



**"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

SIERRA MADRE EDITION

Mountain Views News

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Pasadena Edition: Pasadena - South Pasadena - Altadena - San Marino

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 2018

VOLUME 12 NO. 02

COUNCIL APPOINTS ELECTION OFFICER; APPLICANTS TO FILL CITY CLERK POSITION SOUGHT

With the abrupt resignation of the city's elected Clerk effective January 5, 2018 (<http://mtnviews-news.com/v11/htm/n51/index.htm>), the Sierra Madre City Council unanimously agreed at its first meeting of the new year, to take the steps necessary in order to conduct the city's business in a timely manner.

First and foremost came the appointment of an Elections Officer for the upcoming election in April. Laura Aguilar, currently the Assistant City Clerk was appointed to that position

Secondly, the council decided to seek the public's assistance in finding a new city clerk that could be appointed to fill the unexpired term left vacant by the resignation. By filling the vacancy via appointment the city will not have to hold a Special Election at the approximate cost to taxpayers of \$55,000.

A press release was issued asking Sierra Madre qualified residents who might be interested to apply. The position is open to any registered voter residing in Sierra Madre.

The successful candidate will be appointed to serve as City Clerk until April 2020.

By statute, the City Clerk is responsible for recording the minutes of the City Council, Financing Authority, and Successor Agency meetings; record City Ordinances and maintain the City's Custodial Seal. Compensation for the position is the same as with all other elected officials, \$250 per month.

To apply for the position, please visit the City's website at www.cityofsierramadre.com. If you have any questions about the vacancy, please contact the City Manager's Office at (626) 355-7135

SIERRA MADRE TRANSIT FARES REDUCED

Sierra Madre residents that rely on the local Round About and Dial A Ride services are in store for a very pleasant surprise. Fares will be dropping for \$2.00 per trip to \$.50 (yes, 50 cents) per trip.

The council approved the decrease in fares in the course of reviewing renewal of a new contract with First Transit. There will be no adverse economic impact to the city by reducing the rates and it will bring the cost of the services in line with neighboring cities that provide the same services.

The Sierra Madre Dial-A-Ride (Demand Response Transportation Service) program is a curb-to-curb transportation service for elderly and disabled residents of Sierra Madre. Out-of-town trips can go no more

than two miles beyond the City, but may travel to a variety of the medical facilities in Pasadena, Arcadia, or Duarte.

Riders must be residents of Sierra Madre and must be 62 years of age or older, or must have a form, signed by a physician, attesting to a disability which hinders mobility and the use of MTA buses. All patrons of the service must first register with the City's Community Services Department, and present proof of residency and age or disability. Monday through Friday: during the hours of 9:00am - 11:00am & 2:00pm - 6:00pm. No service on Saturdays, Sundays & Holidays.

The Gateway Coach (Round About) is a fixed route public transportation service for the City of Sierra Madre. The

route operates Monday through Friday, except Holidays from 11:00am - 1:30pm and is available for all to use at no cost. The route traverses the City of Sierra Madre with stops at Sierra Vista Park, Sierra Madre Middle School, Sierra Madre Library, Post Office, Senior Housing and Memorial Park to name a few. For more information call 626-355-5278, or visit the city's website at: <http://cityofsierramadre.com/services/transportation>

First Transit has been providing the services to the city since 2012, however it was only recently discovered that the contract had expired. Monthly, the company provides about 285 rides to residents. The expense for operating the program is covered by funds for Proposition A.

WHERE HAS SIERRA MADRE FIRE CHIEF STEPHEN HEYDORFF GONE?

Probably Fishing! Heydorff Retires After 37 Years with SMFD

On Tuesday, Sierra Madre residents and City Council members honored Steve Heydorff for his 37 years of service with the SM Fire Department.

Heydorff, whose actual last day was in December, was recognized for the many accomplishments while at SMFD including the establishment of the Paramedics Program.

His career began in 1981 as a Volunteer EMS Coordinator. In 2008 he became SM Fire Chief.

During his tenure Heydorff answered more than 9,000 calls for service.

Pictured above at a recent 911 ceremony and left enjoying one of his favorite pastimes, fishing. No doubt, the stories of his retirement adventures will grow as time goes on. One thing is for certain however, Heydorff will be missed.



Thank you Steve for all you have done for this community.

MVNews

FRIENDS OF THE SIERRA MADRE LIBRARY BEST USED BOOK SALE

The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library are sponsoring their Best Used Book Sale on Friday, February 2 from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, February 3 from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. This will be our annual Vintage Sale and will feature Collectible books on every subject.

In the Basement, our Vintage shelves will be available for your inspection and the Table will showcase Limited, Signed and/or First Editions of yesteryear. There will be many charming children's titles as well as non-fiction and fiction classics for

adults, some with famous artists as illustrators. We have a set of Harvard Classics, Bruce Catton's biography of U.S. Grant, and a set of Edna Ferber's novels as well as other treasures.

Our DVD shelves in the Basement are overflowing and all DVDs will be ½ price at the Sale.

Featured in the Parking Lot this time will be a huge collection of Marvel and DC comic books. Plan to spend a few minutes to look through the boxes and you may even find a valuable issue or two. As always, our parking lot will also have

our Bargain Books at only \$1.00 each and small Paperbacks for .25 each or 5/\$1.00. Children's and Teen titles in the parking lot range from \$.25 - \$1.00. We hope to see you at the February Book Sale, where you will find wonderful books in great condition.

The sale will be held behind the Sierra Madre Library, 440 West Sierra Madre Blvd. in Sierra Madre. All proceeds are used for services, acquisitions and programs of the Sierra Madre Library.

2018 – NEW YEAR....NEW LAWS.....AND YOU!

California is a very special place to live. As evidenced by recent political events, we appear to be in a world of our own. As we begin another year in the Golden State, let's be mindful of the changes in our laws that will hopefully help improve the quality of life for us all:

NEW CALIFORNIA STATE LAWS Hiring

A prospective employer will no longer be able to decide how much money to offer you by asking what you made at your last job. Under Assembly Bill 168, the salary history of job applicants can only be disclosed voluntarily. Supporters say the law could help women close the persistent gender pay gap.

Assembly Bill 1008 aims to improve employment prospects for formerly incarcerated job seekers by banning the box on applications that asks about criminal conviction history. Employers will still be able to conduct a background check once a conditional offer has been made, but the law, which is part of a national ban-the-box movement, is meant to give former convicts a better opportunity to be considered on their merits before they are judged

for past mistakes.

Elections

Get ready for a new era of voting in California: Senate Bill 450, which passed in 2016, does away with neighborhood polling places and replaces them with elections conducted primarily by mail. It represents another effort to boost sagging voter participation. Under the system, which Sacramento is among the first counties to adopt, every registered voter will receive a mail ballot. Drop-off locations will be available up to four weeks before election day, and temporary regional "vote centers" will open 10 days ahead of time to register voters and accept ballots.

Job leave

Californians enter 2018 with expanded protections to take time off from work. Under Senate Bill 63, nearly 2.8 million workers at small businesses with between 20 and 49 employees are now guaranteed up to 12 weeks of unpaid parental leave within the first year of their child's birth, adoption or foster care placement. (Workers at larger businesses with at least 50 employees

already received this benefit.)

Assembly Bill 908 also boosts state compensation for workers taking paid leave to temporarily care for a family member, to 60 percent of their regular wages from 55 percent, and up to 70 percent for the lowest earners.

Drug prices

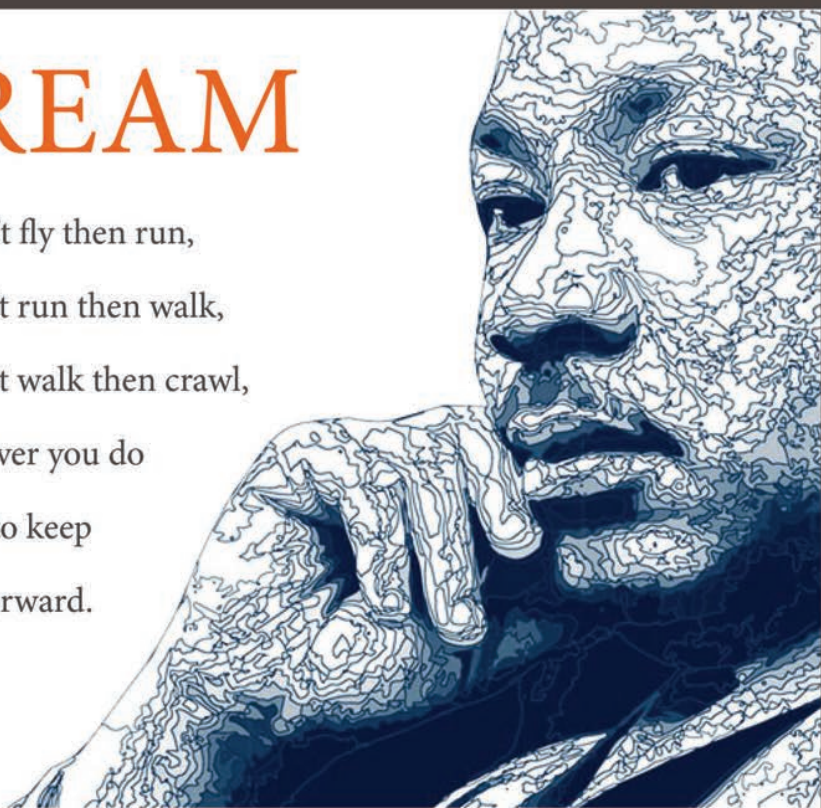
Fueled by widespread anger over soaring prescription drug prices, lawmakers went to battle with the pharmaceutical industry. Senate Bill 17 requires manufacturers to notify the state at least 60 days before dramatically increasing the price of most drugs.

Health insurers will also have to report how much prescription drugs are contributing to the cost of their plans, including annual hikes to premiums. (In December, the pharmaceutical industry filed suit in federal court, challenging the law as a violation of interstate commerce and free speech protections.)

Assembly Bill 265 also prohibits discount coupons for brand-name drugs, which can lower how much patients pay out-of-pocket. Critics contend the coupons build customer loyalty (cont. on page 12)

DREAM

If you can't fly then run,
if you can't run then walk,
if you can't walk then crawl,
but whatever you do
you have to keep
moving forward.



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Weather Wise

6-Day Forecast Sierra Madre, Ca.

