in the 00 block of West Grandview Avenue through the unlocked front door. The suspect removed jewelry from a jewelry box in the master bedroom but left the rest of the residence undisturbed. The suspect left the residence using the front door, leaving it open as he departed.

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This 1914 California Craftsman Bungalow has a large living room, formal dining room, multiple conference rooms and a garden pavilion. A complete kitchen with two gas ranges two ovens, microwave, two refrigerators and dishwasher.  
The Club provides tables and chairs at no extra cost.

**ESSICK HOUSE - 550 W. SIERRA MADRE BLVD. AT SUNNYSIDE | SIERRA MADRE, CA. 91024**

**CLIFFORD SWAN**

INVESTMENT COUNSEL

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# Pasadena Altadena

News From Your Community For Your Community

## Police Hunt for Suspects in Shooting

Undercover officers exchanged gunfire with two suspects Thursday afternoon prompting a massive manhunt lasting most of the day —the hunt also barred residents in the area from their homes.

At press time, police said they made one arrest although gave little details, including if the arrest was related to the shooting. Witness said they saw officers handcuffing a man on Hill Ave, near the area.

According to police, around 12:20 p.m., while detectives were working with LASD plain clothes deputies in a joint investigation they observed a suspect vehicle. Without notice the suspect vehicle collided with the deputies' vehicle. Two suspects exited and abandoned their vehicle and at least one suspect fired rounds at the deputies. Deputies returned fire and it is unknown if either of the suspects were wounded. No law enforcement officers were injured they said.

Police dedicated a contingency of officers in a large containment area (Lake Ave. to Hill Ave. — Villa St. to Orange Grove Blvd.) in an effort to locate the suspects. The area was opened and residents were allowed to return to their homes around 9 p.m.

Both suspects were disrobed as male African American, 18-25, thin build, one wearing a black t-shirt, blue jeans, and the other, wearing a gray t-shirt, blue jeans.

Police said the investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information is asked to contact the Pasadena Police Department at (626) 744-4241, or LASD (323) 890-5500.

## Pet of the Week



Glinda is 12-year-old black cat. She was rescued from an apartment fire in Glendale last month. Paramedics were able to resuscitate her and she's made a full recovery. She'd love to find a loving home.

Glinda's adoption fee is \$70, which includes her spay surgery, a microchip, the first set of vaccinations, as well as a free follow-up health check at a participating vet. New adopters will receive complimentary health and wellness exam from VCA Animal Hospitals, as well as a goody bag filled with information on how to care for your pet. She also qualifies for our Seniors for Seniors program, as well as our Lucky 13 Black Cat adoption event on Wednesday, March 13 where he adoption fee is reduced to \$13! Ask an adoptions counselor for more information during your visit

Call the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA at 626.792.7151 to ask about A321881, or visit at 361 S. Raymond Ave. in Pasadena. Adoption hours are 11-4 Sunday, 9-5 Tuesday -Friday, 9-4 Saturday. Pets may not be available for adoption and cannot be held for potential adopters from phone calls or email. Directions and photos of all pets can be found at [www.pasadenahumane.org](http://www.pasadenahumane.org).



## Author Chats Up 'The Age of Miracles'

By Dean Lee

Karen Thompson Walker, author of "The Age of Miracles," discussed the book Thursday night, in conversation with Library Director Jan Sanders as part of this year's One City, One Story community reading project.

Although this is Thompson Walker's first novel, the much anticipated book made headlines, last year, when published.

Thompson Walker spoke about being a former book editor at Simon & Schuster, and how she found time to write the book in the mornings before work. She said she would sometimes write while riding the subway.

She discussed a little of the science behind the story, which deals with a cataclysmic change in the earth's rotation causing day and night to become longer, only saying, that although she does not have a background in science she has always been captivated by good stories that use it as the foundation.

Many have likened the book to be a cross between Ray Bradbury's "All Summer in a

Day," and Alice Sebold's "The Lovely Bones."

In "The Age of Miracles" the catastrophe is juxtaposed against characters coming of age during extraordinary times and people going on with their lives in an era of profound uncertainty. The story is told through the eyes of an 11-year-old girl Julia.

Sanders took questions from the audience including if the book was aimed at young adults or whether a movie was in the works.

"I did auction the movie rights," Thompson Walker said. "To a company River Road I was very excited about. They did Brokeback Mountain and The Tree of Life and a couple of other artistic movies."

She said the company had already written a script and was looking for a director, "I hope that it happens, Hollywood is such a crazy place. Many times book rights will get sold but never made or it takes 15 years..." she said.

Thompson Walker said she wrote the novel for an adult audience.

The Age of Miracles was

## Mars Rover Mission Picked For Smithsonian Honor



NASA's Mars Science Laboratory Project, managed by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, has been selected to receive the top group honor from the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum -- the Trophy for Current Achievement. The award will be presented on April 24 at a black-tie dinner in Washington, D.C.

The Mars Science Laboratory Project built and operates the rover Curiosity, which has been investigating past and current environments in Mars' Gale Crater since its dramatic sky-crane landing seven months ago.

The trophies for current and lifetime achievement are

the National Air and Space Museum's most prestigious awards. They recognize outstanding achievements in the fields of aerospace science and technology and their history.

NASA's Mars Science Laboratory Project is using the Curiosity rover with its 10 science instruments to investigate whether an area within Mars' Gale Crater ever has offered an environment favorable for microbial life. JPL, a division of the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, manages the project for NASA's Science Mission Directorate in Washington.

## Jump into Spring Festivals, Egg Hunts in Pasadena

Jump into spring by hopping over to one of several special festivals and egg hunts for children at Victory Park on March 23; Villa-Parke Community Center on March 30 and Robinson Park, also on March 30.

The fun begins at Victory Park, 2575 Paloma St., on Saturday, March 23, with a special "Breakfast with the Bunny" and egg hunt.

Enjoy Breakfast with the Bunny from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. with three pancakes, choice of bacon or sausage, choice of fruit and juice. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. After breakfast, jump into the Spring Festival where arts and crafts, games, prizes, face painting, balloon animals and much more can be found from until 1:00 p.m.

And don't forget to bring your best basket! A special egg hunt just for toddlers will be held at 11:00 a.m., followed by a separate egg hunt beginning at noon for children ages 5 to 12.

All post-breakfast activities will be free, except for rides. The

event is co-sponsored by District 4 Councilmember Gene Masuda and the City's Human Services and Recreation Department. For more information call (626) 744.7507.

All families are invited to Villa-Parke Community Center, 363 E. Villa St., for the Center's Spring Egg Hunt, from noon to 3:00 p.m., Saturday, March 30. Bring your cameras to hop in line for pictures with the Bunny too.

The day's free events also will feature the Armory Center's art projects; games, rides and more! Egg Hunt organized by age groups runs from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. For more information, call the Villa-Parke staff at (626) 744-6530.

Robinson Park, 1081 N. Fair Oaks Ave., also celebrates spring with an egg hunt, free treats, arts and crafts and other fun activities for kids from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., Saturday, March 30. All children ages 1-12 are welcome. The hunt takes place on the athletic field just south of the Community Center. Call (626) 744-7330 for more details.

published on June 21 — the longest day of the year.

Coming up, Pasadena Central Library's One City, One Story Day on Saturday, March 23 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. will have a variety of themed programs surrounding, "The Age of Miracles," including one family's experiences living on Mars time when NASA's Curiosity Rover landed on the red planet.

## Fuller Announces New President

The Fuller Theological Seminary Board of Trustees announced Tuesday that Mark Labberton has been chosen to serve as the school's fifth president. Labberton will take over as president July 1.

"Along with my fellow trustees, I am delighted to welcome Mark Labberton to the presidency of Fuller Seminary," Board Chair Clifford L. Penner said. "We are excited and inspired by the outstanding qualities and accomplishments he brings to this position. He is a scholar and academic leader, pastor for more than 25 years, accomplished author, and leading voice in many international ministries. Mark brings strong spiritual leadership, a wide range of experiences, and the vision to guide Fuller into a new era of global leadership in seminary education. As a Fuller alumnus (MDiv) and professor, he fully comprehends Fuller's rich and diverse legacy."

"I feel an incredible sense of joy and hope to be given this opportunity," said Dr. Labberton. "Thanks to Rich Mouw's generous, gracious, and irenic leadership, Fuller is well positioned to influence how the gospel is communicated, understood, and embodied in the world."

Richard J. Mouw, announced last May his retirement from the Fuller presidency as of June 2013 and will return to Fuller in a faculty role following a study leave during the 2013-14 academic year. "Mark Labberton is an excellent choice to be the next president of Fuller. I know him to be a very gifted Christian leader who will be able to take Fuller into an exciting new future," he said.

## Supervisors Send Welcome to New Pope

A motion by Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich will send a 5-signature congratulatory proclamation to Pope Francis I.

On Wednesday, March 13, Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio of Argentina was elected as the new Pope of the Roman Catholic Church, taking the name Francis I, and becoming the 266th Pontiff in the Church's 2,000-year history.

"Having been founded at the San Gabriel Mission by Catholic missionaries in 1771, Los Angeles County has a rich history with the Church and today is home to nearly 4,000,000 Catholics," said Antonovich in his motion. "The election of Francis I has had a resounding and positive impact on County residents of many faiths."

## Alan Zorthian Picked as Doo Dah Grand Marshal

Alan Zorthian, architect, art lover and proprietor of Zorthian Ranch, will serve as Grand Marshal of the 36th Occasional Pasadena Doo Dah Parade. Zorthian, son of well-loved bohemian couple Jirayr and Dabney Zorthian, has been responsible for renewing the life of the unique multi-acre property in the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains in Altadena.

Zorthian grew up surrounded by artists and musicians and is no stranger to Doo Dah culture. Other Grand Marshals in the family include cousin, Savitri D., wife and collaborator with "Reverend Billy" and the Church of Stop Shopping who served in 2007, and of course Alan's parents, Jirayr and Dabney, who each served in previous years.

Upon their passing, many have conjectured about the fate of Zorthian Ranch. Alan took leadership by building and reinforcing structures on the property, while providing an archive for the art and life of his well-known parents.

Alan also hosts an annual International Folk Music Festival, and has invited the Institute for Urban Ecology to create an urban farm on 22-acres of ranch property.

## Altadena Sheriff's Station 'Coffee with the Captain'

The Altadena Sheriff's Station is pleased to announce another "Coffee with the Captain" event on Monday, March 25, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Altadena Sheriff's Station Captain John Benedict will once again be at the Coffee Gallery, located at 2029 N. Lake Avenue. The Coffee Gallery is located on Lake Avenue just south of Alameda Street and was selected again as a location following the great turnout at prior events last year.

Captain Benedict has enjoyed meeting members of the community at these

## PCC Welcomes Famed California Poet

As part of its celebration of National Poetry Month, Pasadena City College will host a reception for California Poet Laureate Juan Felipe Herrera on Tuesday, March 19, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in PCC's Creveling Lounge.

Known for his work in socially-centered poetics, Herrera often reads and performs at schools, prisons and farm worker camps, and in many college campuses across the nation. He's published 29 books of poetry, spoken word, novels for young adults, and collections for children.

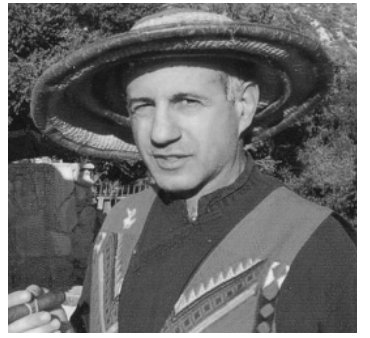
Herrera has won numerous awards, including the

## Learn How to Produce Your Own TV Show

Pasadena Media offers a free television-training program for volunteers. Various Areas of training are available to Pasadena residents. Plan to attend an orientation to discover the right classes for you. Producers' Training teaches citizens how to produce their own show for The Arroyo Channel. Studio Production/Equipment training is also offered for volunteer crewmembers. In addition, on-going

**Class Offerings 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm Nightly**

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**Technical Director**  
**Stage Manager**  
**Teleprompter**  
**Citizen Journalism**  
**Digital Film Group**



Now the Zorthian Ranch not only remains the site of eclectic cultural gatherings, it will become a hub for ecological workshops and organic growing.

Upon being notified of his selection, Alan who sounded like he was in his car, paused then uttered, "I'm flabbergasted!" adding "I am not my parents but I gladly accept the honor!" he said.

Parade organizer Tom Coston says Zorthian has all the qualities a Doo Grand Marshal should possess. "Alan has always been a big supporter and friend, he carries the Zorthian torch proudly and has Doo Dah in his DNA," he explains.

The new Grand Marshal will lead hundreds of Doo Dah marchers and revelers on Saturday, April 27th, stepping off at 11am in East Pasadena.

events. He finds these events an excellent opportunity to continue building on existing partnerships with the community and is very interested in hearing any questions or concerns anyone may have. These events help Captain Benedict and the Altadena Sheriff's Station in identifying and prioritizing issues occurring in the community.

If you see any suspicious activity in the Altadena Area, call the Altadena Sheriff's station at (626) 798-1131 or 9-1-1 in an emergency.