Sun	Ptly Cldy	Hi 50s	Lows 40s
Mon:	Rain 60%	Hi 50s	Lows 40s
Tues:	Rain 60%	Hi 50s	Lows 40s
Wed:	Sunny	Hi 50s	Lows 40s
Thur:	Sunny	Hi 50s	Lows 40s
Fri:	Ptly Cldy	Hi 60s	Lows 40s

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 REGULAR January 23, 2018
6:30 pm

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.



SIERRA MADRE CITY MEETINGS

Regular City Council Meeting
Tuesday, January 23, 2018
6:30 pm

Can't make it to the meeting, but still want to share your thoughts? You can mail or drop off a written statement to City Hall or email city@cityofsierramadre.com before 30 the night of the meeting and your statement will be delivered to all the Council Members. Sierra Madre City Hall 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Sierra Madre, CA 91024 (626) 355-7135

City Council
January 23, 2018 at 6:30 pm

Planning Commission January 18, 2018 at 7:00 pm
February 1, 2018 at 7:00 pm

Community Service Commission
January 22, 2018 at 6:30 pm

Senior Community Commission January 11, 2018 at 3:00 pm
Library Board of Trustees
January 24, 2018 at 7:00 pm

Energy, Environment, and Natural Resource Commission
January 17, 2018 at 7:00 pm

SIERRA MADRE POLICE BLOTTER

During this time period, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 270 day and night time calls for service.

Wednesday, January 3 A residential burglary and thefts from two vehicles occurred in the 400 block of E. Highland Ave, which occurred from

Tuesday, January 2, 2018, at 9:30 pm to January 3, 2018 at about 9:15 a.m. The suspect(s) entered two unlocked vehicles and removed numerous items from both vehicles, which included a garage remote. The suspect(s) then used the remote to open and enter a detached garage of a residence. Once in the garage, the suspect(s) rifled through items, but it appears that no property was stolen. Case to Detectives

Friday, January 5 At about 3:23 p.m. a victim of vandalism reported that his vehicle was targeted on three separate occasions, from 11/14/2017 at 10:00 p.m. to 01/05/2018 at 12:00 p.m. The vehicle was struck with raw eggs and had a tire punctured with an unknown object while parked in the 200 block of E. Montecito Ave. Case to Detectives

Saturday, January 6 An officer responded to the station lobby for a report of fraud. Unknown suspect(s) used the victim's Home Depot credit card to purchase items online, totaling about \$12,000.00. The victim notified Home Depot credit services and was directed to file a police report due to the amount of money used to make the purchases. The victim did not know how the suspect(s) got his account information. Case to Detectives



KIWANIS CLUB OF SIERRA MADRE WELCOME 2018!

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2018
12 NOON**

Lunch begins at Noon and is \$10.
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Member of General Federation of Women's Clubs - cfwc.org & gfwc.org

Games Tea
Sat, Jan 27 @ 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Scrabble? Rummy? Bunco? Mahjong? Other?
Lavish Tea Buffet Prizes,
at Wistaria Thrift Shop thru 1/22; OR
Admit One \$15
RSVP 355-6225 by 5 p.m., Wed, Jan 24
\$20 Thurs/Fri, Jan. 25/26 @ Thrift Shop & at Door on Sat

Explore Opportunities & Membership with Us
Become a Member - Enjoy Yoga w/ Paul Tuesdays, 10 am
GFWCSierraMadreWomensClub.org
Facebook/SierraMadreWomensClub 355-4379
Rent the 1914 Historic Essick House 355-4379
Shop Award-Winning Wistaria Thrift Shop 355-7739
Donations Accepted Weekdays to 3 pm

Sierra Madre Woman's Club

Wistaria Thrift Shop



Retail Shop Hours - January - May 2018

Monday, Thursday, Friday 10am - 3 pm

Closed Saturdays Until Further Notice

Gladly Accepting Clean, Gently Used Donations
10 am - 1 pm Weekdays at our donations drop-off
SMWC - Essick House Parking Lot

Coming Up: Spring Fling - March 1, 2 & 3

550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Sierra Madre, CA 91024

626-355-7739

GFWCSierraMadreWomensClub.org

Facebook/SierraMadreWomensClub



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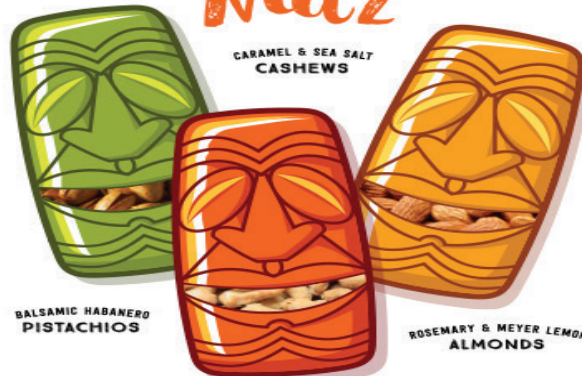
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We meet Tuesdays: 7-8:30 a.m.

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City of Sierra Madre

ORDINANCE NO. 1397-U

URGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE, CALIFORNIA AMENDING SECTION 10.52.030 OF THE SIERRA MADRE MUNICIPAL CODE PROHIBITING ON-STREET PARKING ON CERTAIN STREETS ON YELLOW AND RED FLAG ALERT DAYS

WHEREAS, the April 2008 fires above Sierra Madre burned an extensive hillside and mountain area, eroding the natural vegetation and leaving the adjacent hillside residential areas especially vulnerable in the event of mud and debris slides during the rainy season; WHEREAS, to ensure that public safety and public works vehicles can access those neighborhoods in a weather or debris-related emergency, the City Council enacted an ordinance to prohibit parking on designated streets during the activation of a yellow and red flag emergency notification system; WHEREAS, the purpose of this ordinance is to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Sierra Madre through the regulation of on-street parking on certain City streets during days of extreme precipitation; and WHEREAS, the City Council desires to add a Red Flag Fire Weather event to the hazards which trigger the yellow and red flag emergency notification system to ensure that public safety and other emergency vehicles can access those streets in a fire-related emergency and WHEREAS, 2017 has been one of the worst fire seasons on record, due to a multi-year drought, followed by above-average rainfall in winter 2016/2017 which encouraged growth of brush; and WHEREAS, the winter season in 2017/2018 has produced below-average rainfall and periods of high wind, which increases the fire danger, particularly for communities, such as Sierra Madre, which are located in or adjacent to foothills and forested areas; and WHEREAS, Government Code Section 36937(b) authorizes the adoption of ordinances that take effect immediately for the purpose of preserving the public peace, health or safety, provided such ordinances are approved by four-fifths (4/5) vote of the City Council.

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

SECTION 1. The recitals above are true and correct and incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 2. Urgency Findings: The City Council finds as follows, pursuant to Government Code Section 36937(b): A) Numerous wild fires have burned through towns in both Northern and Southern California during the fall and winter of 2017, and with below-average rainfall and periods of high wind, the fire season continues into 2018; and B) In order to keep fires at 10 acres or less, 90% of the time, it is necessary to for fire agencies and their fire apparatus to have access to the fire areas to get to them quickly; and C) In the canyon area of the City, as defined by Ordinance 1286, there are approximately 432 parcels, with a greater number of structures with many narrow streets with any average of only 10 to 12 feet, allowing only for one-way traffic for passenger vehicles where vehicles are also allowed to park; and D) In order to protect the health, safety and welfare of the City, it is necessary to prohibit parking on such streets to enable fire apparatus to access the area as quickly as possible during Red Flag Fire Weather days, when fire danger is high; and E) Given that the City is vulnerable to high fire danger during the current 2017/2018 winter season, it is necessary to enable the Fire Chief to declare a "Red Flag Fire Weather" event to authorize the installation of signs prohibiting on-street parking as needed. Accordingly, the adoption of this Urgency Ordinance is necessary to immediately preserve the public peace, health, and safety, pursuant to Government Code Section 36937(b).

SECTION 3. Chapter 10.52.030 is hereby amended to read: 10.52.030 PARKING PROHIBITIONS.

A. Whenever the Fire Department determines that on-street parking on any City street designated in subdivision (B) of this Section would create a hazard to life or property by interfering with emergency vehicle access and resident evacuation during any event of mud and debris flow or Red Flag Fire Weather event, the Fire Department is hereby authorized to install and maintain at that place signs giving notice that on-street parking is prohibited on a Yellow Flag Alert Day or Red Flag Alert Day. The Fire Department is further authorized to include notice, on any sign that prohibits on-street parking on Yellow Flag Alert Days or Red Flag Alert Days, that vehicles parked in violation of the sign may be removed at the owner's expense

B. For purposes of this Chapter, a "Red Flag Fire Weather event" means a fire-weather forecaster alert to limited weather conditions of particular importance that may result in extreme burning conditions, which may be issued during an on-going event or where the fire weather forecaster has a high degree of confidence that Red Flag criteria will occur within 24 hours of issuance. Red Flag criteria may occur whenever a geographical area has been in a dry spell for a week or two, or for a shorter period, if before spring green-up or after fall color, and the National Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS) is high to extreme and the following

forecast weather parameters are forecasted to be met:

1. sustained wind average 15 mph or greater
2. relative humidity less than or equal to 25 percent and
3. temperature of greater than 75 degrees F.

Where applicable, dry lightning and unstable air are also criteria.

The Fire Chief or his or her designee is authorized to declare a Red Flag Weather event, Yellow Flag Alert or Red Flag Alert.

C. During a Yellow Flag Alert Day or a Red Flag Alert Day, it shall be unlawful, when authorized signs are in place giving notice, to park any vehicle on any of the following streets or portions thereof in violation of those posted signs:

- (1) Mount Wilson Trail;
- (2) Churchill Road;
- (3) Skyland Drive;
- (4) Fern Glen;
- (5) Fern Drive;
- (6) Idle Hour;
- (7) Canyon Crest Drive;
- (8) Orange Drive;
- (9) Woodland Drive;
- (10) Brookside Lane;
- (11) Sunnyside Lane;
- (12) Yucca Trail;
- (13) Holly Trail;
- (14) Sturtevant; and
- (15) Elm.

SECTION 4. California Environmental Quality Act. The City Council has considered all of the evidence in the record, including the staff reports, the testimony received during the public hearing on the matter held by the City Council, and hereby determines that that the amendment to Section 10.52.030 regarding parking prohibitions will not have a significant effect on the environment and in fact constitute an action necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency, and is therefore exempt from California Environmental Quality Act review pursuant to Title 14, Section 15269(c) of the California Code of Regulations; and

SECTION 5. The City Council intends this Ordinance to supplement, not to duplicate or contradict, applicable state and federal law and this Ordinance shall be construed in light of that intent.