Guggenheim Fellowship, the National Book Critic's Circle Award, the Latino International Award, the PEN USA Award, and the Josephine Miles Pen/Oakland Award. He is currently a member of the Board of Chancellors of the Academy of American Poetry, and teaches creative writing at UC Riverside.

This event is open to students, faculty, and staff. While here, Herrera will encourage participants to submit ideas and stanzas for his various poetry projects on migration, healing, and unity.

"If you want to write for the people pour kindness inside every word," Herrera said.



**PASADENA MEDIA**

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1st & 3rd Monday  
2nd & 4th Monday  
1st & 3rd Tuesday  
2nd & 4th Tuesday  
1st & 3rd Wednesday  
2nd & 4th Wednesday  
1st & 3rd Thursday  
2nd & 4th Thursday  
1st & 3rd Friday  
2nd & 4th Friday  
Every Tuesday  
Every Thursday

## ANTONOVICH VOTES “NO” ON STORMWATER TAX

LOS ANGELES COUNTY – Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich cast the lone “no” vote on a motion by Supervisors Molina and Knabe to close the protest hearing and look into putting the tax measure on the ballot in 2014.

“Stormwater cleanup is the state’s responsibility and the legislature and Governor need to develop a statewide approach to solving this problem,” said Antonovich. “County residents, school districts, businesses and churches should not be burdened with higher taxes to support another state unfunded mandate.”

## ANTONOVICH CALLS FOR EXPANSION OF LAURA’S LAW THROUGHOUT CALIFORNIA

LOS ANGELES COUNTY – The Board of Supervisors approved a motion by Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich supporting the expansion of “Laura’s Law” which allows counties to provide court-ordered mental health treatment for those who refuse to obtain help.

“It is vital that life-saving programs are expanded throughout the state to help the mentally ill recover and live productive lives,” said Antonovich.

“Laura’s Law” reformed the “Lanternman-Petris-Short Law,” which had prohibited judges, families, and physicians from compelling the severely mentally ill to accept treatment.

A pilot program initiated by Antonovich in Los Angeles County has successfully stabilized and reintegrated participants back into the community with a 78% reduction in incarcerations and a 77% reduction in hospitalizations. These reductions significantly improved the lives of program participants and cut the costs to the community and taxpayers by almost 40%.

Laura’s Law is patterned after New York State’s Kendra’s Law, which has shown tremendous success after just five years. Data conclusively demonstrates that assisted outpatient treatment significantly reduces severe consequences for participants.

## ROTATING PUBLIC ART EXHIBITION PROGRAM, PHASE II - REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The City of Pasadena is seeking proposals from artists, artist teams and galleries for the selection and commission of artworks for Phase II of the Rotating Public Art Exhibition Program. Selected sculptures will be installed for 24 months at eight highly-visible locations within the City. Two of the six loaned artworks may reflect sustainability, water, conservation, electrical, or recycling themes.

Launched in 2011, the Rotating Public Art Exhibition Program seeks to create an outdoor art gallery that enlivens the urban landscape and produces a dynamic visual experience for residents and visitors. The Program places existing loaned and newly commissioned site-specific sculptures on public view in neighborhoods representing all City Council Districts. Exhibition sites are unsupervised and include traffic islands, medians and smaller, more intimate parcels.

Artist honoraria are \$3,000 for the loaned artworks and \$5,000 for site-specific projects. Artworks must be available for installation by June 30, 2013.

The submittal deadline is 5:00 pm on April 22, 2013.



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## IN SEARCH OF THE REAL ST. PATRICK

By Christopher Nyerges

[Nyerges is the author of “How to Survive Anywhere,” “Self-Sufficient Home,” and other books. He leads self-sufficiency classes, and does a weekly podcast at Preparedness Radio Network. He can be reached at School of Self-reliance, Box 41834, Eagle Rock, CA 90041 or [www.ChristopherNyerges.com](http://www.ChristopherNyerges.com)]

Patrick and his followers were invited to Tara by the King of Laoghaire. It was there that he was said to have plucked a shamrock from the ground as he tried to explain to the Druids and the King that the shamrock had three leaves just like the idea of God’s three aspects – The Father, The Son and the Holy Ghost. This was called the Trinity.

Of course, triads and trinities were a common concept among the Druids. In fact, one could argue that the trinity (a term not found in the Bible) was a concept given to Christianity by the Druids, rather than the other way around. Nevertheless, King Laoghaire was very impressed and chose to accept Christianity. He also gave Patrick the freedom to spread Christianity throughout Ireland.

When Patrick returned to Ireland, he treated the “pagans” with the respect implicit in his dream. Part of this respect was attempting to communicate with the Druids on their terms, which is why he used the shamrock as a teaching tool. He also blended the Christian cross with the circle to create what is now known as the Celtic cross. He used bonfires to celebrate Easter, a Holy Day that Christianity supplanted with the already-existing spring equinox commemoration. In fact, he incorporated many of the existing symbols and beliefs into his Christian teachings.

He spent his last 30 years in Ireland, baptizing the non-Christian Irish, ordaining priests, and founding churches and monasteries. His persuasive powers must have been astounding, since Ireland fully converted to Christianity within 200 years and was the only country in Europe to Christianize peacefully. Patrick’s Christian conversion ended slavery, human sacrifice, and most intertribal warfare in Ireland.

Patrick was also unique in that he equally valued the role of women in an age when the church ignored them. He always sided with the downtrodden and the excluded, whether they were slaves or the “pagan” Irish.

According to Thomas Cahill, author of How the Irish Saved Civilization, Patrick’s influence extended far beyond

his adopted land. Cahill’s book, which could just as well be titled How St. Patrick Saved Civilization, contends that Patrick’s conversion of Ireland allowed Western learning to survive the Dark Ages. Ireland pacified and churchified as the rest of Europe crumbled. Patrick’s monasteries copied and preserved classical texts. Later, Irish monks returned this knowledge to Europe by establishing monasteries in England, Germany, France, Switzerland, and Italy.

When the lights went out all over Europe, a candle still burned in Ireland. That candle was lit by Patrick.

Veneration of Patrick gradually assumed the status of a local cult. He was not simply remembered in Saul and Downpatrick, he was worshipped. Indeed, homage to Patrick as Ireland’s saint was apparent in the eighth century AD. At this time Patrick’s status as a national apostle was made independently of Rome. He was claimed locally as a saint before the practice of canonization was introduced by the Vatican. The high regard in which the Irish have held St. Patrick is evidenced by the salutation, still common today, of “May God, Mary, and Patrick bless you”.

Patrick was not Irish, had nothing to do with leprechauns, almost certainly was not a drunkard, and didn’t drive all the snakes out of Ireland. In fact, there were no native snakes in Ireland, though this story is believed to be an analogy for driving out the so-called “pagans,” or, at least, the pagan religions.

Patrick was one of the “greats” of history who nearly single-handedly preserved the best of Western culture when much of Europe was devolving into chaos and ruin. He deserves far better than remembering him in the silly ways we do today, such as wearing green, pinching each other, and getting drunk. Rather, he deserves an accurate memory, and our emulation. Unfortunately, like all true Saviors of history, they are either killed off, or relegated to the closet of ridicule.

Perhaps it’s time for all of us to re-think how we commemorate this special man, and his vast contribution to world culture.

## Looking Up with Bob Eklund



### THE CLOSEST STAR SYSTEM FOUND SINCE 1916

A pair of newly discovered stars is the third-closest star system to the Sun, according to a paper that will be published in *Astrophysical Journal Letters*. The duo is the closest star system discovered since 1916. The discovery was made by Kevin Luhman, an associate professor of astronomy and astrophysics at Penn State University and a researcher in Penn State’s Center for Exoplanets and Habitable Worlds.

Both stars in the new binary system are “brown dwarfs”—stars too low in mass to ever become hot enough to ignite hydrogen fusion. As a result, they are very cool and dim, resembling giant planets like Jupiter more than bright stars like the Sun.

“The distance to this brown dwarf pair is 6.5 light years—so close that Earth’s television transmissions from 2006 are now arriving there,” Luhman said. “It will be an excellent hunting ground for planets because it is very close to Earth, which makes it a lot easier to see any planets orbiting either of the brown dwarfs.” Since this is the third-closest star system, in the distant future it might be one of the first destinations for manned expeditions outside our solar system, Luhman noted.

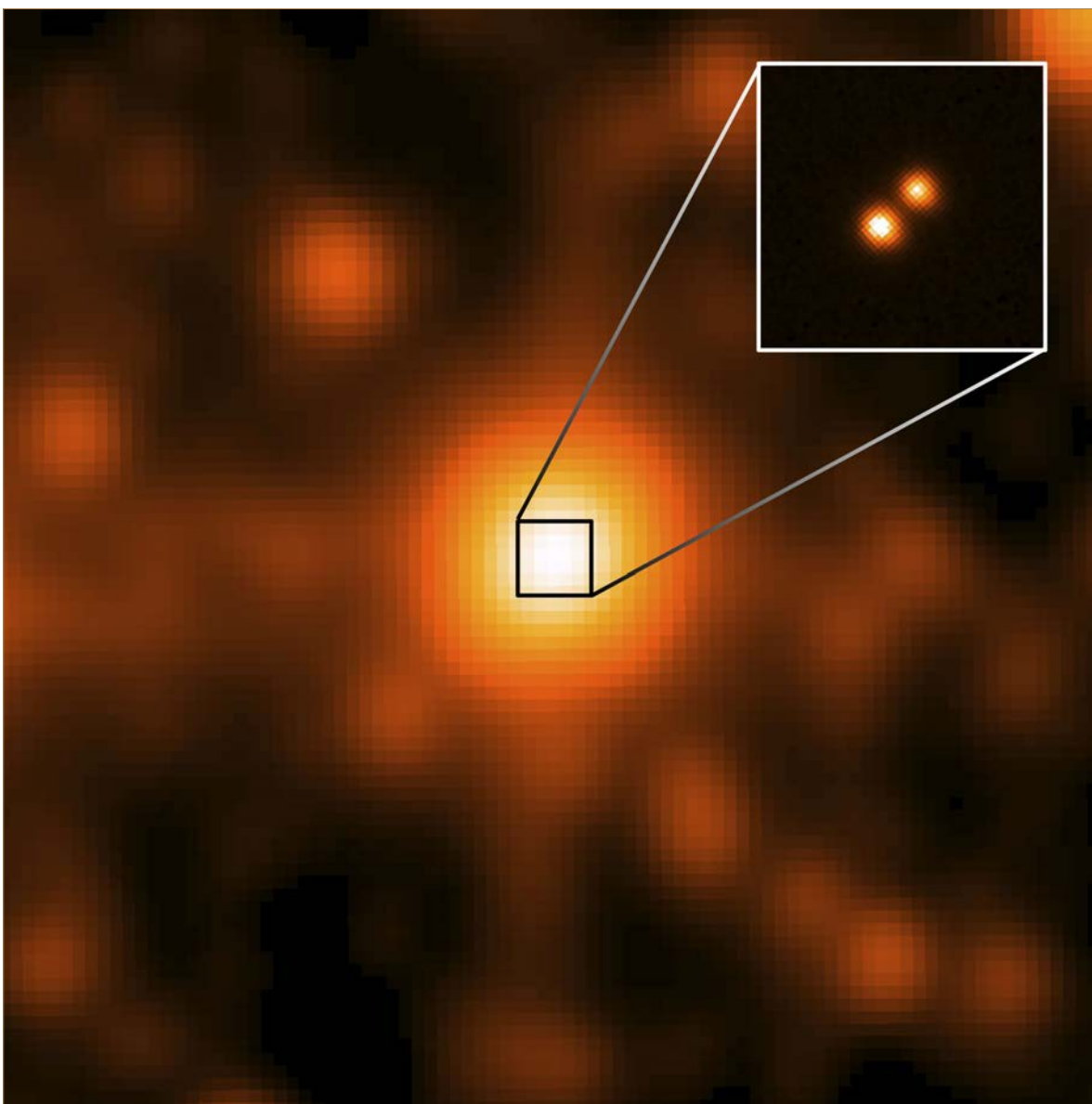
The star system is named “WISE J104915.57-531906” because it was discovered in a map of the entire sky obtained by the NASA-funded Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer (WISE) satellite. It is only slightly farther away than the second-closest star, Barnard’s star, which was discovered 6.0 light years from the Sun in 1916 by E.E. Barnard. The closest star system consists of Alpha Centauri, found to be a neighbor of the Sun in 1839 at 4.4 light years, and the fainter Proxima Centauri, discovered in 1917 at 4.2 light years.

Edward (Ned) Wright, the principal investigator for the WISE satellite, said “One major goal when proposing WISE was to find the closest stars to the Sun. WISE 1049-5319 is by far the closest star found to date using the WISE data, and the close-up views of this binary system we can get with big telescopes like Gemini and the future James Webb Space Telescope will tell us a lot about the low mass stars known as brown dwarfs.” Wright is the David Saxon Presidential Chair in Physics and a professor of physics and astronomy at UCLA.

Astronomers have long speculated about the possible presence of a distant, dim object orbiting the Sun, which is sometimes called Nemesis. However, Luhman has concluded, “We can rule out that the new brown dwarf system is such an object because it is moving across the sky much too fast to be in orbit around the Sun.”

After noticing its rapid motion in the WISE images, Luhman went hunting for detections of the suspected nearby star in older sky surveys. He found that it indeed was detected in images spanning from 1978 to 1999 from the Digitized Sky Survey, the Two Micron All-Sky Survey, and the Deep Near Infrared Survey of the Southern Sky. “Based on how this star system was moving in the images from the WISE survey, I was able to extrapolate back in time to predict where it should have been located in the older surveys—and sure enough, it was there,” Luhman said.

“It was a lot of detective work,” Luhman added. “There are billions of infrared points of light across the sky, and the mystery is which one—if any of them—could be a star that is very close to our solar system.”



WISE J104915.57-531906 is at the center of the larger image, which was taken by the WISE satellite. It appeared to be a single object, but a sharper image from Gemini Observatory revealed that it was binary star system. Credit: NASA/JPL/Gemini Observatory/AURA/NSF

You can contact Bob Eklund at: [b eklund@MtnViewsNews.com](mailto:b eklund@MtnViewsNews.com).

# ARCADIA

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

## "What's Going On?"

News and Views from Joan Schmidt



### ARCADIA CITY ENGINEER PHILIP WRAY ADDRESSES CHAMBER'S MONTHLY MEETING AND MORE

I may sound like a broken record, but every time I leave the Arcadia Chamber of Commerce's monthly Government Forum Meeting, I carry with me an enormous wealth of information! This month's guest speaker was Philip Wray, Deputy Director of Development Services and City Engineer for Arcadia. Mr. Wray's presentation of timeline and traffic routing for the bridge construction over Santa Anita was so thorough. He began by explaining how there had to be

grade separation on Santa Anita. The City approached MTA for funds, but twice was turned down. It was fortunate that Arcadia looks to the future and had accrued 5 million. However more funds were needed and it was put on the ballot in 2006. A two-thirds majority vote was needed, but 72% of the resident voters approved the measure-voting for the 8 million assessments!

Mr. Wray explained that during construction on Santa Anita Avenue, two lanes would be opened on the median for traffic. All businesses would still remain open. One challenge is building the bridge over the roadway; especially with the big hump-four feet of this raised area must be removed!

During the project, another challenge is the road must be kept open-even if only two lanes. Businesses cannot be closed, and how will a lower road work with the businesses' driveways?

Mr. Wray spoke highly of Metro Gold Line and its agreements with the City. Extensive work on Santa Anita will be done, close to the summer months, (May-August) when children are off from school. There will be NO construction during the Breeder's Cup in November, and Metro Gold Line will be sensitive to Community Events.

After the Breeder's Cup in November, Metro Gold Line Construction will move to Huntington Drive. Brian Mejia from Supervisor Antonovich reminded us that next Tuesday, the Water Fee will be discussed at the Board of Supervisors Meeting. He also mentioned that the Supervisor will hold his 16th Annual Veterans Fair for Vets and their families at Santa Anita Park in late May.

Olivia Lee from Assemblyman Ed Chau's office came and gave everyone a paper listing all Legislation Introduced in 2013! For example, Assembly Bill (AB) 242, **Internet Privacy Policies** would provide a simple and easy way for the average consumer to understand online privacy policies by limiting their length and requiring them to be written in a clear and concise manner. Other noteworthy bills include **AB 330** Student Debt, **AB 477** Mandated Reporting of Elder Abuse, **AB 888** State Bar Investigatory Powers, **AB1043** Proposition 84 Water Cost Recovery, and **AB 1127** Language Access to the Courts. If you go on line, you may find out more about these bills.

On March 14, from 5pm-7:30pm, there will be a **MEGA MIXER** at the 500 Speedway Drive, Irwindale. This great event will have 8 participating Chambers of Commerce including Arcadia, Azusa, Duarte, El Monte, Irwindale, Monrovia, Rosemead and Temple City. Cost is \$10 for Chamber members; \$15 for Non-members. Food will be provided and drag racing can be viewed from 5-10pm. RVP (626) 447-2159 or online at [www.ArcadiaCaChamber.org](http://www.ArcadiaCaChamber.org) See you there!

## Arcadia Police Blotter

*For the period of Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, through Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, the Police Department responded to 974 calls for service of which 108 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.*

Sunday, March 3:

1. At approximately 9:00 a.m., an officer responded to the 100 block of El Dorado Street in regards to a report of mail theft. The reporting party observed a suspicious subject remove mail from two mailboxes at the location. The officer made contact with the suspect and discovered she was under the influence of a controlled substance and had an outstanding misdemeanor warrant. The 36-year-old Hispanic female was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

2. At about 4:30 p.m., an officer responded to Sephora at the Santa Anita Mall, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, in reference to a theft report. The suspect concealed merchandise inside her purse and then waited in line to return an item she previously purchased. After the transaction, she exited the store without making payment for the concealed items. The 25-year-old Asian female was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Monday, March 4:

3. Around 2:45 a.m., an officer made consensual contact with a subject walking in the area of Gate Five of the Santa Anita Race Track, 285 West Huntington Drive. An investigation revealed the subject was under the influence of methamphetamine. The 22-year-old Hispanic male was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

4. Just after 3:00 p.m., an officer, dressed in plain clothes and driving an unmarked police vehicle, observed a suspicious male subject perform cosmetic repairs on a vehicle in the parking lot of CVS, 1401 South Baldwin Avenue. An investigation revealed the subject convinced an elderly couple to allow him to fix their bumper using spray paint in exchange for a cash fee. The 31-year-old Chinese male was never issued a business license. Further investigation is being conducted by the Detective Bureau for possible elder abuse by theft or fraud.

Tuesday, March 5:

5. At approximately 10:05 a.m., an officer was dispatched to the Arcadia Police Department front counter regarding a forgery report. The victim explained she ordered a box of checks and never received them in the mail. An inquiry with her bank revealed three of the checks had been cashed, totaling \$1,160. The suspect(s) identity remains unknown.

6. Shortly after 11:00 a.m., Police and City personnel conducted an inspection of a residence in the 1700 block of South Baldwin Avenue, in regards to a complaint of the residence being used as a boarding house. The investigation revealed the property, equipped with eight bedrooms and ten bathrooms, displayed characteristics of a boarding house. Further investigation is being conducted.

Wednesday, March 6:

7. Around 4:20 p.m., a juvenile female, walking in the 1200 block of South Third Avenue, was approached by a male subject on foot. The subject asked her if she could help him read a note and handed her a piece of a paper which read "Scream and something will happen." The suspect

took the victim's cell phone and ordered her to walk away without looking back. The suspect is described as a clean shaven Asian male, between 30 to 40-years-old, approximately 5'9" tall, 165 lbs., with black short hair, wearing blue jeans and a white short-sleeved collared shirt. An area check for the suspect met with negative results.

8. At about 11:40 p.m., an officer observed a male subject using his cell phone while driving and conducted a traffic stop in the 900 block of West Huntington Drive. The 20-year-old Hispanic male driver provided false information; however, a records check revealed he and the 25-year-old Hispanic female passenger had a total of eight outstanding warrants. Both suspects were arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Thursday, March 7:

9. At approximately 9:10 a.m., an officer was dispatched to the westbound 210 freeway off-ramp and Baldwin Avenue in regards to a three-party traffic accident. As party-one exited the off-ramp, he was unable to stop at the red light due to driving at an unsafe speed and wet road conditions. His vehicle collided into party-two, who then struck another vehicle and came to a stop after striking the median. Minor injuries were reported.

10. Shortly before 6:00 p.m., an officer responded to Macy's at the Santa Anita Mall, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, in reference to a theft report. A male subject entered a fitting room and layered two pairs of pants underneath the pants he was wearing. The 18-year-old Hispanic male exited the store without making payment. He was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Friday, March 8:

11. At about 0:41 a.m., an officer made consensual contact with a male subject standing in front of Ralphs, 16 East Live Oak Avenue. The subject was charging his cell phone using an exterior wall outlet. A search of his person revealed he was in possession of a controlled substance and drug paraphernalia. The 37-year-old Hispanic male was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

12. At almost 8:20 p.m., officers responded to a disturbance call in the area of First Avenue and Bonita Street. A man, determined to be under the influence, was arguing with another subject and yelling profanities. The subject behaved erratically and resisted arrest. After medical clearance, the 29-year-old Asian male was transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Saturday, March 9:

13. Around 1:46 p.m., an officer was dispatched to a residence in the 1100 block of La Cadena Avenue regarding a report of grand theft from a vehicle. Unknown suspect(s) fled undetected with a laptop, iPod, clothing, and jewelry. The victim forgot to lock the doors. No one saw or heard anything suspicious.

14. At approximately 6:00 p.m., an officer responded to the 500 block of South Second Avenue in regards to a residential burglary report. The victim explained she noticed property missing from her garage two days prior. An investigation revealed unknown suspect(s) may have entered the garage after another family member left the garage door open. No evidence was located.

## LAGUNA ARTS PAGEANT OF THE MASTERS

Come celebrate one of the most talked about highlights of the summer! Join the Arcadia Recreation and Community Services Department for an adult excursion to this fantastic annual event in Laguna Beach on Friday, August 23rd. Historic paintings come to life in this magnificent display of art. "The Big Picture" is the theme for 2013. "Lights! Camera! Inaction!" Excitement is already building for the 2013 Pageant of the Masters as it celebrates the 80th birthday of living pictures – the original freeze frame – at the Festival of Arts. The Big Picture will also add a cinematic spin to its world-class presentation with classic masterpieces that inspired legendary filmmakers. You won't want to miss out on the fun as The Big Picture time-travels and goes on location around the globe in search of unforgettable art. Picture This ... Two Shows for the Price of One. As a Pageant patron, you'll be admitted to The Festival of Arts – California's Premier Fine Art Show, absolutely free all summer long! Simply show your Pageant ticket at the Festival's front gate. You'll enjoy stunning artwork, hands-on demonstrations, wine tasting, and much more. Come back again and again.

The trip fee of \$60 includes pageant admission, round trip transportation in an air conditioned coach bus and snacks. Please arrive at 5pm, the bus leaves promptly at 5:30pm from the Arcadia Community Center, 365 Campus Drive, Arcadia, CA 91007, and returns at midnight! For more questions, please contact the Recreation Office at 626.574.5113.

## FLASHLIGHT EGG HUNT FOR TEENS ARCADIA PAR 3 GOLF COURSE!

FRIDAY NIGHT, MARCH 29, 2013

All Middle School and High School students are invited to bring their flashlights and baskets to search for eggs in the dark at the Arcadia Par 3 Golf Course, 620 East Live Oak Ave., Arcadia on Friday, March 29th! Separate Middle School and High School areas will be sectioned off for students to have the best chance of finding the "Special Eggs". Prizes range from restaurant gift certificates to amusement park tickets! Don't forget to bring your current student ID in order to redeem the prize for finding a "Special Egg". All parents in attendance will have opportunities to compete with other parents to win prizes for their teens. Make it a family evening and come out to participate in this free event! Parent Contest: 7pm/Egg Hunt: 8pm Sharp! For more information please call 626.574.5113! Or go on-line to the City of Arcadia's website: [www.ci.arcadia.ca.us](http://www.ci.arcadia.ca.us).



## DERBY DAY 5K WALK/ RUN

Saturday, April 6 is the Derby Day 5K Walk/Run! This year's event includes, custom medals to the first 5,000 finishers, starting from an authentic starting gate, one of LA's most scenic 5K courses through the Arboretum and finish on the track, post-race beer garden, and complimentary admission to Santa Anita Derby Day.

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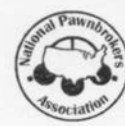
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# MONROVIA - DUARTE

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## TRAGEDY AT WALNUT GROVE MOBILE HOME PARK IN MONROVIA

By Joan Schmidt



Recently, tragedy struck at the Walnut Grove Mobile Home Park in the 2500 block of South Peck Road in the Monrovia County area. Michael Mullins a 58 year old chef was found dead after a fire in his mobile home was put out.

When there is a fire in our county area, we are served by the Engine from L.A. County Station 169 (Peck & Hemlock) and the Paramedics from L.A. County Station 167 (Peck & Bryant). After the structure fire was reported at 8:46 am this past Saturday, the response began: Engine 169, headed by Captain Larry Burke and his crew, Engine and Paramedics from 167, Engine 47 from Temple City (also County), an engine from Monrovia City Fire Station 102 on Myrtle Avenue, and a Quint truck from LA County Station 166. Captain Burke told me that when there is a structure Fire, four engines and a

truck respond. As I have said for the last twenty years, when I helped form the Town Council, we *do* have excellent fire service!

The Sheriff's Arson Team and Sheriff's Homicide Unit were on site which is the normal procedure when a death and fire are involved. When they arrived, Captain Burke said the home was engulfed in flames. Prior to the firemen's arrival, neighbors had tried to help. They used garden hoses and fire extinguishers, but were unsuccessful in their efforts to put out the fire. Neighbors described Mullins as a friendly neighbor who had resided at the park for more than five years. He struggled with cancer, but was able-bodied and worked as a chef. He lived alone, but spoke of his concern for his mother and stepfather. All the neighbors were saddened by his passing.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT TIP OF THE WEEK: AVOID IDENTITY THEFT



Identity thieves take your personal information and use it without your knowledge; they purchase merchandise, run up debt, and even commit crimes. The following tips can help you lower your risk of becoming a victim of identity theft and safeguard your Identity:

**Protect Your Social Security Number** - Do not carry your Social Security card in your wallet or purse. Do not give your social security number to anyone unless you are the one that contacted them, and they are entitled to it.