SECTION 6. If any sections, subsections, subdivisions, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance or any part hereof or exhibit hereto is for any reason held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not effect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance or any part thereof or exhibit thereto. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed each section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase hereof, irrespective of the fact that anyone or more sections, subsections, subdivisions, paragraph, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared invalid.

SECTION 7. Publication and Effective Date. Upon adoption of this Urgency Ordinance by no less than four-fifths (4/5) vote of the Council, the Mayor shall sign and the City Clerk shall attest to the passage of this Ordinance. The City Clerk shall cause the same to be published once in newspaper of general circulation within fifteen (15) days after its adoption. This Urgency Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

URGENCY ORDINANCE No. 1397U PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 9TH day of January, 2018.
I, Laura Aguilar, Assistant City Clerk of the City of Sierra Madre, do hereby certify that Urgency Ordinance No. 1397U was introduced at the regular meeting of the City Council on January 9, 2018, and was thereafter adopted and passed at that meeting, by the following votes:

AYES: Mayor Rachelle Arizmendi, Mayor Pro Tem Denise Delmar, Council Member John Capoccia, Council Member Gene Goss, and Council Member John Harabedian
NOES: None

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- Laminated Safety Glass
- Wire Glass
- Window & Plate Glass
- Beveled Glass
- Picture Glass
- Obscure Glass
- Table Tops 1/16" - 1"

Walking Sierra Madre...The Social Side

by Deanne Davis



"You can't buy happiness but you can buy new glasses, which is almost the same thing."

"The only thing worse than being blind is having sight but no vision."

"Life is like a visit to the optometrist...looking through a new set of lenses can give you new-found clarity."

You probably have spent months looking at the windows of the former children's store there by Happy's Liquors wondering when Lumen Optometric would appear and what it would be. So did we. Out with daughter, Leah, a week or so ago, she badly needed an adjustment to her glasses as they were about to press right through the bridge of her nose. We decided to take a chance on Lumen Optometric to see if they could help her. Why Lumen? Lumen is Latin for light and Lumen Optometric is shining a new light on optometry and what a nifty place it is.

We met Eric To, the optometrist and the heart and soul behind Lumen Optometric and learned that there's a lot more going on in there than just picking out a new pair of frames. We asked Eric what made him decide upon Sierra Madre as the location for Lumen Optometric and it's that same thing that every new business owner says, "Well, we liked coming up to Mother Moo for ice cream and just loved the town." Eric and his wife had been scouting locations and kept seeing that empty storefront right across the street from Mother Moo's and checked into it. This was a match made in real estate heaven and construction began. Eric, who lives in Monterey Park and still travels to Manhattan Beach a couple of days a week to continue his work there, is a graduate of Southern California College of Optometry and has so much to bring to our community.

Why did it take so long for Lumen to finally open? Eric explained that the lighting was just not right for what he needed and it had to be totally redone. People who aren't going to settle for "almost right" are just what we all need more of.

Eric showed us all through Lumen and, let me tell you, friends and neighbors, Eric has the latest, newest and best equipment to deal with the various problems our eyes are prone to. Have you heard of Corneal Reshaping? We had not. In young patients corneal reshaping can slow down near-sightedness considerably. Eric can make a contour map of the cornea in question and build a specific, one-of-a-kind lens for that cornea. Eric's youngest patients are in the 6 year old group and more frequently about 8 or so. Eric creates a reverse geometry lens, these little guys sleep in it and the cornea changes

shape to help that near-sightedness issue. That is amazing, isn't it!

Dry eye syndrome is another of Eric's specialties. Most dry eye sufferers are prescribed eye drops which only treat the symptoms, not the root cause. This eye mapping that we saw was remarkable in that we could see every part of the internal and external parts of the eye.

I'm getting above my pay grade here trying to explain simply what Eric To can do for you at Lumen Optometric. Here's just a bit more that happens there: All lenses are made from scratch, custom built for each patient. Eric doesn't just pick out the #6 lens, and hope it will work, his are for you and you alone. He can help you with migraines, too.

Here's something we need to think about – computer screen time matters a lot as the eyes don't blink as frequently as they do when we're up walking around...possibly putting away our Christmas decorations or having lunch with someone fun up the block at Corfu, Monsieur Crepe or Faubourg. No, when we're parked in front of the computer for hours our eyes take a beating as they don't fully blink and, hence, are continually open. Half the world is telling us to put away the screens and do other stuff!

One more thing, Eric is so very proud of his restroom, which was designed and decorated by his wife. It's gorgeous! He has little individual mouthwash packets which he imports from Japan and there were so many other really nice touches in there.

Lumen Optometric is at 14 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. and his phone is: 626-921-0199. You can check out his websites, too: info@lumenoptometric.com or www.lumenoptometric.com. Go in, meet Eric, and talk about your eyes. He can make a huge difference in your eye comfort. And he's one of those professionals who don't mind explaining things to you. A new direction in your eye care could go a long way toward making a Happy New Year for you...trust me!

I know Christmas is over, but these Christmas items below are so nice to have...

My book page: Amazon.com: Deanne Davis "Star of Wonder – A Christmas Story"

Is available there. This is a wonderful Christmas Love Story...trust me!

Star of Wonder the CD is now on TuneCore! Take a look!

Blog: www.authordeanne.com

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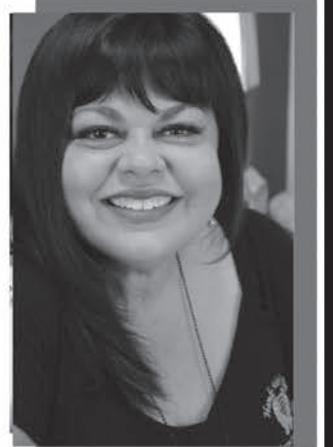


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FILMING NOTICE

DATES: JANUARY 17, 18 AND 19, 2018
TIMES: 5:00 AM-7:00PM EACH DAY

STREET AND PARK CLOSURES:

Sierra Madre Blvd. from Lima to Auburn and Hermosa from Montecito to Mariposa.

Memorial Park, including the bandshell, playground, covered pavilion and the tennis courts will be closed to the public during this time.

CITY HALL INFORMATION:

City Hall will remain open during regular business hours (7:30 AM-5:30PM) on Wednesday, January 17th and Thursday, January 18th. City Hall will be closed on Friday, January 19th.

Please contact Recreation and Filming Services Coordinator, Lawren Heinz at 355-5278 or lhein@cityofsierramadre.com

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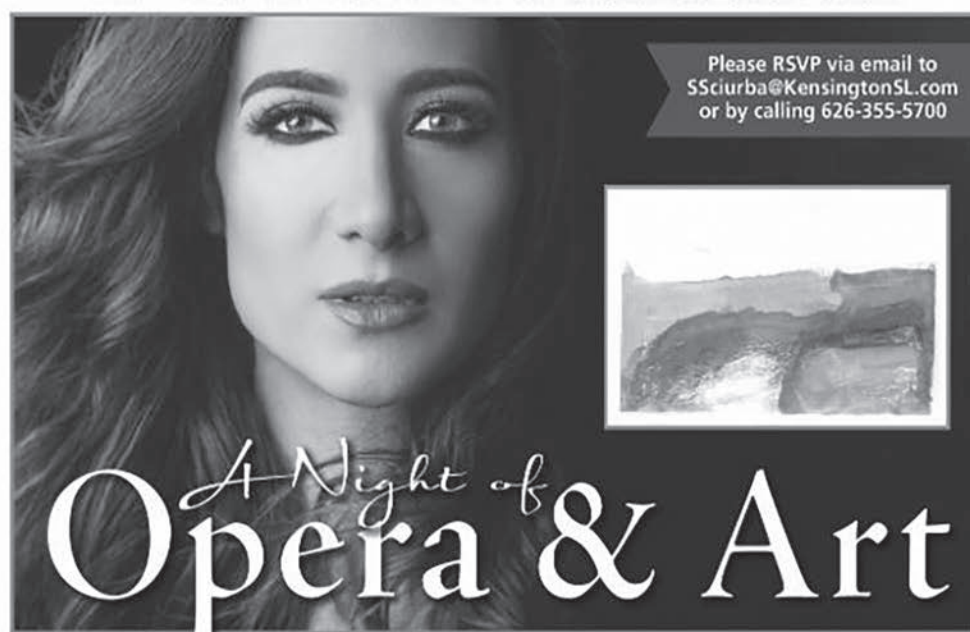
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by Francesca Sola

Join us for a fabulous night of the arts combining music and the paintings of our very own residents. We will have 2018 calendars featuring their work. Help us celebrate our residents' creativity by supporting this art showing.

Francesca Sola is an American performing and recording artist based in Los Angeles. She is a classically-trained operatic soprano with a background in musical theater. Although she has performed professionally in both opera and musical, her true passion is performing as a solo artist in the Classical-Crossover genre. Francesca sings for private events at venues around the United States and the world. You can find her on Facebook as well as her website, www.FrancescaOfficial.com

EVENT DETAILS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2018
From: 6:30pm - 8:00pm

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Pasadena Altadena

News From Your Community For Your Community

State of the City Event



The public is invited to attend Mayor Terry Tornek's State of the City address Tuesday, at the Pasadena Unified School District's John Marshall Fundamental School Gymnasium, 999 N. Allen Ave. The event will be held in the Eagles' new gymnasium. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. The Mayor's formal program begins at 7 p.m.

Mayor Tornek will deliver his annual State of the City message with a review of the City's finances, as well as updates on several issues about the City's economy and the status of the Arroyo Seco area. A brief Q-and-A with the audience traditionally follows.

Vice Mayor John J. Kennedy will serve as emcee for the evening and students from John Marshall will also participate in the program. Spanish translation and closed captioning services will be provided. Light refreshments will be served following the Mayor's address.

Parking is available on either side of the school, off Allen Avenue. Please allow extra time to park, and then walk to the gym, especially if there is inclement weather.

KPAS, the City's cable TV channel will record the event available on Ch. 3 for Charter cable subscribers and Ch. 99 for AT&T U-verse subscribers. A video stream will also be available on the City's website, and at pasadenamedia.org.

For more information, contact Rhonda Stone, (626) 744-7210 or rstone@cityofpasadena.net.