**Don't be the Victim of a Scam** - Scam artists pretend to be banks, stores, or government agencies. They do this over the phone,

in emails, and by mail. Don't respond to a request to verify your account number or password. Legitimate companies will not request information in this manner.

**Don't Trash Your Personal Information** - Shred papers with personal information on them before you throw them in the trash. Shred credit card offers and "convenience checks" that you don't use.

**Protect Your Mail** - Lock your mailbox or rent a locked post office box. Deposit outgoing mail in blue post office boxes and retrieve your mail from your mailbox as soon as possible.

**Be Careful Where You Click** - Check out websites before shopping online and entering your credit card number or other personal information. Read the privacy policy and look for opportunities to opt out of information sharing. If there is no privacy policy, beware! Shop elsewhere. Enter personal information only on secure web pages with "https" in the address bar and a padlock symbol in the lower right corner (Internet Explorer and Mozilla Firefox programs). This shows that your information will be encrypted or scrambled, protecting it from hackers.

**Protect Your Computer from Viruses and Spies** - Protect your personal information on your home computer. Use strong passwords with at least eight characters, including letters, numbers, and symbols. Avoid writing down the password. Use a firewall and virus protection software that you update regularly. Steer clear of spyware; download free software only from sites you know and trust. Do not install software without knowing what it is. Set your Internet Explorer browser security to at least "medium." Don't click on links in pop-up windows or in spam email.

**Control Your Personal Financial Information** - Federal law requires your bank and other financial institutions to get your permission before sharing your personal financial information with outside companies. You also have the right to limit the sharing of your personal financial information with affiliates of your financial institutions. Write to the companies that you want to "opt-out" of sharing your personal financial information with their affiliates. (Contact the Direct Marketing Association at [www.dmaconsumers.org](http://www.dmaconsumers.org)).

**Always Check Your Bills and Bank Statements** - Open your credit card bills and bank statement right away. Check carefully for any unauthorized charges or withdrawals and report them immediately to the fraud department of the bank or credit card company. Call the company if bills don't arrive on time or if there is unauthorized account activity.

**Ask Questions** - Whenever you are asked for personal information that seems inappropriate for the transaction. Ask how the information will be used and if it will be shared. Ask how it will be protected. Explain that you're concerned about identity theft. If you're not satisfied with the answers, consider going somewhere else.

**Check Your Credit Reports** - for Free - One of the best ways to protect yourself from identity theft is to monitor your credit history. You can get one free credit report every year from each of the three national credit bureaus: Equifax, Experian and TransUnion. You can request all three reports at once (so you can compare them). Or, be your own credit-monitoring service and spread out your request, ordering from a different bureau every four months (so you can keep track of any changes or see new information on your credit history).

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Families are encouraged to join in the activities which include a brief walk in Canyon Park after the story.

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SOLD

241 SANTA ANITA COURT

SIERRA MADRE > \$490,000

This is a rare opportunity in Sierra Madre, 2 units on lot, zoned SRR2. This is a fixer and has a lot of deferred maintenance.



SOLD

277 E. SIERRA MADRE BLVD. #A

SIERRA MADRE > \$489,000

Wonderful one-level condo with living room fireplace and beautiful grounds with a pool and recreation area.



SOLD

286 W. MONTECITO AVENUE #L

SIERRA MADRE > \$465,000

Fantastic single-level townhome in the quaint village of Sierra Madre. This is a front end unit with a minimum of connecting walls.



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600 W. SIERRA MADRE BLVD.

SIERRA MADRE > \$405,000

This wonderful home has had the same owner for 40 years! Located in a desirable location near parks, downtown shopping and schools.



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**S&P/Case-Shiller Home Price Indices**

The chart above depicts the annual returns of the U.S. National, the 10-City Composite and the 20-City Composite Home Price Indices. The S&P/Case-Shiller U.S. National Home Price Index, which covers all nine U.S. census divisions, recorded a 7.3% gain in the fourth quarter of 2012 over the fourth quarter of 2011. In December 2012, the 10- and 20-City Composites posted annual increases of 5.9% and 6.8%, respectively.



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# Mountain Views News

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SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2013

SECTION B

## The Wistaria Vine

### Celebrating Sierra Madre's Most Well Known Landmark

#### The Vine

**Sierra Madre's 118-Year Old Wistaria\* Vine** By Phyllis Chapman

In 1894, William and Alice Brugman purchased a home on what was then called Piedmont, which is now called W. Carter Ave. The house had been built one year before by builder Amos Trussell for his daughter Winona and son-in-law Edward B. Jones when they married. It was the first wedding celebrated in early Sierra Madre.

The Trussells and the Jones had a change of plans, sold to the Brugmans and moved away. To enhance her new home, Alice Brugman and her neighbor Mrs. W. B. Crisp, drove by horse and buggy to the R. H. Wilson Pioneer Nursery in Monrovia and for \$.75 purchased a gallon can of wistaria. It was the Chinese Wistaria variety (*Wisteria sinensis*). She planted it in a corner of her front porch remarking to her neighbor: "They say Wistaria grows fast." And grow it did.

Mr. Brugman, a mining engineer, was in Mexico when the vine was planted. He died in 1899 and Mrs. Brugman sold the home in 1906. The property changed hands until it was purchased in 1913 by Henry T. and Estelle Fennel. Mr. Fennel, who was a bit of a horticulturist, loved the vine, and gave it devoted care, even building support trellises.

Although the Wistaria is a vigorous grower, the added support of the trellises may have contributed to this vine's phenomenal growth. The arbors prevented the end tendrils from hanging down and causing the tender terminal buds to die from the added weight. Wistaria requires good drainage, certainly provided by this hilly, terraced location. There may also be an underground spring providing water to the tap root.

The vine eventually destroyed the original home, growing into the walls and fireplace and causing the roof to collapse. Mr. Fennel built a new home 200 feet to the north (the present upper home) and trained the vine to grow up to, but not covering the new residence. A portion of the foundation of that original home was saved to continue to provide support for the vine as its branches extended such a distance.

When the vine was in bloom, the Fennels would invite friends to come and enjoy the blossoming plant. Visitors also came from Pasadena's

main hotels: The Green, The Huntington, and The Raymond. In 1918, the Fennels (cont. on page 6)

**VINE** - continued from page B1

opened the vine to the Sierra Madre Chapter of the American Red Cross, which sponsored a very successful fundraiser to help the war effort. 12,000 people attended the event. This was the beginning of many Wistaria festivals that took place year after year. Sierra Madre became known as the Wistaria City. Many local organizations, including the Board of Trade (now the Chamber of Commerce), the Woman's Club, the Masons and Eastern Star, the Sierra Madre Volunteer Fire Dept., etc. were involved.

Many homemade items, fancy work, ceramics, artwork, gift books, and Wistaria fragrances perfume, hand lotion and bath salts were sold at booths under the vine. Luncheons and teas were served, often with young Japanese women wearing their kimonos.

The hard work and money earned at the vine by the Woman's Club paid off the mortgage of their first clubhouse. One year the Fire Dept. parked 30,000 cars on the parking lot that existed in Floral Canyon. (This is now Sierra Meadow Dr.). Easter sunrise services were among vine activities. People came from all over the world and extra street cars were added to handle the crowds. Among the famous were Fritz Kreisler, Janet Leigh, Mary Pickford, and Norman Rockwell. These two helped select the festival's Wistaria Queen. Packard Automobile Co. used the vine as a backdrop to advertise its



Sierra Madre Mayor Josh Moran, Mayor Pro Tem and Honorary Wistaria Chair, Nancy Walsh, and Councilman John Capoccia pose in front of the vine at the Solt residence. The vine has grown from a gallon can in 1895 to (estimates) 1.5 million luxuriant lavender blossoms, 250 tons, More than one acre in size, 500 foot branches, 40 blossoms per sq. foot. Growth rate (per various experts) from 24" in 24 hours to 26" in 48 hours

Named by the Guinness Book of World Records as the largest blossoming plant in the world Named one of the seven horticultural wonders of the world, along with the redwood forest in Sequoia National Park, Brazil's tropical jungle in the Amazon Valley, Mexico's Xochimilco floating gardens, India's gardens of the Taj Mahal, Japan's Yokohama rock gardens, and the gardens of Buckingham Palace. Photo By E. Chen

automobile.

On December 5, 1936, Carrie Ida Lawless purchases the vine property from Mrs. Fennel, who was now a widow, for \$17,000.00. December 5th was Mrs. Lawless' birthday, and according to one account, she was making a present to herself of the world's largest bouquet. Also a widow, her husband William J (Bill) Lawless was mayor of Sierra Madre during 1928-29. She, herself, was a successful businesswoman having founded the Weaver Jackson Beauty Co. in Los Angeles and was active in the community, serving as president of the Woman's Club and the Garden Club.

Mrs. Lawless spent a small fortune (around \$100,000) enhancing the grounds of her new property and caring for the vine. When the festivals were held they often lasted for the weeks the vine was in bloom, not just for one day. Mrs. Lawless, a patron of the arts, also sponsored vine activities all year long.

She hosted art exhibits, musicales, and poetry readings. Nearby residents objected to the constant activity and took their complaints to the City Council. Nothing was done as Mrs. Lawless (continued on page B2) vine

**HISTORY** (cont. from B1) presented the argument that the vine existed before these neighbors purchased their properties.

In recognition for her contributions to the community, the Garden Club planted another Wistaria in the terraced garden on the west side of what is today the Solt's garden. It blooms a bit later than the original vine and the plaque commemorating the occasion is gone.

When Mrs. Lawless died in 1942, she provided for the vine by leaving a legacy to her nephew and heir, Bruce McGill, to continue care of the property with a committee headed by the Garden Club President. In 1944, the property was purchased by Richard and Marian Thayer. Marian is the daughter of M. Penn Phillips, a well-known developer of desert property. In 1944 the vine was overgrown and in poor condition. Richard Thayer planned to chop it up and get rid of it. A protest was raised and an association was formed to protect the vine, with money provided to pay property taxes and provide year-round care for the vine.

In 1961, after Richard Thayer died, the lot was split. Marian married builder Ronald Cook who developed the west side of the property with homes and built the present Solt home for he and Marian in 1962. The upper home was sold to Joseph and Marie Feeney who raised eight children there. In 1972, Ron and Marian sold the lower home to Bob and Nell Solt. In the late 1990s, Joe Feeney died and Maria sold the property. It was purchased in 2003 by the present owners, Dan and Dana Dorrance.

By the 1970's Vine Festival activity had about ended. It started up again in the late 70's when sponsored for one day each year by the Chamber

of Commerce. The Sierra Madre Beautification Committee was the yearly sponsor in the 1980's. Approximately 500-600 people attended the festival each year. In the spring of 1989, Huell Howser came to film the vine for his program Videolog, which aired on KCET. The next year, approximately 6,000 people came to view the vine. The festival organizers were unprepared for such a turnout; lines stretched for two blocks. Howser returned in 1992 to film again for his California Gold program. Sierra Madre and the Chamber of Commerce quickly organized and combined the annual Vine viewing with a downtown street fair. A shuttle bus is provided, and people procure tickets to see the vine at a pre-scheduled time.

The Guinness Book of World Records has named the Vine the World's largest flowering plant. It is estimated that at the height of bloom it has 1.5 million blossoms with 40 blossoms per sq. ft., weighs 250 tons and has branches that extend 500 feet. Wistaria is a member of the pea family though its seeds resemble a flat bean. Seed pods burst open in the summer. The plant is deciduous, losing its leaves in the winter. Wistaria seeds were brought from China by Marco Polo in the 13th century.

Today, the vine covers approximately one acre. Over the years, it has shown distress and seemed to be dying. Experts have been brought in from Cal Tech, Occidental, and Cal Poly Pomona. Correct pruning, treatments with hormones, and vitamin B have helped the vine to recover and to flourish. To help maintain the Vine's health, records of vine growth and care are now kept on a computer log. The Vine seems to produce its greatest flowering after a cold winter followed by a sudden hot spell.

**What is the correct spelling for wisteria—wisteria or wistaria?** In the Sunset Western Garden Book it is spelled wisteria. Sierra Madre has always spelled it wistaria. According to L. A. County Arboretum and Botanic Garden senior biologist Jim Bauml and Librarian Joan De Fato, the plant was named to honor Caspar Wistar (1761-1818), an American physician and teacher, who taught at the University of Pennsylvania. Among his accomplishments, he wrote the first text-book on anatomy. When the name of the genus Wisteria was put into the books, it was incorrectly spelled, says De Fato. So, one could say that all along, Sierra Madre has correctly spelled Wistaria!