Pet of the Week



Special Love: Curly (A448859) is a sweet 12-year-old poodle looking for a forever home. This calm and friendly senior guy is a bit down on his luck. He came to the Pasadena Humane Society because his owner could no longer care for him. They report Curly is housebroken, likes lots of attention, big pillows and car rides. Curly is suffering from some health issues and will need further veterinary treatment. If you'd like to learn more about Curly, stop by and speak to an adoptions counselor today.

The adoption fee for dogs is \$130. All dogs are spayed or neutered, microchipped, and vaccinated before going to their new home. Curly qualifies for our Seniors program, making his adoption free for adopters 60 and over.

New adopters will receive a complimentary health-and-wellness exam from VCA Animal Hospitals, as well as a goody bag filled with information about how to care for your pet.

Call the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA at (626) 792-7151 to ask about A448859, or visit at 361 S. Raymond Ave. in Pasadena. Adoption hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday; and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

Pets may not be available for adoption and cannot be held for potential adopters by phone calls or email. Directions and photos of all pets can be found at pasadenahumane.org.



Northeast Pasadena Vons to Close

After months of speculation, officials at Albertsons confirmed Thursday that the Vons Market on Allen Ave. and Washington Blvd. will permanently close in April.

The Vons market at 1390 Allen Ave. has been there 41 years. Rumors, last year that the property owners wanted to build condominiums on the property ended when Stater Bros. Markets also announced Thursday that the site will soon become a Stater Bros. supermarket.

According to the Stater Bros. Markets, the new supermarket will feature:

A Full Service Fresh Meat Department with Stater Bros. famous certified Meat Cutters ready to serve you.

A Full Service Fresh Seafood Department with friendly seafood experts to assist with

selection

FujiSan Handcrafted Sushi made in-house daily

A Full Service Deli including Cleo & Leo exclusive recipe and always fresh hand-breaded fried chicken, specialty sandwiches and wraps in addition to a full line of prepared party trays

Full Service Hot Bakery with a full selection of Artisan breads and rolls, specialty single serve desserts, Cleo and Leo line of classic cakes and in-house cake decorators to assist with all special occasion needs

A Relaxing Seating Area with USB charging outlets and access to free Wi-Fi

Floral Department for that special gift of fresh flowers, plants or floral arrangements Garden Fresh Produce Department featuring more than 1,000 items with expanded organic selections and fruit cut fresh daily

Energy-efficient LED lighting in addition to glass doors on refrigerated cases to reduce energy consumption

A décor scheme reflecting Pasadena's rich history

"We are delighted to welcome Stater Bros. to the City of Pasadena. Stater Bros. Markets

provides products and services consistent with the high level of quality the community expects," Pasadena City Councilmember Margaret McAustin said.

According to Vons website, this will leave two remaining stores open in Pasadena one at 2355 E Colorado Blvd. and at 155 California Blvd. There is also a Pavilions, a division of Safeway Inc. at 845 E California Blvd.

Free Oil Filter and Recycling

All Pasadena do-it-yourselfers are reminded to safely recycle both their used oil and oil filters—and get a new oil filter for free—today from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Auto Zone Auto Parts, 550 N. Lake Ave. If you can't make that one, the next Oil Filter Exchange Event is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 24, 2018 at O'Reilly Auto Parts, 919 N. Lake Ave.

Just bring your used oil filter and get a free new oil filter, limited to three (3) per person, while supplies last. Oil Filter Exchange Events help protect the environment by promoting proper recycling of used oil and oil filters. The program is coordinated for the City by the Public Works Department in cooperation for local businesses.

Residents are encouraged to bring their used oil to the events as well. Or, if you want your used oil picked up directly from your residence, please schedule an appointment by contacting the Pasadena Citizen Service Center at (626) 744-7311.

In addition, a list of certified oil and oil filter collection centers located in Pasadena is online at: www.cityofpasadena.net.

Pasadena's Oil Filter Exchange Events are made possible by a grant from the California Department of Resources, Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle), calrecycle.ca.gov.

Golden State Tattoo Expo

The Golden State Tattoo Expo 2018 brings together some of the world's top tattoo artists, Jan. 26 to Jan. 28, whose exceptional work clouds the line between fine art and tattoos. The expo is hosted by Nikko Hurtado and Carlos Torres and will take place at the Pasadena Convention Center. There will also be vendors, music, contests, entertainment and an art gallery.

Special Guests
Paul Booth | He is a mastermind behind Last Rites. He is the owner of Last Rites Tattoo and Last Rites Gallery.
Stefano Alcantara | He is self taught in the art of tattooing. In terms of tattooing, the human skin is a unique canvas that allows him to create a permanent mark in someone's life.
Norm | He turned his love of urban culture into fine art. He manages his time between Hawaii and Los Angeles.
Big Sleeps | He is one of the cultures most respected artists. His book "Neighborhood Offerings" has even been picked up at the Getty Research Institute.

For more information or tickets visit: visitpasadena.com/events/golden-state-tattoo.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Closures Reminders

Pasadena residents and businesses are reminded that City Hall and many City services will be closed Monday, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

The City Council will not meet on Monday. The Council's next regularly scheduled meeting is Monday, Jan. 22.

Pasadena residents and businesses with power emergencies should call Pasadena's Water and Power (PWP) Department at (626) 744-4673 and for water-related emergencies call (626) 744-4138. PWP's Customer Service Call Center will be closed, but customers can access their accounts and make payments by phone at (626) 744-4005 or online at PWPweb.com.

The Municipal Services Payment Center, the Permit Center and the Citizen Service Center, www.cityofpasadena.net/Citizen-Service-Center will all be closed, and resume regular hours on Tuesday.

Refuse and recycling collection will be delayed by one day during the week of Jan. 15-20. Bulky item pickup program service does not resume until Feb. 5.

On Monday, Pasadena Transit and Dial-A-Ride buses will operate on regular weekday schedules. All on-street parking meters will be free, and time limits will not be enforced. Parking meter enforcement will resume Tuesday. City-owned parking lots and garages will be open Monday and regular



parking rates will be enforced. Violations for red curb parking, overnight parking and blocking fire hydrants will continue to be issued.

All Pasadena Public Library sites will be closed Sunday and Monday, with regular schedules resuming Tuesday.

All community centers operated by the City's Human Services and Recreation Department will be closed. All parks will be open for picnics, fun and play, but no site reservations are accepted for the holidays.

Pasadena Fire and Police departments will continue to provide patrol, jail, fire, paramedic and all other emergency services. Always call 9-1-1 for life-threatening emergencies. For all other non-emergencies, call (626) 744-4241. Remember, "If You See Something, Say Something."

Pasadena Half Marathon & 5K

Pasadena Half Marathon & 5K begins at the Rose Bowl but winds its way through Old Pasadena on Sunday January 21. Come enjoy the picturesque course through beautiful Pasadena, passing landmarks like the Colorado Street Bridge, Old Pasadena and Cal Tech University before a majestic finish on the field at the world-famous Rose Bowl.

The Pasadena Half Marathon & 5K Health and Fitness Expo will

feature the latest developments in sports, fitness, and nutrition. In addition, it is the home of Packet Pick-Up for all half-marathon & 5K participants.

The two-day Health & Fitness Expo, Friday and Saturday, is free and open to the public and takes place at the Pasadena Convention Center.

The Half Marathon is sold out; limited spaces remain for the 5K event. For more information visit: pasadenahalf.com.

Free January Events at Pasadena Senior Center

www.pasadenaseniorcenter.org or call (626) 795-4331.

LA Opera: "Candide" – Monday, Jan. 15, at 1 p.m. An LA Opera community educator will take participants through Bernstein's round-the-world romp is freewheeling and funny, satirical and soaring. Based on a novella from Voltaire, "Candide" is all at once a love story, a drama, a thriller and a tragedy rolled into one merry-go-round of ever-revived characters who populate Candide's journey.

Alzheimer's Workshop – Tuesdays, Jan. 16 to 30, from 1 to 3:00 p.m. The three-part series will focus on Alzheimer's Disease. Jan. 16: Let's Talk About It: Memory Loss and Alzheimer's. Jan. 23: How to Keep Your Brain Healthy. Jan. 30: Alzheimer's Questions and Answers. Presented by Alzheimer's Greater Los Angeles.

Long Term Care Insurance – Thursday, Jan. 18, at 10 a.m. We will go over the history and evolution of long-term care insurance and how you qualify for benefits. There will be a general overview of types of coverage, starting a claim, assessment, elimination period, benefit triggers, and the care plan. Presented by Home Instead.

Low Vision Screenings – Thursday, Jan. 18, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Low vision screenings are designed to assist partially sighted people in the selection of magnifiers and other devices to improve reading and other visual tasks. Registration is required in advance for one-hour appointments; call 626-795-4331. Presented by the Braille Institute.

Health Fair – Friday, Jan. 19, from 9 to 11 a.m. Services include glucose, blood pressure and hearing screenings as well as counseling and health/community resources. For more information call 626-685-6732.

Founded in 1960, the Pasadena Senior Center is an independent, nonprofit organization that offers recreational, educational, wellness and social services to people ages 50 and older in a welcoming environment.

ARCADIA

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ARCADIA CHINESE ASSOCIATION

The Arcadia Chinese Association (ACA) will celebrate its 35th Anniversary of volunteer services in its annual Fundraising Gala to be held on January 14, 2018, Sunday, at the Arcadia Masonic Center at 50 West Duarte Drive, Arcadia 91007. The event will last from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm.

The celebration includes entertainment performance and slide shows covering past ACA activities. Programs include magic show, Chinese calligraphy art performance, Chinese costume show, opera singing and Michael Jackson imitation performance. The event is aiming at promoting the theme of the Fundraising Gala: Bridging Cultures and Building Community.

ACA organizes or supports over twenty activities every year in Arcadia. They include Moon Festival which is an outdoor picnic event co-hosting with the Los Angeles County Arboretum and the previous one was attended by over 2500 people, Thanksgiving

luncheon serving at the Police Department and the Fire Department, providing scholarship to outstanding students in Arcadia High School and annual Arcadia Law Day providing free legal consultations to local residents (joint sponsorship with the City). Such events will go a long way in facilitating social interactions and promoting cultural exchanges.

ACA is open to anyone in our community who has a heart for volunteering service. We encourage our Arcadia residents and friends to join ACA, and share the joy of volunteerism. We are grateful to all the people and organizations that come together each year to support our activities, and we hope each year we can do a little more for our wonderful community here in Arcadia.