**Inside this section:**

**Wistaria Festival Info  
Education & Youth  
Arts & Entertainment  
Good Food & Drink  
Best Friends  
Homes**



## Jacquie Pergola



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Vine viewing: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Art & Garden Faire: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Take a bus to see the Vine**

Tickets: Required for \$12 per person day of event; Seniors and kids 6 – 16, \$7, age 5 and under free Family of 4 or more \$30

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2012 Quarterly Report: October 01 - December 31

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186 Grove St.	3	1	\$ 365,000	880	\$ 415
190 Grove St.	1	1	\$ 365,000	500	\$ 730
300 Old Ranch Rd	2	2	\$ 425,000	995	\$ 427
420 Pleasant Hill Ln	2	1	\$ 430,000	840	\$ 512
190 N. Lima St	2	1	\$ 445,000	824	\$ 540
391 E Highland Ave	3	2	\$ 542,000	1120	\$ 483
50 E Grandview Ave	2	1	\$ 597,000	1432	\$ 417
754 Brookside Ln	4	2	\$ 625,000	1740	\$ 359
11 E Bonita Ave	3	2	\$ 635,000	1438	\$ 442
187 W Montecito Ave	6	2	\$ 695,000	1706	\$ 407
1930 Vista Ave	3	2	\$ 865,000	1789	\$ 484
233 San Gabriel ST.	3	3	\$ 870,000	2090	\$ 416
2060 Lilliano Dr	4	4	\$ 905,000	2922	\$ 310
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143 E. Laurel, Sierra Madre  
646 Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre  
273 W. Laurel Ave., Sierra Madre  
80 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre  
240 Adams St., Sierra Madre  
581 Camillo Rd., Sierra Madre  
402 E. Forest Lane, Sierra Madre  
320 Wisteria Way, Sierra Madre  
325 E. Sierra Madre, Sierra Madre  
273 Sturtevant Dr., Sierra Madre

314 Old Ranch Road, Sierra Madre  
76 N. Canon, Sierra Madre  
250 Adams St., Sierra Madre  
865 Skyland Dr., Sierra Madre  
25 Victoria Lane, Sierra Madre  
1915 Lilliano Pl., Sierra Madre  
263 E. Sierra Madre, Sierra Madre  
700 Auburn Ave., Sierra Madre  
325 Toyon Rd., Sierra Madre  
650 W. Highland, Sierra Madre  
292 W. Montecito, Sierra Madre  
191 Holdman Ave., Sierra Madre  
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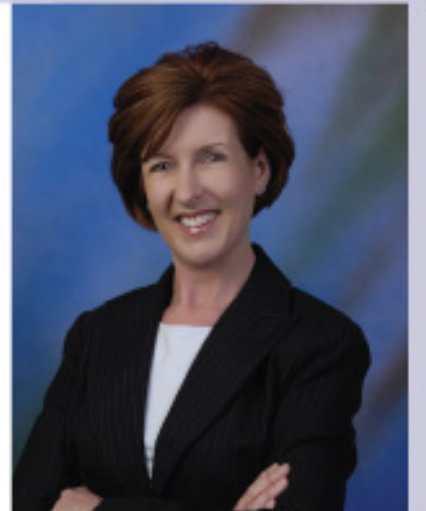
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## PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

At its meeting March 12, the Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) Board of Education approved the issuing of an additional 12 reduction in force notices to certificated employees, many at the district's central office. The board also approved a resolution recognizing Cesar Chavez Day, the charter petition for Pasadena Rosebud Academy Middle School and the process for adjusting school attendance boundaries starting in the 2014-2015 school year.

There will be a runoff election for PUSD Board of Education District 3 between Ruben Hueso and Tyron Hampton. Hueso, a classroom teacher and a PUSD parent, will face project manager and PUSD alumnus Tyron Hampton in a runoff election on April 16 in a district that includes northwest Pasadena.

On March 13, PUSD celebrated the cost avoidance of over \$1.1 million from its energy savings initiative. Because of this program, money has been freed up to spend in the classroom instead of paying utility bills. At an event at Eliot Middle School, the district was also presented the Award for Environmental Stewardship by Cenergistic for reducing the district's carbon footprint by 36,022 MMBTU which is the equivalent of 2,461 metric tons of carbon emissions, comparable to removing 442 cars from the road or growing 62,938 pine trees for 10 years.

Marshall Fundamental School is the recipient of two grants in support of its music education programs. The Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation has graciously donated more than \$22,000 worth of musical instruments to the school. The concert snare drums, trumpets, saxophones, violins and keyboard will be used in the school's music education programs. In addition, the Los Angeles Chapter of the American Composers Forum has donated \$5,000 to provide technology and training to help Marshall students compose music and is also interested in establishing a permanent joint venture with the school.

PUSD congratulates the overall winning teams of the March 9 Math Field Day. The four-person teams from grades 4-8 will represent PUSD at the L.A. County competition April 27, 2013. Students are tested in computational and procedural skill, conceptual understanding and problem-solving. Overall winning teams are:

4th Grade - McKinley School, Team A  
5th Grade - Washington Accelerated Elementary School, Team B  
6th Grade - Marshall Fundamental Secondary School, Team A  
7th Grade - Sierra Madre Middle School, Team A  
8th Grade - McKinley School, Team A  
9th Grade - Pasadena High School, Team A  
The PUSD Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) office is offering a free Web 2.0 workshop

## BOSCO TECH HOSTS MATH COMPETITION FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS & PROBLEM-SOLVING WORKSHOP FOR TEACHERS

Don Bosco Technical Institute (Bosco Tech) will host a mathematics competition for seventh and eighth grade students on Saturday, April 27. The 41st annual event will challenge students' creativity and analytical skills in problem solving, offering prizes for highest individual and school team scores.

During the competition, a workshop will be provided for middle school teachers, examining each problem used on the test, to facilitate classroom discussion of the concepts. The workshop will be led by instructional expert and textbook author Michael Hattar, a longtime Bosco Tech math teacher.

"The math competition is a fun opportunity for middle-school students to showcase their computational and critical thinking abilities," says Bosco Tech's Math Department Chairman James Shafiyoon. "As a STEM-based high school, Bosco Tech supports the instruction of advanced mathematics in science and engineering fields. Through the competition and the teacher seminar, the school is encouraging the development of excellent math skills among young students."

The competition begins at 8:00 a.m. on the Bosco Tech campus. The cost is \$3 per person. Contact Mr. James Shafiyoon at (626) 940-2128 or jshafiyoon@boscotech.edu for more information. Online registration and sample tests with solutions are available on the school's website, [www.boscotech.edu](http://www.boscotech.edu). The deadline for registration is April 15.

Bosco Tech is the only all-male Catholic high school in the state that uniquely integrates 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. For further information about Bosco Tech, please call (626) 940-2000 or visit [www.boscotech.edu](http://www.boscotech.edu).

for GATE middle and high school students during Spring Break. The four-day workshop will give students the opportunity to build new technology and productivity skills they can use both for school and personal projects. Students will be introduced to a collection of free Web 2.0 online software tools including: Digital Citizenship, blogging, avatars, photo/images-copyright issues and creative commons, tools to create your own images, animations and videos plus much more. Contact Kathleen Saldana at [kathleen@pusd.us](mailto:kathleen@pusd.us) or 626-396-3600, ext. 88462 for questions and to receive a registration form.

The Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens invites families with children in PUSD's first grade classes to visit free of charge on three upcoming Saturdays: March 16, April 20, and May 18. Admission flyers were sent home with students. The flyer must be presented at the admission desk. For more information contact Jennifer Olson at the Pasadena Educational Foundation (PEF) at (626) 396-3600 x88372 or [olson@pasedfoundation.org](mailto:olson@pasedfoundation.org). PasadenaLEARNS presents "College Week" during spring break, March 25 - 29. Students from Blair, Pasadena High School and Marshall High School will have an opportunity to attend free college tours at Pepperdine University, Cal State Los Angeles, San Diego State University, University of Southern California, Cal State University San Marcos, and other local colleges and universities. Students will learn more about admissions, financial aid, student housing, and college life. Space is limited, please visit the LEARNs office on your campus or call the LEARNs central office at (626) 396-3614 for more information.

To assist approximately 25 families, including several PUSD students who were displaced after the devastating Feb. 24 apartment complex fire in Pasadena, PUSD is launching a food drive to collect donations of non-perishable food than can be easily prepared in microwave ovens. Items to be donated can be brought to any PUSD school or the Families in Transition office at district headquarters. 25 students have been affected by the fire. Among the schools that these students attend include Madison Elementary School, Don Benito Fundamental School, Washington Accelerated School, Washington Middle School, Wilson Middle School, Muir High School, Blair High School, three Head Start Centers and Learning Works Charter School. Monetary donations are also needed. To make a donation, contact PEF at (626) 396-3625 or email [pef@pasedfoundation.org](mailto:pef@pasedfoundation.org). Gift cards for restaurants and other local retail establishments will also be accepted by PUSD's Families in Transition located at 351 South Hudson Avenue in Pasadena or call (626) 396-3600 ext. 88250.

Open enrollment results have been mailed home and are available at [www.openenrollment.info](http://www.openenrollment.info). Parents can access results online with a student ID number or the temporary ID number assigned when the application was submitted. Open Enrollment registration must be completed by April 4. Please call 626-396-2600, extension 88340 with questions.




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## THE REEL DEAL: by Ben Show

### Movie Reviews Especially for Teens & 'Tweens

## OZ: The Great and Powerful



After seeing the several different trailers for this movie, I decided to go into the theater with no expectations. It could be amazing or it could flop. What I found was the first Disney-feeling movie in years.

Oscar (James Franco) or as his friends call him, Oz, has a job as a magician in a traveling circus. With great dreams he finds himself being swept off in a tornado to the magical land of Oz. After meeting Theodora the Good (Mila Kunis) and a flying monkey, Finley (Zach Braff), they make their way to the Emerald City, where Oz discovers his destiny in the future of the great land.

This story is so full of magic it's astounding. Disney took every ounce of effort, imagination, and pixie dust, and poured it into 'Oz'. While the world did feel like 'Alice in Wonderland', there were aspects of Oz that distinguished itself from Wonderland. For example, the Witches, which are used in an extremely clever plot twist. In conclusion, I would recommend this movie to anyone; it is excellent.

## JASMINE'S CORNER

Book Reviews by Jasmine Kelsey Williams

## STARGIRL By Jerry Spinelli



For this next selection, you readers will want to keep an open mind because this one will not only want to make you smile, but is also perfect for sharing with other potential readers of many ages. Jerry Spinelli is a recognizable author here, and "Stargirl" is proof of his excellently and sweetly written work which involves themes of adolescence and early adulthood. The story focuses on protagonist Leo Borlock, a 16 year old teenager with a shy demeanor whose life is greatly affected when he meets the eccentric and unusual Susan Caraway but whom everyone calls "Stargirl". Readers will notice that the themes of nonconformity, individuality, and acceptance come into play here as Leo, and other classmates at his school are at first surprised by her unique personality and follow by imitation, but are quick to shun her when they believe she has done something wrong in their eyes. Readers who can sympathize with Leo may be mildly surprised at how certain events play out for Leo once Stargirl comes into the picture, and how they may react when Leo becomes Stargirl's romantic interest but unfortunately is shunned himself for being attracted to her.

Stargirl (aka Susan) takes the story and its plot by storm, always expressing a quirky surprise or a trick up her sleeve, even when others are not so kind (one example is how she carries a ukulele to school and sings to students on their birthdays). Leo also affects the pacing of the story, starting from an observational perspective before opening up to Stargirl and trying to comprehend her perspective, and then wanting to revert to his former nature when he tries to break away from her. Jerry Spinelli creates wonderfully fantastical characters and a smoothly paced story, which can echo real-life events and provide readers with an opportunity to think back on similar experiences which may have happened to them, including myself, and to allow themselves to become completely immersed in the world of "Stargirl". Although "Stargirl" might be considered an older selection as it was copyrighted in 2000, "Stargirl" has received praise from booklovers and critics alike, such as *Chicago Tribune*, *Book Report*, and *Publishers Weekly*, and is also a New York Times Bestseller. And to also add to its charm, Spinelli has also produced a sequel, "Love, Stargirl", which will not only add a sense of completion to any reader's bookshelf, but one that will bring a sense of memories, nostalgia, youth, and the joys of setting your own path and following your heart.



## SEAN'S SHAMELESS REVIEWS:

## BEACH FOSSILS

A few things have changed since Beach Fossils' last record. This time around bandleader Dustin Payseur acquired three new members, including drummer Tommy Davidson, to replace the use of a drum kit in previous material. What once started as a solo bedroom project of lo-fi songs has been reincarnated into a full fledged band.

This time around, Beach Fossils find themselves heading into a studio with a producer to craft a more polished, higher production sounding record. In the process of doing so, the band's unique qualities could have been completely lost with the transition but, instead, a sense of drive and determination has now been found. Beach Fossils now have a true equilibrium as distinct from the lo-fi edges on their first album and the dream-pop movements on their follow-up EP, "What A Pleasure". They're now combining the two sounds into what is now known as "Clash The Truth." Despite the loss of two original members, who have pursued their own projects (DIIV and Heavenly Beat) and taking a leap in a somewhat different, off the beaten path direction, Beach Fossils are far away from hitting that "sophomore slump" and honing their craft with an album that genuinely doesn't disappoint.