Ticket prices for the Fundraising Gala are VIP \$85, General Admission \$70. Contact phone number for fundraising gala information and ticket sale are: 626-383-2588 and 626-716-1686

INCIDENT: ROBBERY – HOME INVASION

On January 09, 2018, at approximately 10:23 PM, the Arcadia Police Department received a 911 call of a robbery that took place at a residence in the 700 Block of Sharon Road. When officers arrived, it was confirmed a home invasion robbery had occurred. Two adult victims were at home at the time of the robbery. One victim was held at gunpoint in the garage, and the other victim was inside of the residence, and had locked the door leading from the garage into the house. The suspects attempted to kick in the door leading into the house, but were unsuccessful and fled. The victims were not injured.

Based on the preliminary investigation, there were possibly three suspects, however, only two were observed. The third suspect was in a vehicle described only as a dark colored sedan. The two suspects who were observed were described as a

female Black, 17 to 19 years, 5'4" with a thin build.

She was wearing a blue rain jacket, blue jeans, and had a dark colored scarf covering the lower portion of her face. The second suspect was described as a male Black, thin build, 6'2" with a goatee type of a beard. He was wearing a gray hoodie, blue jeans and was armed with a dark colored handgun. The suspects fled in their vehicle without taking any property.

The case is currently under investigation. Anyone with information on this incident is encouraged to contact the Arcadia Police Department at (626) 574-5151, case #18-0131. If you prefer to provide information anonymously, you may call "Crime Stoppers" by dialing (800) 222- TIPS (8477), use your smartphone by downloading the "P3 Tips" Mobile APP on Google play or the Apple App Store or by using the website <http://lacrimestoppers.org>.

CITY OF ARCADIA SENIOR EXPO

Arcadia Senior Services is hosting a FREE, informational Senior Expo at the Arcadia Community Center, 365 Campus Drive, on Friday, March 9, 2018 from 10am-12:30pm.

The Senior Expo will feature various different organizations from senior related fields, such as: housing, in-home care, insurance, health, wellness and more. Organizations will be passing out information, as well as a few goodies. All attendees will receive free refreshments and entry into the raffle. Boxed lunches will be sold the morning of for \$2 and will be served at 11:30am.

For more information, please call Arcadia Senior Services at 626.574.5130.

About the City of Arcadia

Nestled in the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains, Arcadia is an 11.38 square mile community with a population of just over 56,000. Located approximately 20 miles east of downtown Los Angeles, Arcadia is known for combining small-town charm with the conveniences and amenities of a mid-size city. Arcadia is a full-service charter city governed by a five-member City Council, elected at large. Recognized for exceptional education and recreation opportunities and beautiful neighborhoods, Arcadia is also defined as the "Community of Homes" and has twice been designated the "Best City in California in which to Raise Kids" by Business Week Magazine.

MONROVIA - DUARTE

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PUBLIC INVITED TO EVENSONG IN EPIPHANY ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, AT ST. LUKE'S MONROVIA

January 4, 2018 —St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Monrovia will present the first Evensong performance of the year on Sunday, January 21, at 4 p.m. at the church, 122 South California Avenue at Foothill Boulevard in Monrovia.

Evensong in Epiphany, directed by Kent Bennett Jones, Music Director, will be sung by the St. Luke's Choir and friends from throughout the Diocese. Jim Campbell will be guest cantor. Music will include Christ, Mighty Savior by David Charles Walker, the Norwich Use Preces and Responses, and Palestrina's Tribus Miraculis.

A freewill offering will be taken; a wine and cheese reception in Guild Hall will follow the performance.

A description of the service by Coventry Cathedral in England notes: "When you come to Evensong

it is as if you were dropping in on a conversation already in progress — a conversation between God and people which began long before you were born and will go on long after you are gone." About St. Luke's Formally admitted to the Episcopal Diocese of California on April 30, 1891, St. Luke's has been a part of the Monrovia community for 125 years. The inclusive church welcomes all to its community. The superb acoustics of its landmark 1924 Romanesque house of worship make it a popular site for a variety of music performances. Eucharist services are held on Sundays at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. and Wednesdays at 12:10 p.m. The Reverend Neil Tadken is Rector. The church's website is saintlukesmonrovia.org.

MOBILITY PROGRAM BEING REFINED WITH POSSIBLE LYFT AND LIMEBIKE PARTNERSHIPS, CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION ON FIRST PHASE OF THE INITIATIVE SET TO TAKE PLACE ON JANUARY 16, 2018

During the past few months, staff has directed time and attention towards the possible development of a reimagined multi-modal transportation program in Monrovia. This effort has been spurred by a number of factors, including the following:

Direction from members of the City Council that we find better ways of connecting Old Town Monrovia to Station Square

The potential development of more than 1,700+ units of housing in a true TOD setting at Station Square, which will create a unique urban-esque space in the middle of our suburban community

The need to connect the new residents not only to Old Town, but also to our high-tech jobs base located on the east end of town, along with the Beckman Research Institute, Aureum Apartments, and Huntington Oaks Shopping Center on the west end of town

Responding to concerns about increased traffic associated with the new development

Figuring out how to convince more Monrovia residents to engage public transit options when recreating / shopping / traveling within in town

The assessment has been particularly challenging, given that suburban communities have not traditionally established effective first mile / last mile transit solutions. There are a number of reasons for this fact, but typically, suburban communities have relied on dial-a-ride type programs to address complex transportation related matters. And as staff has been analyzing these issues, we have been thinking... there has to be a better way!

One of the initial "better ways" that we have assessed is the development of an overall mobility plan for Monrovia, which we have internally been calling GoMonrovia! The mobility plan has been driven by an ethos of wanting to provide options for residents in Monrovia to move around town. Driving will always be a transportation option, and our plan involves developing additional parking spaces at key locations in Monrovia. However, we also want to provide simple and easy to use transportation options for residents outside of driving, and to that end, the first phase of our GoMonrovia! plan involves developing partnerships with two firms – Lyft and LimeBike.

First, regarding the potential partnership program with Lyft... staff has had multiple discussions with the firm

during the past few weeks, and we are currently working with the ride sharing platform on the possible institution of a new public transit model here in Monrovia. The general framework of that partnership includes the following components:

Coordinate to have Lyft serve as the City's primary public transit options for all non-ADA related services

City continues to operate a scaled down version of our current dial-a-ride program, primarily to accommodate ADA calls for service

Develop the program with Lyft so that any call for transportation services within an identified service area could be facilitated for a reduced fare

In addition to the base transportation option, we have also discussed with Lyft a sign-up program that would be restricted for Monrovia residents, whereby all community members would be eligible for discounted Lyft rides.

In addition to Lyft, we have also had discussions to form a joint venture effort with a company called LimeBike that would establish a bike share program for our Monrovia. LimeBike's bike share platform is different from the traditional bike share programs in that they do not require any docking stations. One of the limitations of traditional bike share programs is the need to deploy docking stations throughout a community where bikes have to be picked up and dropped off. LimeBike has developed a bike share platform that doesn't require any docking stations, but instead uses GPS and an app they have created to allow bikes to be picked up and dropped off at any location. Then, in the evenings, LimeBike staff will work to "rebalance" the LimeBike fleet in a community to place them in the highest use locations for the next morning. [For more information on LimeBike, see their company information online.](#)

Our assessment has indicated that it might be possible to bring both Lyft and LimeBike into Monrovia in 2018. Taken together, partnering with both firms could form the initial backbone of our GoMonrovia! mobility program by providing an enhanced public-private transit program through Lyft, and supplementing that program by offering LimeBike's dockless bike-share option for our community.

We plan on refining our assessment of both options during the next few weeks and will be coordinating a Study Session to review this program with the City Council on January 16, 2018.

ARCADIA POLICE BLOTTER

For the period of Sunday, December 31st, through Saturday, January 6th, the Police Department responded to 757 calls for service, of which 100 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

Sunday, December 31:

Shortly before 9:15 a.m., an officer responded to the 100 block of Bonita Street regarding a vehicle burglary report. The officer discovered an unknown suspect broke one of the windows of the vehicle and stole a laptop. No suspect(s) were seen and no witnesses were located.

At approximately 10:36 a.m., an officer responded to the 1600 block of Holly Avenue regarding the activation of an Arcadia Police Department GPS tracker. Arcadia PD detectives had previously deployed decoy packages containing bait property and tracking devices to combat the increase in package thefts from residential areas. An investigation revealed a 25-year-old male from Los Angeles, a 38-year-old male from Los Angeles, and a 31-year-old male from Los Angeles had the stolen package, property, and tracking device in their vehicle. All three suspects were arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking. The 38-year-old male was also in possession of burglary tools. The additional offense was added to his list of charges.

Monday, January 1:

Just after 3:50 a.m., officers responded to a residence in the 00 block of La Porte Street regarding a vandalism report. The victims stated when they entered their bedroom; they saw the shadow of a human outside their window. When they investigated and banged on the glass, the suspect banged on the glass as well and broke the window. The suspect then fled. The suspect was gone by the time officers arrived.

At approximately 7:41 p.m., an officer responded to the Santa Anita Mall, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding the activation of an Arcadia Police Department GPS tracker. Arcadia PD detectives had previously deployed decoy bicycles with tracking devices to combat the increase in bike thefts throughout the city. An investigation revealed a 15-year-old male from Temple City was in possession of the stolen bicycle and GPS tracker. The suspect was also in possession of a switchblade. He was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Tuesday, January 2:

Around 8:38 p.m., officers responded to Macy's at the Santa Anita Mall, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding a petty theft report. A loss prevention specialist witnessed the suspect conceal numerous items amounting to nearly \$300.00 in a shopping bag before exiting the store, failing to make payment. She was also in possession of stolen merchandise from Victoria's Secret. The 19-year-old female from Altadena was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Just before 9:59 p.m., officers responded to Premier Cosmetic Surgery, 59 Las Tunas Drive, regarding an audible alarm activation. Surveillance footage revealed an unknown male suspect broke an exterior window and fled in a white pickup truck shortly after the alarm activated. No loss has been reported. The investigation is ongoing.

Wednesday, January 3:

During the last seven-day period, the Police Department handled 408 service events, resulting in 88 investigations. To see a complete listing of crimes reported, go to <http://www.crimemapping.com/map/ca/monrovia> for crime mapping. For Police Department news and information, visit our website and follow us on Twitter.