The songs here are quick and bursting with energy. No track is longer than three minutes and twenty five seconds and the shortest is thirty-three seconds. Those jangly guitar riffs are still intact, and are now preceded by Payseur's clearer vocals. A sense of maturity has left its influence on both vocals and lyrics. Instead of being deemed just another surf-pop meets garage-rock fly-by-night summer band, Beach Fossils are clearly the real deal. They've become stronger and quite simply better over time. The opening, and title, track is a solid example of this with angst lyrics

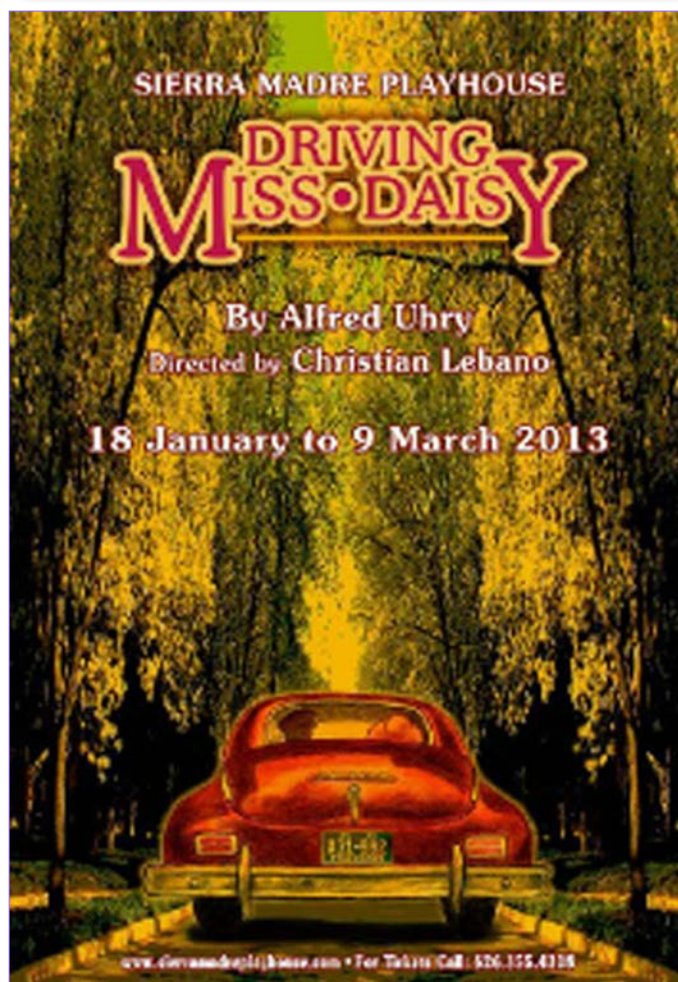
and Payseur chanting along the second half of the song. Another gem is "Careless," that's viciously catchy and demonstrates a powerful sense of urgency. It's easily the best song of this "best of Beach Fossils" in their reasonably short career. "In Vertigo" provides the vocals of Kazu Makino of Blonde Redhead and it's a sure winner. This one is a sprawling, darkly sweet sound with Makino's restrained vocals to boot. The combination of that, along with heavy-reverb, fit hand in hand. You will easily be clamoring for more songs of this duo. The only real problem I have with this album is the three useless instrumental tracks. "Clash The

**Artist:** Beach Fossils  
**Album:** Clash The Truth  
**Label:** Captured Tracks  
**Release Date:** Feb.19<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Truth" is already short in duration and the added three minutes and twenty five seconds are out of place, needless material definitely disrupts the flow of the record.

In the end, "Clash The Truth" is the work of an artist who has developed a sound richer and more intricate than previous work had indicated. The evolution between the first two records reminds me a lot of Beach Fossils' label mates, Wild Nothing. Both musicians started their careers as solo bedroom pop artists and now find themselves in communal projects, respectively. Plus, in relation to this, Beach Fossils' resonance has improved with the higher production values found in professional recording studios. Nonetheless, Payseur and co. take some risks, most of which pay off greatly. With 2013 still ahead of them, Beach Fossils just may become bigger than they ever imagined. I know for starters their new material has definitely become so.

**Grade:** 8.2 out of 10  
**Key Tracks:** "Clash The Truth," "Shallow," "Taking Off," "In Vertigo"



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## HOWARD Hays As I See It



## As I See It

*"I don't know why any individual should have a right to have a revolver in the house ... The kids usually kill themselves with it and so forth ... Can't we go after handguns, period? ... I know the rifle association will be against it, the gun makers will be against it ... people should not have handguns."*

If my column's opening quote has no attribution attached, by now you probably know why – It's a cheap way to get you to keep reading, if for no other reason than to find out who said it.

For now, I'll fill you in on the results of my checking out another of Greg Welborn's startling statements. He asserted last week that Venezuela has "the highest murder rate in the world." The world's a pretty big place with lots of countries, so I thought I'd look into it.

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime did a study on this just last year. According to 2012 figures, Venezuela is in one of the most dangerous regions in the world, and would have the highest murder rate - if it weren't for Jamaica, Ivory Coast, El Salvador and Honduras (which has a murder rate twice as high as Venezuela's).

I always want to see how the USA stacks up. Out of 207 countries ranked from lowest murder rate to highest, we come in at 99. This puts us in the top half – but not by much. Folks in countries like India, Albania, Egypt, Cambodia, Turkey, Iran, Lebanon, Algeria and Serbia have better odds than we do of walking the streets at night and making it back home alive.

Greg also brings up poverty, stating that as of today, "Venezuela has sunk close to the bottom while China and India have climbed to heights almost unimaginable ... ." The World Bank uses makin'-it-on-\$2-a-day as their international metric to define "poverty". By that standard, according to the most recent available statistics, 12.9% of Venezuelans live in "poverty". In China it's 29.8% - and 68.7% in India. There's "wealth", but often it's distributed as in India where, in a land of 1.2 billion, ten individuals control over 10% of the economy.

Greg revived the name of Reagan-era U.N. Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick – appropriately in a column related to Latin America. A big supporter of Iran-Contra, Kirkpatrick heartily endorsed siphoning money off arms sales to Iran to fund the Nicaraguan Contras, despite Secretary of State George Schultz' warning it was an "impeachable offense". As for the torture, rape and murder of those three American nuns and the Catholic lay worker in 1980, she suggested we cut the government of El Salvador some slack, because, after all, "The nuns were not just nuns; the nuns were political activists". (When it was rumored Kirkpatrick was eyeing the job of National Security Advisor, Secretary Schultz threatened to resign if she got it.)

Jeanne Kirkpatrick derided the U.N. as an "institution whose majorities claim the right to decide - for the world - what is legitimate and what is illegitimate." She made clear her view that this was a "right" reserved solely for the United States. In this context, it's understandable how Greg can claim "all this praise and worship" directed towards Hugo Chavez "is a lie". It's so, if for no other reason than the U.S. right-wing consensus says it's so. The massive mourning by Venezuelans themselves, who repeatedly voted Chavez back into office, doesn't count.

Now, here's what you've been waiting for: The one who wanted to deny any "right" to own a handgun, quoted at the top of this column, was President Richard Nixon. It was a caught-on-tape moment shortly after the assassination attempt on former Alabama Gov. George Wallace in 1972.

If you'd like to play more guess-who-said-it, picture this scene from a few years earlier: A young activist warns against a government "either unable or unwilling ... to protect lives and property", and reminded that "Article number two of the constitutional amendments provides you and me the right to own a rifle or a shotgun."

Those who listened sought not only to exercise this right, but to do it responsibly – often instructed on how to properly clean and handle their weapons by recently-returned Vietnam vets. And, they took their "rights" a step further – insisting on a right to "open carry", and proudly showed off their guns out on the street.

This proved too much for Sacramento politicians, who suddenly got very interested in gun control legislation - specifically to ban the carrying of weapons in public. The group, though, wouldn't back down; "they're trying to pass a law against our guns, and we're going to the Capitol steps."

The Governor had his own view, seeing "no reason why on the street today a citizen should be carrying loaded weapons", and referred to guns as "a ridiculous way to solve problems that have to be solved among people of good will." The group, though, maintained that especially in an era of civil unrest and a government they didn't trust, it was important not to relinquish a "right" to protect themselves as they saw fit.

The "young activist" quoted above was Malcolm X ("by any means necessary"); the one who announced "we're going to the Capitol" was Huey Newton, speaking to Bobby Seale. The group was the Black Panthers. The Governor who nailed it on "open carry" was Ronald Reagan.

Jeanne Kirkpatrick was into rationalizing support for thuggish dictators when they were on "our" side, and finding them morally objectionable only when they weren't. The decades have seen shifting views on gun control depending on which "side" wanted the guns. As I see it, I'll throw my support to the "people of good will".

So – Free Bobby! Free Huey! Power to the People! And for Governor Reagan, Right On!

## POPE FRANCIS THE HEALER GREG Welborn



The Catholic Church has suffered much in recent years. There have been financial improprieties, publicly-fought political battles among its core lieutenants and, of course, dispiriting and deeply evil sexual abuse scandals. One could almost be tempted to dismiss the church as out of date and irrelevant to the modern world, but one would be wrong to do so. The Christian church has much to offer a hurting, broken world, and the Catholic branch of that faith has as long a history of doing right by its parishioners as it does in doing wrong by them. So, it is with a certain gladness of heart that I, an evangelical protestant, rejoice in the selection of Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio to become Pope Francis.

To fully understand the significance of Cardinal Bergoglio's selection, we have to step back a month to acknowledge the selfless act of Pope Benedict in relinquishing his claim to the seat of St. Peter in order to allow a more robust man to fill the role. Too often in the secular world – and sadly in the church as well – leaders cling to leadership positions which offer prestige, power and influence, even though they are no longer capable of meeting the requirements of the job. Pope Benedict's resignation was the first in 600 years and reflects the selfless heart of a true servant, who held the interests and needs of believers world-wide above his own selfish desires. So before addressing the merits of Cardinal Bergoglio, let me take a moment to express appreciation and admiration to the humble Father, Bishop and Cardinal Ratzinger, who became Pope Benedict, served faithfully and then retreated quietly to a life devoted to prayer.

With Pope Benedict's resignation, there were many who cynically wondered and postulated about who, among the politically well-skilled cardinals, would maneuver his way to the papacy. But the conclave of cardinals surprised us. They didn't choose the most skilled politician, they didn't choose an insider, and, most significantly, they didn't choose someone who has even a whiff of self-indulgence about him. Instead, they chose the humble, God-fearing and God-loving, and unpretentious Cardinal of Argentina.

Jorge Mario Bergoglio has spent almost the entirety of his career in Argentina, tending in a very pastoral way to the needs of his people as a priest, then Bishop, and finally Cardinal. Along the way, he has consistently eschewed the trappings of luxury and privilege that are too willingly provided and too willingly accepted by the princes of the Catholic Church. Cardinal Bergoglio refused to live in the mansion provided previous Argentine cardinals but, instead, lived in a modest residence next to his office. He traveled by mass transit, not by limousine. By all accounts, he loved his flock more than he loved himself, or his office or the advantages that office so often provides. He was an honest, sincere man of the people.

It is insightful and instructive that Cardinal Bergoglio hails from Argentina and experienced first hand the financial and political difficulties that beautiful land has suffered at the hands of its less-than-capable political leaders. To

the mess that those politicians created, and to the promised cures they offered the long-suffering Argentines, Cardinal Bergoglio admonished, "to those who are now promising to fix all the problems, I say, 'go and fix yourself'." Get to confession before you need it even more. The crisis will not be improved by magicians from outside, nor will it come from the golden mouth of politicians, so accustomed to making incredible promises.

You have to love a man who can speak truth to power – and corruption – in such an honest and humble way. This is a man, like his predecessor Benedict, who has known the oppression and false promises of tyrants and dictators. As Benedict stood up against the communist masters of his native Poland, so too has Pope Francis stood up against the Marxists of his homeland when he served from priest to Cardinal.

Both of these men know the frailty and the resilience of the human spirit; both these men love people as God loved people. The Christian message is, after all, the story of how God so loved the world, and its people, that He gave His only son to pay the price for sin that we, the fallen and sinful, could not pay. God offered Christ to reconcile the world to His demand for justice and righteousness. God calls us in turn to love the world as He did and to work to make right what has long been broken. Among Christ's followers are the many who are laity and the few who are full-time pastoral roles. On each group is the placed the responsibility to act as if we were doing our task for God and to act as if God were watching our every move and action.

How refreshing it is then to see that one man has stepped aside when he felt he could no longer lead that grand mission and to see take his place another who clearly has the appreciation for and energy to lead that commission into a turbulent future.

The cardinals could not have chosen a more fitting man for the time and place in which the Catholic Church finds itself. Jorge Mario Bergoglio is a man who will resist the evils of those who seek secular tyranny and the evils of those who clothe themselves in the vestments of the church while preying on its trusting believers. Jorge Mario Bergoglio, now Pope Francis, steps into a church at a time of great need. God will be well served, the people blessed and the world made better by the humility, selflessness and dedication that is the character of the man who now leads the Church of St. Peter.

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

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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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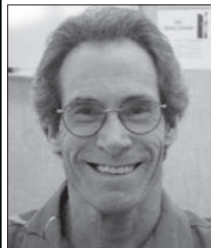
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## HAIL Hamilton My Turn



### PART II: "AMNESTY BY ANY OTHER NAME IS STILL AMNESTY..."

This is the second in a series of articles about President Obama's proposed Comprehensive Immigration Reform and why Americans should oppose it. It is based on information from a variety of sources including the *Cato Institute*, *Center for Immigration Studies*, *Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR)*, *NumbersUSA*, and *Pew Hispanic Center*.

As mentioned in Part I, in his May 24, 2006 *New York Times* Op-Ed, "Amnesty by Any Other Name is still Amnesty..." by former Attorney General Ed Meese III, argued strongly against the Comprehensive Immigration Reform proposed by President Bush, calling it what it was *amnesty*:

"Like the amnesty bill of 1986, the current Senate proposal would place those who have resided illegally in the United States on a path to citizenship, provided they meet a similar set of conditions and pay a fine and back taxes. The illegal immigrant does not go to the back of the line but gets immediate legalized status, while law-abiding applicants wait in their home countries for years to even get here. And that's the line that counts. In the end, slight differences in process do not change the overriding fact that the 1986 law and today's bill are both amnesties."

Again, as I said last week, If President Obama really wants to reform our immigration system he should take following steps *before* any kind of immigration reform, comprehensive or otherwise, is considered.

#### Encourage Federal / State / Local Partnership

State and local police are badly needed to help overwhelmed federal immigration authorities apprehend and detain illegal aliens in the interior of our country. Illegal aliens currently outnumber federal immigration agents by 5,000 to one, and only 2,000 federal agents are active in enforcing the immigration laws in the interior of our country. Clearly, those numbers indicate that a limited number of federal agents are incapable of apprehending a majority of an estimated 11-22 million illegal aliens currently inside our nation's borders and would benefit from the assistance of the more than 600,000 state and local law enforcement officers nationwide who come into contact with illegal aliens every day.

#### End Catch and Release Policy

Many police officers routinely observe and even stop illegal aliens for violations of the law, however, those who arrest illegal aliens and proceed to contact federal immigration officials are all too often told to release the offenders unless a non-immigration offense is involved. This practice has commonly become known as "catch and release." Even more troublesome is the fact that some police officers are prohibited by state or local laws or policies from cooperating with federal officials, a tactic adopted by some state and local governments that favor ensuring the well-being of illegal aliens rather than protecting law abiding American citizens from unnecessary harm and the adverse effects of illegal immigration on their communities.

#### Eliminate Sanctuary Cities

Several cities, including Washington, D.C., New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago, San Francisco, San Diego, Austin, Baltimore, Salt Lake City, Dallas, Houston, Honolulu, Portland, and Seattle have made themselves "*sanctuary cities*" by adopting ordinances restricting local law enforcement from inquiring about immigration status and reporting violations to federal authorities. Most of these cities claim that the benefit illegal immigrants bring to their city outweigh the costs. Opponents say the measures violate federal law as the cities are in effect creating their own immigration policy, an area of law which only Congress has authority to alter.

Many legal scholars have tagged these so-called "don't tell" measures as "obvious targets for express preemption" given the apparent conflict between "don't tell" policies and the restrictions in Sections 434 of the "Welfare Reform Act" and Section 642 of the "Immigration Reform Act" that expressly forbid restraints on communications with federal officials, including the sharing of information relating to people's illegal immigration status. This is not good news for cities dependent on federal money.

Do not be fooled. Amnesty by any other name is still amnesty. Comprehensive Immigration Reform is amnesty -- pure and simple.

## STUART Tolchin..... On LIFE



### LIFE AND LIONS IN SIERRA MADRE

Last night I had dinner alone at a restaurant in Sierra Madre. My wife's cousin had died the day before and she just didn't feel like doing much of anything. I was at a loss as to what to do. It seems that whenever unexpected events come up I am unable to take the next important step. It's as if I expect to be provided with a life-manual containing direction on how to behave in unexpected situations. What I decided to do was to go to a restaurant alone on a Saturday night for probably the first time in my life. As I left my wife's expression told me I was failing to do something very important. The next day she told me she would have felt better if I had just taken the trouble to hug her instead of worrying about my own discomfort.

So anyway I was feeling pretty strange when I arrived at the busy restaurant. There was a pretty long waiting list but I told the hostess I was alone and she said there was a small table that usually remained empty. I said I'd take the table and soon learned why it usually remained empty. The table was right in the way of everything else and people kept bumping into my chair. One man stopped and began a conversation about how much he liked this restaurant and liked Sierra Madre but could never live here. He said that Sierra Madre was an anachronism and that that it would be a very dull place to live because he was sure **nothing ever happened in Sierra Madre**.

I said I understood how he might think that but really some surprising things happened in Sierra Madre all the time. "Like what?" he said. "Well", I told him, "Night before last two mountain lions jumped over my neighbor's wall and ate a little dog." The man thought I was kidding but I showed him a copy of the Mountain Views News that told the story right on the front page.

The man quickly seemed to lose interest and said something like well I'm glad that gave you something to think about for awhile." It must generally be pretty dull up there up there." I said, no. We often see deer, raccoons, coyotes and bears. "Why there was even a bear in my house last year that the police had to come and shoot with a bean-bag weapon." The man thought I was making fun of him and walked away to join his companions at another table. I could see them looking at me strangely and kind of laughing to themselves.

Now, I felt even more uncomfortable. I paid my bill and drove home. Feeling strange I remembered that my neighbor, the dog's former owner, or maybe the right language is the former dog's owner, has told me he received a special Fish and Game Dispensation that allows him to shoot the mountain lions. Great, now I'm more worried about him shooting someone by mistake than I am worried about being eaten by the lions.

Tonight rather than take our dog for his nightly walk around the circle my wife and I just drove down to City Hall and walked the dog near the canyon in the park. When we got home we noticed a poster wrapped around our telephone pole. I noticed no other posters on the block but it was too dark to read the poster. My wife didn't want me to linger about on the street where I might get eaten or shot and said I could read the poster tomorrow.

That's it! I am not going to be afraid in my own house. I am going downstairs to read the poster. Okay, I'm back.

All the sign says is  
**BEWARE OF EXTREMELY AGGRESSIVE MOUNTAIN LIONS**

Additionally the poster contains the helpful information that the lions can jump fifteen feet in the air and are capable of taking down a 600 pound elk. The poster also gave instructions on what to do if confronted by mountain lions.

DO NOT APPROACH LIONS. DO NOT RUN. YELL AND CALL 911.

Sounds like pretty good advice. I think if you combine that advice with my wife's suggestion that when in doubt it's best to hug someone you love you will be well-prepared for most situations. Well so far nothing new has happened in Sierra Madre this morning. I'm going to try and attach a picture of the poster to this article and perhaps the poster will be seen in the paper. If you want to read my article about the bear getting into my house please check out the Mountain Views News archives (mtnviewsnews.com,) for May 5, 2012. If you look at my other articles in the archives you can read about the fires, earthquakes, windstorms, forced evacuations, arrests and the uncovering of a hidden meth lab all occurring in Sierra Madre, a place where nothing ever happens.

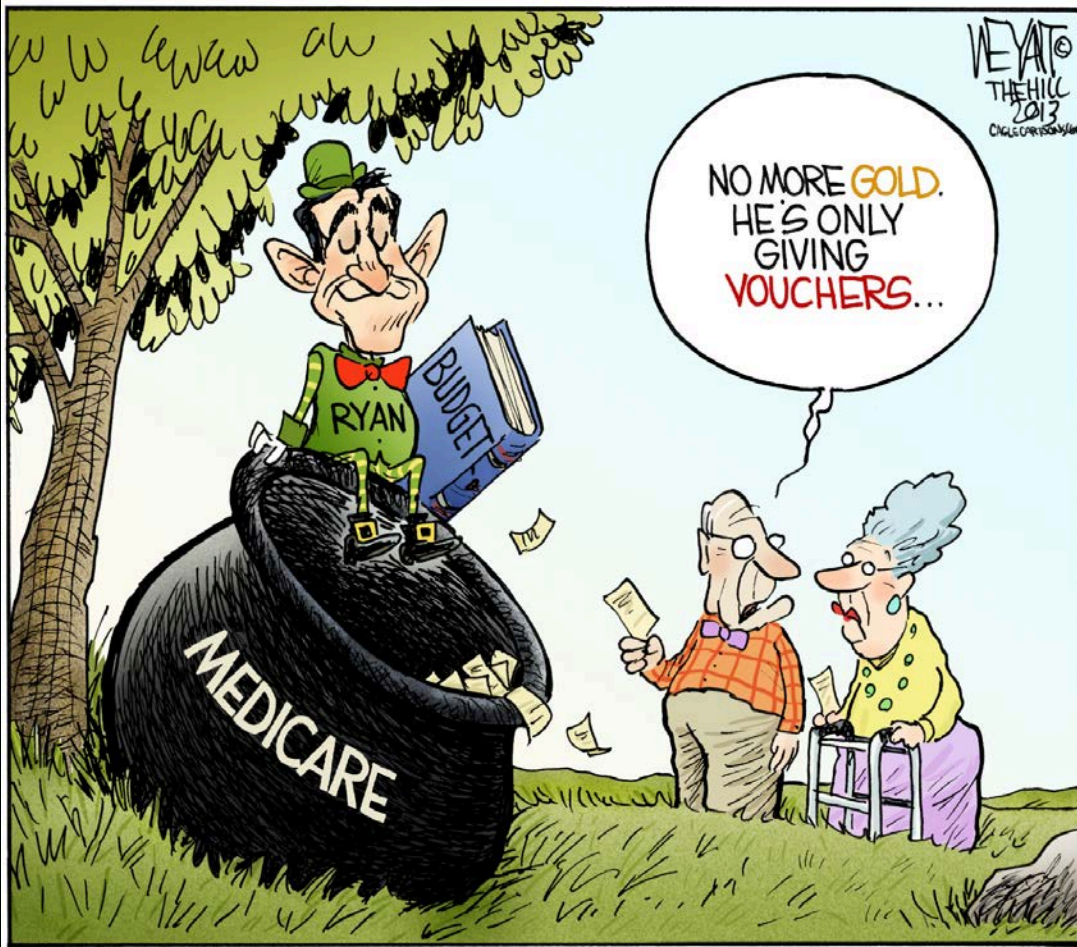


TABLE FOR TWO by Peter Dills  
thechefknows@yahoo.com

## SLATER'S 50/50

Have you noticed there is a burger movement right here in the San Gabriel Valley? I can't count all the places making burgers, and some of them are pretty darn good. New to the area are Rounds, Habit, Big Daddy's, and Lucky Boy(Walnut), and don't forget the old ones like Pie N' Burger, Burger Continental, and Robin's. All make decent burgers. If you are like me you might consider yourself a burger connoisseur. Many times when dining out I think that no one makes a better burger than yours truly. It seems such a simple process to make a burger -- fresh ground beef, the right bun and the right temperature. Remember I said it: simple.

your choice of pilsners, lagers, ales, many names you know, and others that you should get to know. Too many gastropubs offer beer I have never heard of -- I get the idea, but I just might be in the mood for a Pabst!!!

The service at the bar, where I usually do my best eating, was top notch. Bartender George greeted us with a handshake and a hello and asked if it was our first time at Slater's. He explained the process and even asked what type of beer we liked. Nice touch George! You get high marks for service! Prices for beer are in the \$6 range, burgers from \$9 and up. I will return for a 50/50 soon and another Pilsner, please. The Bar has ample room to dine or just have a beer, and features more than 10 big screens for your sporting pleasure.

Slater's 50/50 61 N. Raymond Ave. Pasadena (626) 765-9700

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a Wine Of  
the Month Club  
sponsored event

My favorite experience is Slater's 50/50, not only do they make arguably the best burger in town, the whole experience is one I look forward to. I have been there three times and Slater's has delivered each and every time. What is a 50/50? It's a burger made of half ground beef and half bacon. On my most recent visit I opted to go all beef. I ordered from the Design It Yourself menu where you pick the size of the burger (from 1/3 lb to 1 a full pound), bread, cheese, toppings, and sauce. I got the 1/3-lb burger on the thick sliced rye bread with pickle chips and roasted red peppers, accompanied by a Munich Pilsner beer -- this kid was in heaven. This burger is truly one that I would go out for and save the time of firing up the BBQ. On this visit I also enjoyed the fried dill pickle chips. The only item that isn't five stars is the french fries. Before you think I'm going soft here, the fries do come with a tangy Slater Ketchup that is good, but with all the work they have done on the burger, a freshly cut order of fries probably would have made me think I was at Spagos.

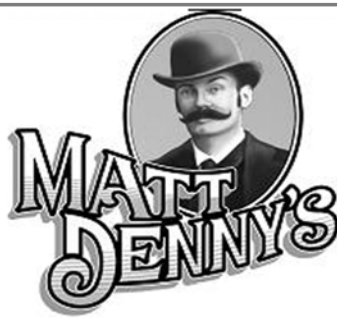
The beer selection is vast, with

coming to Santa Anita on Sunday, March 24th, this all day event features area restaurants and top notch wines. I'll be there !!! \$60 includes admission to track and the event. (626) 574-race.

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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.