Fraud Incident January 4 at 9:52 a.m., a fraud incident was reported at a business in the 100 block of W. Foothill. The victim purchased two gift cards from the business and had a receipt as proof of purchase. When the recipients of the gift cards went to use them, one did not have a value and the other had already been used. The investigation is ongoing.

Warrant – Suspect Arrested January 4 at 10:59 a.m., a shoplifting incident was reported at a business in the 1600 block of S. Mountain. The shoplifter exited the store and ran into a neighboring business, where he was contacted by officers. The subject was not found to be in possession of any merchandise from the business, but a computer check revealed he had numerous warrants for his arrest. He was arrested for the warrants and taken into custody. A no trespassing order was completed against the subject for the business.

Assault with a Deadly Weapon – Suspect Arrested January 4 at 7:14 p.m., officers responded to a fight in progress in the 400 block of Monrovia. The fight involved two adult brothers and one had been cut with a machete. Both subjects were injured, with one having a laceration on his head. After investigation, the brother identified as the suspect was arrested for assault with a deadly weapon and taken to a hospital to be checked out. The brother identified as the victim was also taken to a hospital for treatment.

Suspicious Subject / Warrant – Suspect Arrested January 4 at 7:28 p.m., a suspicious subject was reported in the 200 block of N. Primrose looking at houses and in vehicles. Officers responded and detained a subject that fit the description. The subject had no valid reason to be loitering in the residential area, and a computer check revealed he had several warrants for his arrest. He was arrested for the warrants and taken into custody. Vandalism January 5 at 10:46 a.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 800 block of W. Duarte. Unknown suspect(s) broke two windows on the victim's vehicle. The investigation is ongoing.

Vandalism January 5 at 9:49 p.m., a vandalism incident was reported in the 200 block of S. Primrose. The victim reported that the rear window to his Dodge Durango had been smashed. There was a rock laying on the ground near the vehicle. At 7:00 p.m., the victim did hear a loud crash and saw two juveniles running north on Primrose. At the time, the victim did not know the crash sound was the window to his SUV breaking. The investigation

Shortly after 10:21 a.m., an officer responded to Off Beach Tanning, 129 South First Avenue, regarding a fraud report. The reporting party stated the suspect used a fraudulent \$100 to purchase a pair of sandals and fled with the shoes and \$31.00 in change. A records check of the suspect's license plate revealed the registered owner is a resident of Mira Loma. The investigation is ongoing.

At about 5:21 p.m., an officer conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle that was seen colliding into a parked vehicle and then fled. The vehicle was stopped near the intersection of Foothill Boulevard and Valencia Way. Upon contacting the driver, the officer detected a strong odor of alcohol emitting from the driver. Through a series of tests, the officer determined the 38-year-old female from Monrovia was driving under the influence of an alcoholic beverage. The suspect was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Thursday, January 4:

Before 12:23 p.m., an officer responded to a residence under construction in the 100 block of California Street regarding a burglary. The officer determined unidentified suspect(s) entered the residence by kicking in an exterior door before fleeing. No suspect(s) were seen and no witnesses were located.

Around 3:10 p.m., an officer responded to the 800 block of West Duarte Road regarding an aggravated assault report. An investigation revealed a verbal altercation between two suspects, a 42-year-old male from Arcadia and a 37-year-old female from Arcadia, and the victim turned physical when the male suspect choked the victim. Both suspects were arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Friday, January 5:

At about 7:16 a.m., an officer responded to a residence in the 1100 block of La Cadena Avenue regarding a burglary report. The officer discovered an unknown suspect entered the residence through an unlocked garage door and stole the victim's purse from an unlocked vehicle. No suspect(s) were seen and no witnesses were located.

Just before 10:23 a.m., an officer responded to Victoria's Secret, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding a grand theft report. An employee witnessed four suspects conceal more than \$2,300.00 worth of merchandise in bags before exiting the store, failing to make payment.

The suspects are described as a 20 to 25-year-old female, possibly Hispanic, two black males in their early twenties, and a black female, approximately 21 to 23-years-old. The investigation is ongoing.

Saturday, January 6:

Shortly after 4:36 p.m., an officer responded to Macy's, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding a theft report. Surveillance footage revealed the suspect concealed merchandise in a bag before exiting the store, failing to make payment. The 15-year-old male from El Monte was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

At approximately 6:09 p.m., an officer responded to the Arcadia Golf Course, 620 East Live Oak Avenue, regarding a vehicle burglary report. The officer determined an unknown suspect smashed the passenger side window and fled with a children's jacket. No suspect(s) were seen and no witnesses were located.

MONROVIA POLICE BLOTTER

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is continuing. Residential Burglary January 6 at 12:30 a.m., a residential burglary was reported in the 500 block of N. Myrtle. The residents arrived home and discovered an upstairs window was broken. The victims could not determine what was taken at the time of the report. The investigation is continuing. Driving Under the Influence – Suspect Arrested January 6 at 3:00 a.m., an officer stopped a vehicle for vehicle code violations at Evergreen and California. The investigation revealed the driver was too impaired to drive a motor vehicle safely and the driver was arrested for DUI. The vehicle was stored and the driver was held for a sobering period.

Criminal Threats – Suspect Arrested January 6 at 9:57 a.m., an incident of criminal threats was reported in the 100 block of S. Mountain. The victim reported that her neighbor's boyfriend was at the location and he was threatening to kill her. Officers arrived and took statements from the parties involved and a witness. The suspect was ultimately arrested for verbal threats and was taken into custody. Grand Theft From a Vehicle January 6 at 4:48 p.m., a grand theft was reported in the 500 block of Fano. The victim reported that her laptop and work identification were taken out of her unlocked vehicle. Her vehicle was parked in her carport when the theft occurred. The investigation is continuing.

Vehicle Burglaries January 6 at 9:56 p.m., two vehicle burglaries were reported in the area of Parker and Mayflower. The victims parked their cars on Parker, near Mayflower, and went inside their homes for the day. Both victims were not sure if they locked their cars or not, and both returned to their vehicles and discovered items missing. The investigations are continuing. Residential Robbery January 6 at 9:56 p.m., a robbery was reported at a residence in the 1000 block of Royal Oaks. The victim hired a massage therapist on Craigslist to come to his residence. Eventually, a female and a male subject came to the door and he let them in. While the victim was talking to them, two more male subjects entered his residence. The four suspects hit the victim with a lamp and robbed him of his wallet and cell phone. The suspects fled in a white SUV. The investigation is continuing.

Warrant – Suspect Arrested January 7 at 11:54 a.m., officers were dispatched to the 200 block of N. Mayflower regarding two subjects possibly smoking drugs. The subjects were contacted and one subject was found to have a warrant for his arrest. He was arrested for the warrant and taken into custody. Traffic Collision January 7 at 4:09 p.m., a traffic collision was reported in the area of Primrose and Linwood. A motorhome struck a parked vehicle and drove away from the scene. Officers arrived and found the motorhome still in the area. The driver had pulled over and was trying to make his way back to the location. The parties exchanged information and the driver was cited for driving on a suspended license.

GOLDENWORDS:

Dr. Dan's College Corner

"EVERYBODY CAN BE GREAT... BECAUSE ANYBODY CAN SERVE"

Seems appropriate to entitle this week's column with a fragment of one of Dr. King's insights, since the national celebration of MLK's birthday is coming up on Monday in all 50 states (though Mississippi and Alabama continue to simultaneously celebrate Robert E. Lee day as well).

High School and College Students sometimes heed the call to serving others because of their institutional ethos, personal spiritual heritage or as a requirement of graduation. This last motivator to serve others is, as you might imagine, an invitation to grumbling and resentment as students fulfill their "hours" like court-mandated felons, rather than embracing an extraordinary chance to help weave the fabric of civic engagement and civilized society.

Then again, Americans often do community work in delivering services of all kinds that, in other nations, are embedded in the social contract that governments have with their people. Without a viable and affordable national health care program for all, for instance, we find our medical professionals and civilians providing all kinds of health care on an improvised or voluntary basis, always subject to the limitations of funding resources.

Pick almost any complex social issue in our society and you discover that we have crafted vast and admirable volunteer nets to put underneath the forgotten and abandoned of America--the lost, the last, the least.

My thought is that students need regular doses of direct service to others to begin the training they should undergo to prepare to lead society toward eradicating the need to serve itself. Maybe it all starts with the eye-opener of volunteering at the Midnight Mission, or with Homeboy Industries, or after-school mentoring young boys with absent fathers?

These activities can teach us crucial lessons about what we stand for, can ennoble us, flush us with what service-learning professionals call the "giver's high" of inner sense of self-worth and, most importantly, force us to confront the existence of large social issues on a massive scale. If a student reflects on the complicated circumstances, for instance, of the 60,000 homeless men, women and children in greater Los Angeles, he or she is beginning to understand the systemic repairs that need to be made far beyond one's individual community work.

In fact, the homelessness crisis in LA, or the

challenge of resolving child and adult illiteracy, or many other issues demand that the creative energy and idealism of all be applied to learning the tools of politics, budgeting, law-making, marketing and publicity and more. It is complicated stuff, for sure, but our nation is not about to rewrite its social contract quickly enough to rescue us from our ethical deficits.

As a student, you can learn about yourself by serving others, of course. You can go from that building block of experience towards pursuing further service, and constructing scholarly and relational skills that will help you to take a significant role in perhaps eliminating the need for social welfare services provided by volunteerism.

As the team that runs the important Midnight Mission would tell you, if you serve in their programs, observe and listen to their clients, you will get a tangled education about what makes people homeless.

War-traumatized veterans, citizens now often over 30 years removed from mental health services because of policy and funding choices, families priced out of the inequitable LA rental housing market, or in flight from domestic abuse--these and many other clients need our help now, for sure. But our nation needs to awaken some day to a time when the Mission doesn't have a reason to exist, doesn't have a desperate client base to serve and we can move forward to confront other pressing needs as a country.

As Dr. King's quotation continues, "You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."

Dr. Dan Golden was the founding director of Life Planning at the Vistamar School in El Segundo. He was a professor, program director and Dean for Work & Service-Learning at Wheaton College (MA), and now consults with individuals, schools and educational districts on college access, post-graduate study and career planning issues. He can be reached at dangolden0@gmail.com.