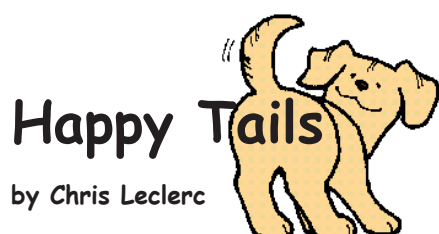
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## COGNITIVE CAPACITY OF THE CANINE

It is no secret that the average domestic dog is capable of learning and responding to a wide variety of verbal commands. But, how many words can a dog understand and respond to? We humans typically use a short list of simple, single-consonant terms in training our dogs such as 'sit', 'lay', 'stay', 'good dog', and 'no', right? As a dog walker and pet sitter I am pleased to say that I have yet to meet an owner who hasn't taken the time to teach their pet at least one or two of these commands, and I think that is great. Most of us would agree that basic behavioral training for domestic pets definitely helps keep them happy and helps us maintain some semblance of order in the household.

Historically, a canine's capability of learning and obeying the human's verbal commands has been associated more with the dog's parsimonious survival instinct than intellectual or cognitive capacity. However, results of relatively recent scientific studies indicate that there is a lot more to the dog's response to the human than we realized in the past. Recent studies show that dogs can apply previous personal experience to new situations, and have the capacity for selective imitation, which means they are independently capable of interpreting and imitating human behavior. The idea of selective imitation is more notoriously known to be applied to observational studies related to the growth of human infants, but recent findings say it also applies to the canine's intellectual capabilities. Another recent finding is that dogs have no problem understanding the meaning of human gestures. This came as no new concept to me, because I often see my dogs notice and respond to my physical posture (good, bad or ugly) even when my human friends or family don't notice. Another rather new-found fact is that dogs are able to understand and respond to words they've never even heard before, when directly associated with a human's particular vocal tone, gesture or body language.

The general consensus among contemporary canine behavioral research scientists is that the domestic dog's ability to understand and respond to human interactivity is more related to cognitive capacity than survival instinct. While many mammalian species are apparently quite capable of learning and responding to our attempt to train them, the culturally cooperative nature of the canine is what sets it apart from other mammals. The main difference lies in the fact that the domestic dog harbors a certain loyalty towards the human that other mammals do not possess, presumably due to the fact that the dog has been taught to depend on the human for day-to-day nourishment and safety over the years, whereas other mammalian species have not. Another factor is that the dog genuinely enjoys the human's company more than other mammals do. Whether this is related to the evolution and domestication of the canine is still in question. Who knows? Maybe the original wild dog (aka: wolf) was a natural-born people-pleaser from the very beginning. My guess is, no.

Take "Chaser" for example. He is a six-year-old Border Collie trained to understand and comprehend more than 1,000 English

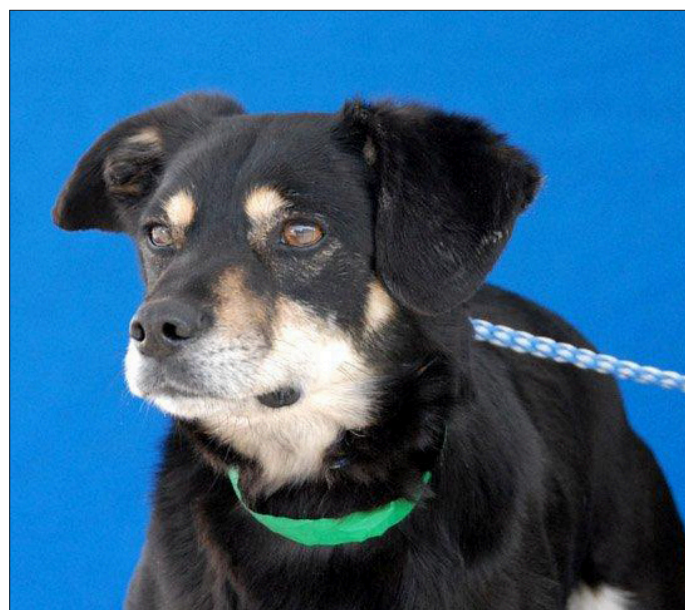
spoken words. He even comprehends the words when they are used in a combination of simple sentences. Chaser responds correctly when told to either retrieve and deliver, nose, toe or hide a given object. We are talking about a collection of 1,000 different items, for each of which Chaser remembers the given name. Indeed, Border Collies are more attentive and trainable than many dog breeds, and they are considered to be more intelligent than most, but it is still amazing that any dog can perform a task involving such complex memory and problem-solving combinations.

Another excellent example of the remarkable cognitive capability of the canine was shown in the results of a 2007 study at the University of Vienna in Austria where numerous dogs were prompted to select particular photos on a touch computer screen. The point of the study was to show that the subject canines could recognize and categorize the graphic matter in the photos per command, based on visual familiarity and memory. When shown different sets of dog and landscape photos, the tested canines consistently selected the appropriate photo per command, demonstrating that they could apply their own understanding and previous learning to a new situation totally un-related to previous experiences. The researchers further tested their four-legged subjects by showing pictures of a empty landscapes along with others of similar landscapes including a dog. Most subjects selected the pictures with the dog in the landscape versus those without a dog.

To tell you the truth, I have personally never questioned whether my dog was at least as intelligent as I am, if not more, and it doesn't matter to me whether she could select the correct picture in an experiment or remember a command I hoped to instill in her. Just knowing that the dog is capable of understanding, comprehending and responding to the human in the way it can is remarkable to me. I hope someday to have a better knowledge of what my dog is thinking, and perhaps learn from those thoughts. Meanwhile, I will continue to show love and respect and assume her level of intelligence based on research. Speak kind words and show positive physical gestures to your animals. They have so much to offer and it's time we started learning from them just as they do from us. When you stop learning, you stop living. Hug your pet daily and don't forget to love and let live.

## PET OF THE WEEK

SCOOBY DOO: #A4549197



Meet an amazing dog, the incredible Scooby-Doo (A4549197)! Scooby-Doo is a happy-go-lucky four year old tricolor and black neutered male Beagle mix who was forsaken at the Baldwin Park Animal Care Center with his companion Spiky (A4549198) on March 2nd after his former owners lost their home. Weighing seventeen pounds, Scooby-Doo is familiar with the concept of a leash but needs additional training. He does seem to be housetrained. He gets along well with most small dogs, but would rather avoid big ones, and we think he will do fine with kids. This is a medium-energy, clever, affectionate boy who loves belly rubs. Scooby-Doo is the perfect indoor pet for anyone anywhere.

To watch a video of Scooby-Doo and Spiky, please visit: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=8iw0gRax26M](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8iw0gRax26M)

To meet Scooby-Doo in person, please see him at the Baldwin Park Animal Care Center, located at 4275 N. Elton St., Baldwin Park, CA 91706 (Phone: 626-430-2378 or 626-962-3577). He is currently available now. For any inquiries about Scooby-Doo, please reference his animal ID number: A4549197. 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 Scooby-Doo or the adoption process, please contact United Hope for Animals Volunteer Adoption Coordinator Samantha at [Samantha@hope4animals.org](mailto:Samantha@hope4animals.org). To learn more about United Hope for Animals' partnership with the Baldwin Park Shelter through its Shelter Support Program, as well as the many dogs of all breeds, ages, and sizes available for adoption in local shelters, visit <http://www.unitedhope4animals.org/about-us/shelter-support-program/>.

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## Tips of the Trade: Real Estate Revealed

by Luther Tsingoglou

### GET THE CREDIT YOU DESERVE

Mortgage applications are being reviewed far more thoroughly now than in the past, and your credit score should be 680 or higher to qualify for the best interest rates. So how do you determine your score, and know you're getting the credit you deserve?


Everyone is allowed one free credit report per year from the three reporting agencies (Experian, Equifax and TransUnion). Review the reports for accuracy and act quickly to correct any errors or omissions.

Approximately 35% of your credit score is based on the timeliness of your payments. Make sure that no late payments older than seven years are still on your report.

If you have paid off loans or credit cards, a zero balance should appear on those accounts. Sometimes, agencies don't properly update those balances after settlement.

15% of your credit score is based on the length of your credit history, so make sure that the opening dates of all your accounts are accurate. Also make sure that the limits on your credit cards are correct, and keep the balances under 50% of those limits. Total debt accounts for 30% of your credit score.

Finally, think twice about closing credit card accounts with zero balances, because this negatively reduces your ratio of "available credit" to your debt. First, get the facts. Then, make corrections. Finally, apply for home financing with confidence!



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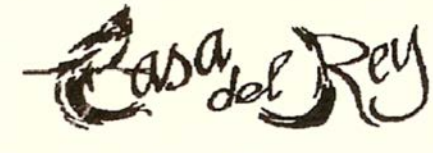
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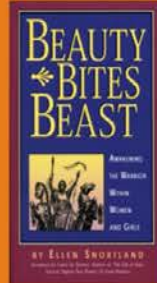
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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2012 VOLUME 4 NO 39

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### Your Eye Upon a Leprechaun!



I have traveled to Ireland to celebrate Saint Patrick's Day! I came here to swim around the Emerald Isle to try to spot a leprechaun. I haven't seen one yet. Do you see one on this page? After you spot him read my clues to fill in the mini puzzles.

#### St. Patrick's Day is celebrated:

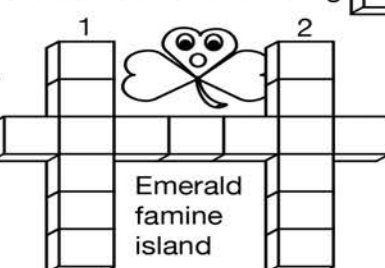
1. with big meals of corned beef and \_\_\_\_\_.
2. by people wearing something \_\_\_\_\_.
3. with marching bands and floats in \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Ireland:

1. lost a lot of people who moved away due to \_\_\_\_\_ (lack of food).
2. is an \_\_\_\_\_.
3. has beautiful green lands - its nickname is the \_\_\_\_\_ Isle.

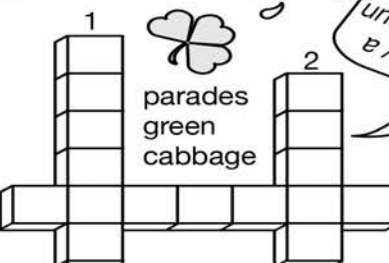
#### St. Patrick:

1. is the patron saint of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. at the age of 16 was taken to Ireland as a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. is believed to have driven all of the \_\_\_\_\_ out of Ireland.



Free Puzzles

I'm going to eat my share of corned beef and cabbage!



Where does the leprechaun go when spring rains make the ground soggy?



Old Irish folklore and stories tell us that the leprechaun has a pot o' gold hidden. It is said to be almost impossible to find a leprechaun as he does not care for human company. If you do spot one, make sure that you keep an eye on the leprechaun while you trick him into showing you his treasure. If you do not, he'll disappear!

Use the alphabet code to fill in the blanks:

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\$668,000 - Represented Seller/Buyer

## IN ESCROW - 2013!!!!



327 Oxford Drive,  
Arcadia \$1,468,000  
Represented Seller



2343-2347 Huntington Drive,  
San Marino \$1,288,000  
Represented Seller



915 Park Avenue,  
Arcadia \$1,188,000  
Represented Seller



928 Volante Drive,  
Arcadia  
Represented Seller/Buyer



10 W Longden Avenue,  
Arcadia \$828,000  
Represented Seller



1946 N Madison Avenue,  
Pasadena \$508,000  
Represented Seller

## SOLD IN 2012!!!

### Arcadia



1001 Panorama Drive, Arcadia  
\$2,150,000  
Represented Seller



348 Harvard Drive, Arcadia  
\$1,310,000  
Represented Seller



1209 Oakhaven Road, Arcadia  
\$1,285,000  
Represented Seller



149 E Sycamore Avenue, Arcadia  
\$1,055,000  
Represented Seller/Buyer



319 California Street, Arcadia  
\$590,000  
Represented Seller



2866 Sycamore Lane, Arcadia  
\$568,000  
Represented Seller



5302 Cochlin Avenue, Arcadia  
\$377,500  
Represented Buyer

### Duarte



2711 Starpine Drive, Duarte  
\$760,000 - Represented Seller/Buyer

### Glendora



2215 Swiftwater Way, Glendora  
\$889,000 - Represented Seller/Buyer

### Granada Hills



15613 Odyssey Drive, Granada Hills  
\$352,490 - Represented Buyer

### Monrovia



356 E Hillcrest Blvd., Monrovia  
\$695,000 - Represented Buyer



123 Peppertree Lane, Monrovia  
\$505,000 - Represented Seller

### Pasadena



3239 La Vina Way, Pasadena  
\$711,000 - Represented Buyer



840 E Green Street Unit 417, Pasadena  
\$585,000 - Represented Buyer

### Sierra Madre



222 Oak Meadow Road, Sierra Madre  
\$1,498,000 - Represented Seller



320 Wisteria Way, Sierra Madre  
\$1,398,000 - Represented Seller



70 Windsor Lane, Sierra Madre  
\$455,000 - Represented Seller/Buyer

## COMING SOON!!!

*Dayton Loft - Pasadena*

*Peppertree Lane, Monrovia*