Dan Golden, PhD

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High Point Academy
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La Salle High School
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(626) 351-8951 website: www.lasallehs.org
Principal Mrs. Courtney Kassakhian

Monrovia High School
325 East Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016
(626) 471-2800 Principal Darwin Jackson
Email: schools@monrovia.k12.ca.us

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

Pasadena High School
2925 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Pasadena, Ca.
(626) 396-5880 Principal: Roberto Hernandez
website: http://phs.pusd.us

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

Sierra Madre Elementary School
141 W. Highland Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
(626) 355-1428 Principal: Lindsay Lewis
E-mail address: lewis.lindsay@pusd.us

Sierra Madre Middle School
160 N. Canon Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
(626) 836-2947 Principal: Garrett Newsom
E-mail address: newsom.garrett@pusd.us

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

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

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

Pasadena Unified School District
351 S. Hudson Ave., Pasadena, Ca. 91109
(626) 396-3600 Website: www.pusd@pusd.us

Arcadia Unified School District
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(626) 821-8300 Website: www.ausd.net

Monrovia Unified School District
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(626) 471-2000
Website: www.monroviaschools.net

Duarte Unified School District
1620 Huntington Dr., Duarte, Ca. 91010
(626)599-5000
Website: www.duarte.k12.ca.us

BOSCO TECH'S ADMISSIONS INFORMATION NIGHT IS JAN 25

ROSEMEAD, CA. – January 9, 2017 - Don Bosco Technical Institute (Bosco Tech) will host an admissions information night for prospective students and their families on Thursday, January 25, from 5 to 8 p.m.

Interested middle and elementary school students are invited to tour the school's extensive engineering and applied science labs and classrooms, and meet instructors and current students during the event. Information about shadow visits and tuition assistance will be available.

"Bosco Tech offers a unique and well-rounded college-readiness, STEM-focused curriculum," said Principal Xavier Jimenez. "This informational evening is a great opportunity to learn more about what our students are accomplishing and to hear

from them about the Tech."

For information about the event or about the school, contact Director of Admissions John Garcia at jgarcia@boscotech.edu or 626-940-2009. Bosco Tech is an all-male Catholic high school that combines a rigorous college-preparatory program with a technology-focused education. The innovative curriculum allows students to exceed university admissions requirements while completing extensive integrated coursework in one of several applied science and engineering fields. The school boasts a four-year college acceptance rate of 100 percent and approximately 75 percent of Bosco Tech graduates have careers in STEM-related fields. Visit www.boscotech.edu or call 626-940-2000 for more information.

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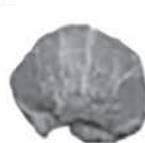
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BIGHORN SHEEP RETURN TO THE SIERRA NEVADA

It is always encouraging to hear positive reports of animal species that have succeeded in surviving and thriving in their natural habitat, in spite of the countless challenges presented by the fast-paced changes we humans tend to inflict upon the globe that sustains us.

I am fascinated by the history of animal species and their populations in the various regions of earth - where they originated, how or why they were dispersed from their original locations and what may have affected their increase or decrease in numbers. There are many variables to consider, but I am confident that more often than not the human has played a huge part in the loss of abundant animal populations.

My interest in animals and how they survive (or not) on our planet is what drew my attention to a documentary that aired on public television this past week, about the Sierra Nevada bighorn sheep. It matters a lot to me, that animals be afforded an equal opportunity to thrive in their respective roles as part of the life cycle, and I believe it is important to share sufficient space with our fellow species and allow them to grow in keeping with their God-given purpose.

One natural wilderness area that I truly love is the Sierra Nevada, especially Yosemite National Park. It was 26 years ago last month, that my husband, Rick and I were married in the little chapel located along the windy road in Yosemite Valley, and although it has been a few years since we've been up that way, it has historically been our family tradition to visit the park each year for Thanksgiving.

There are numerous remarkable sites to be seen in Yosemite, not the least of which is its wonderful wildlife. If you've ever been to Yosemite yourself, you are likely familiar with the thrill of seeing a variety of wild animals frolicking freely in the valley or scaling (with apparent ease) the sheer rocky cliffs that lurk high above.

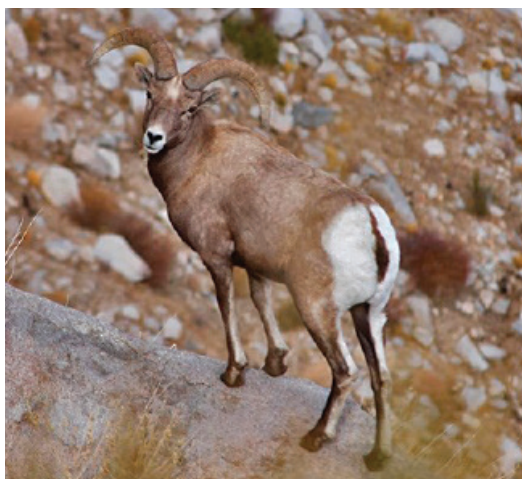
Among the various species that live in Yosemite, the bighorn sheep is known to be the bravest, most agile rock climber a visitor might hope to see navigating the enormous stone structures' smooth faces. Once abundant in the Sierra Nevada, the bighorn's exuberance and perfect adaptation to alpine life were often passionately recorded in naturalist, John Muir's journalistic writings.

Established in 1890, Yosemite National Park sadly experienced the loss of all it's bighorn sheep within the first 25 years of its existence. At the start, many perished due to diseases contracted from domestic sheep brought in by prospectors who came west in response to empty promises of prosperity during the gold rush. In addition to disease, their populations were further diminished by subsequent decades of unregulated hunting.

For years, disease and senseless killing took their toll on the bighorn population in the Sierra Nevada, but today we celebrate their remarkable recovery and comeback. Through the progress and implementation of protective laws and the hard work of folks who value the tenets of the wilderness ideal and understand the importance of restoring the bighorn to its natural habitat, it has, at last recovered in relatively great numbers within the Sierra Nevada.

This is fantastic news, but I assure you it didn't happen overnight. The initial bighorn restoration in 1986 relocated 27 bighorns to the alpine crest of the Sierra at the Yosemite National Park-Inyo National Forest border. Known as the Yosemite Herd, the relocated bighorns soon suffered severe setbacks due to mountain lion predation and extreme winter weather, but a precedent had been set.

By the late 1990's, there was a mere 125 total Sierra Nevada bighorns in the Sierra with 20 individuals in the Yosemite Herd among them. In response to California's desperate concerns, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service listed the Sierra Nevada



bighorn sheep as endangered and California legislation approved funding for a recovery plan.

A committed team of leaders who cared deeply for the bighorn's fate assumed ownership of the Sierra Nevada Bighorn Sheep Recovery Program and in March, 2015 over the course of 2 weeks, a herd of bighorns were trans-located to Yosemite's Cathedral Range from nearby Inyo National Forest. All 12 adults in the herd were outfitted with GPS collars for biologists to track their movements.

With the success of the 2015 relocation effort, there are now 600 bighorns who, today, in John Muir's own words are "leaping unscathed from crag to crag...and developing from generation to generation in perfect strength and beauty"...in the High Sierra.

There is still work to be done to ensure the continued refuge and sanctity of the beautiful Sierra Nevada bighorn, but thanks to the compassion, awareness and unselfish willingness of a core group of people, they are well on their way to totally and independently holding their own again within their natural habitat.

Because of a relentless need to satisfy self rather than to reach outside of self and help others or to give back to that which sustains us, many humans seem to have lost their perspective on what is truly important in this life.

There are so many treasures on earth that either go unappreciated or are needlessly exploited, indeed many species have been forced to complete extinction due to greed and ignorance. It makes me sad but I'd rather be glad so I try to stay focused on the positive things that are happening to reverse the process.

God didn't make any mistakes when He created Mother Earth and the life forms that dwell upon her. Show respect to all living things, because that is your main purpose. Avail yourself to viewing life through your Maker's perspective and see what positive changes can come about for you and those around you. Love and let live.



FOSTERS NEEDED!

Katnip News!



We are in urgent need of fosters homes for our shy cats! You can make the difference for one, like RICKY and others who are too shy to take to adoptions but who can blossom in a

loving foster home! RICKY is age 5. He is so very handsome, all deep gray, like a Russian Blue, and we know he wants to be brave, but his fearfulness gets in the way. He does love treats, and that would be how a patient foster could break through. He gets along well with other cats. We pay for any needed vet care, fosters provide food, litter, safety, and love. We have a whole page devoted to our shy cats at <http://www.lifelineforpets.org/shy-cats-need-homes-too.html>. Call for for info or a foster application: 626-676-9505 or 626-797-1753.



BEST FRIEND

Tianna is a sweet and lovely two-and-a-half year old American Staffordshire mix girl with a gorgeous grey and white coat, soulful brown eyes, cute button-nose and a pair of bouncy puppy ears! She weighs about 48lbs. Tianna loves people. In fact, she gets bonded to people fairly quickly and really enjoys playing and spending cuddling time with her human friends. She does well on a leash and loves her regular walks and jogs around the park. If you are the true forever and loving home that Tianna deserves, please come by and meet her. Be ready to fall head over heels for this cutie pie! Her adoption fee is



\$145, which includes spay surgery, a microchip, first vaccinations and a free wellness check-up at a participating veterinarian. Feel free to call us at (626) 286-1159 for more information on Tianna. ID#28700. She currently resides at the San Gabriel Valley Humane Society located at 851 E. Grand Avenue in San Gabriel which is located off San Gabriel Blvd, north of Mission and south of Las Tunas Drive. To arrange a 'Meet and Greet' with Tianna, please stop by any time from 10:30am to 4:30pm Tuesday through Sunday. Website: www.sgvhumane.org.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

Yogic Wisdom for Everyday Life EMOTIONAL CHECKPOINTS



In my opinion, one of the most admirable and attractive qualities of

a yogi is this calm, collected, non-reactive manner. Both this mental stability and emotional balance drew me to yoga, wishing I had the ability to be (or at least appear to be) calm and let troubles roll off my back.

After a good stint of practice, this DID take place for me. I was instantly calmer and more balanced emotionally, just from improving and nourishing my physical and mental well-being. After that initial settling, I needed some additional tools of self-study, or svadhyaya, to continue to check my reactions and responses.

The first step was to measure the reaction or energy given to an event (or comment or accident, or...) using a scale of 1-10. Where does my reaction fall on this scale? Did I break a nail and rate the reaction an '8'? Or was the event more serious, like a car accident? Was I able to regulate my reaction and lessen the amount of energy I gave the situation? Did I use the scale?

Using the breath in a conscious way in a high reaction moment can help reel us in from the brink. Once there is energy awareness, the next step is noticing how we feel at the beginning of the day. If I know that I'm low on energy or overwhelmed in some way, I can pre-plan to take care of myself. Taking care of myself means popping into a yoga class to engage all the good, nurturing physical practice learned so far, establishing even-smooth breath, eating well, and paying attention to my environment.

Between these tools of measuring my reaction and cultivating personal energy awareness, I calmly - one day at a time - can slow down quick reactions. Deliberately, I can respond to people, places and events in a thoughtful way that stays true to who I am and where I am in any given day. This is living authentically and freely. There are always choices and options available.

Namaste,

Keely Totten,
Yoga Teacher, Mentor, Seeker of Balance

THE MISSING PAGE

Real Life Tips from Life's Instruction Manual

So we are well into the first month of 2018. It's your time. Give it all you've got. Leave it all on the field, until the final whistle blows.

It is not a time for plans or resolutions. Now is the time to set an intention.

We cannot change the world with a plan.

We must dream and dream BIG!

If you know how to achieve your ultimate dream, then dream BIGGER. Go for that thing deep inside of you that scares you. Do that.

So what will you do with your one wild, beautiful life?

What is your intention? What is your mission?

Do you stand for art, truth, beauty, justice, music, freedom?

We cannot live in the world without art, truth, beauty, justice, music or freedom. And we don't want to either.

Take a stand and set your intention. Make your life a beacon of truth. Stand in truth and for justice.

Be the one with a dream. Go dream and do.

Martin Luther King didn't have a plan; he had a dream. So love boldly.

This day will never come again; so write your book.

Start today. The world is waiting for your book.

Write your song; we need to hear from you.

Take the stage; we miss your voice.

The world is so much more beautiful because you are here.

Stand and speak for someone that the court would otherwise silence.

When we pass that swinging gate of the courtroom, let's bring our best self and our "A" game.

Continue to see the individual student sitting in their tiny chairs. There is no greater honor than touching the life of a child. Be the librarian that made a difference today.

It is a chance for immortality.

So let us be grateful that we are here on the planet at this time and on this day.

So what would happen if we all took what we love (art, science, or justice whatever) and built our lives around it? We would change the world!

It's your life, let's make it a Great One!

Lori Harris is a lawyer and coach. You can learn more about her at the website LoriAHarris.com and on Gratitude Train app.

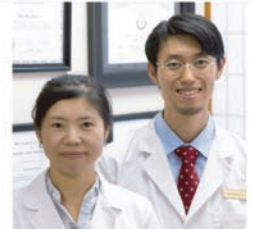


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TABLE FOR TWO by Peter Dills thechefknows@yahoo.com

DINING WITH DILLS VISITS LA CANADA

La Canada has a few prime spots for good cuisine; Taylor's and Los Gringos come to mind. Now I have another favorite: Sakura Japanese Steak House and Sushi Bar.

It is located in the Town Center on Foothill Blvd and offers ample free parking. Splendidly decorated, the restaurant is divided up into sections that serve sushi, shabu shabu and teppanyaki. I sat in the main dining room and ordered from the teppan menu.

The restaurant was established in Virginia in 1989, and all of their teppanyaki chefs are trained on the east coast and brought out here once their training is complete. Since I made my home in Maryland for a few years, our chef and I shared some east coast stories. I remember how the cherry trees blossomed, and those trees are where the name "Sakura" (meaning cherry tree or blossom) comes from. The flower represents the first sign of spring or the renewal of life. Teppan means "iron grill", and while there are a number of restaurants that offer similar food, few can match the variety of dishes (plus they serve my favorite beer, Sapporo). Our grill master was amazing and fast as a cat. We became part of his act early on as he skillfully knifed through an onion to make a volcano complete with fire! Next, our master chef performed a seal act complete with flying shrimp. I cheated just a bit and ordered a spicy hand roll from the sushi bar - perfect presentation and the

taste was right on!! If you are in the mood for lobster they have that too, so I went for the "surf



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"The Wine Guy"
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and turf". It cost a bit more than other menu items, but hey, you've got to live a little. The rest of the menu includes scallops, chicken, shrimp, steak and a variety of vegetables. Prices for dinner in the main dining room can reach up to \$45 per person, but they offer Facebook and email discounts, I suggest checking those out. I also recommend bringing a group so you can share and enjoy the entertainment. All entrees come with miso soup and a salad.

- What You need to Know
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Tax Reform Law Chart — What you need to know!

	PRIOR LAW	NEW LAW
Mortgage Interest Deduction	Capped at \$1,000,000	Capped at \$750,000
State and Local Tax Deduction	Unlimited	The total of income, sales and property tax deductions is capped at \$10,000
Capital Gains Exemption on Sale of Primary Residence	Exclusion of up to \$250,000 (\$500,000 if married) of gain realized on sale or exchange of principal residence if lived in for 2 of last 5 years	No change
1031 Like-Kind Exchanges	Applied to all classes of property (e.g., personal and real)	Limits non-recognition of gain to real property
Personal Deduction	Allowed	Eliminated
Standard Deduction	\$6,350 individual and \$12,700 if married	\$12,000 individual and \$24,000 if married
MID for second Homes	Capped at \$1,000,000	Capped at \$750,000
Home Equity Loan Deduction	Capped at \$100,000	Not deductible unless the proceeds are used to substantially improve the property
Moving Expense Exclusion and Deduction	Deduction for moving expenses incurred in connection with change in work place	Eliminated except for members of armed forces on active duty that move pursuant to military orders
Child Tax Credit	\$1,000 for each child	\$2,000 for each child
Deduction for Qualified Business Income of Pass-Through Entities including independent contractors	None	20% deduction of taxable income phased out above \$157,000 (\$315,000 if married) for brokerage services

Contact me if you have any questions or for more information!



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YOUR INVITATION TO AN EVENT AT THE KENSINGTON SIERRA MADRE



Please RSVP via email to SSciurba@KensingtonSL.com or by calling 626-355-5700

Join us at The Kensington on 3rd Thursday of every month to be a part of this new group.

Half of the meetings will be informative, but you'll also get a chance to connect with other people and engage in fun activities like dance or art.

Amy Carlson, diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease in 2012 at age 44, will be facilitating this new group. Amy is a big advocate of being a self advocate. She believes that an "Always Now" attitude is the way to tackle every day. She also knows that exercise is the cornerstone to living well with PD. She wants to be a resource for people in the San Gabriel Valley who have Parkinson's Disease as much as possible and has authored the Meetup Group People with Parkinson's Pursuing Wellness to help do that.



Facilitator: Amy Carlson
People with Parkinson's Pursuing Wellness

EVENT DETAILS

STARTS THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2017
From: 6:30pm - 8:00pm

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FINANCIAL TIPS FOR RETIRING ABROAD

Dear Savvy Senior,
What are some financial factors to consider when retiring abroad? My husband and I will be retiring in a few years and are interested in living in a foreign country that's cheaper than the U.S.

Frugal Couple

Dear Frugal,
Retiring abroad has become a growing trend for millions of U.S. retirees who are looking to stretch their retirement savings. Here are some tips and resources to consider that can help you prepare.

Researching Tools

For starters, you can find lots of information and articles on the countries and cities you're interested in retiring to at websites like InternationalLiving.com and EscapeArtist.com.

Another good tip is to talk or network with some expatriates who have already made the move you're thinking about making. They can give you tips and suggestions on many issues, as well as the advantages and disadvantages and day-to-day reality of living in a particular country. Some popular sites for finding expat resources are ExpatExchange.com and ExpatForum.com.

But before committing to location, most experts recommend that you visit multiple times during different seasons to see whether you can envision yourself living there and not just exploring the place as a tourist. Also, consider these financial factors:

Cost of living: Retiring abroad used to be seen as a surefire way to live beyond your means, and for some countries it still is. But the U.S. dollar isn't what it used to be, so your money may not stretch as far as you think. See Numbeo.com for a country-by-country cost of living comparison.

Taxes: No matter what foreign country you decide to retire in, as long as you're a U.S. citizen you must file an annual tax return reporting all income above certain minimums, not matter where it's earned. For details see the IRS publication 54, "Tax Guide for U.S. Citizens and Resident Aliens Abroad" at IRS.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p54.pdf.

Health care: Most U.S. health insurance companies do not provide coverage outside the U.S., nor does Medicare. Check with the embassy (see USembassy.state.gov) of your destination country to see how you can be covered as a foreign resident.



Many countries provide government-sponsored health care that's inexpensive, accessible and just as good as what you get in the states, or you may want to buy a policy through Medibroker (Medibroker.com) or Bupa Global (BupaGlobal.com).

Also know that most people who retire abroad eventually return to the U.S., so you should consider paying your Medicare Part B premiums. If you drop and resume Part B, or delay initial enrollment, you'll pay a 10 percent premium penalty for every 12-month period in which you could have been enrolled.

Banking: Opening or maintaining a bank account abroad has become more difficult because of the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act, a U.S. law designed to prevent Americans from hiding assets abroad. So, you may have to establish a savings and checking account with an institution that has international reach like Citibank. And/or consider maintaining your U.S. bank account that you can access online, and get U.S. credit and debit cards that don't charge foreign transaction fees.

Rent versus buy: Buying a home in a foreign country can be complicated, so it's usually cheaper and simpler to rent, unless you know you're going to live there for a long time.

Social Security: You can receive your monthly Social Security benefits almost anywhere you live around the world (see SSA.gov/international/payments.html). Your benefits can be deposited into your bank account either in the U.S. or in your new home country, but there are some exceptions.

The U.S. State Department offers a handy checklist that can help you think through all the issues on retiring abroad. To access it visit Travel.state.gov and search for "retirement abroad."

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

SENIOR HAPPENINGS



HAPPY BIRTHDAY! ...January Birthdays*

Gerald Day, Mary Tassop, Judy Webb-Martin, John Johnson, Mary Bickel, Marlene Enmark, Shirley Wolf, Ross Kellock, Ruth Wolter, Sue Watanabe, Sandy Thistlewaite, Bobbi Rahmanian, Fran Syverson, Shirley Wolff, Judy Zaretska and Becky Evans.

* To add your name to this distinguished list, please call the paper at 626.355.2737. YEAR of birth not required



ACTIVITIES: Unless listed differently, all activities are at the Hart Park House (Senior Center) 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre

Hawaiian & Polynesian Dance Class: Every Tuesday morning from 10a.m. to 11a.m. Join instructor Barbara Dempsey as she leads you in the art of Hula.

Bingo Time: Every Tuesday beginning at 1:00p.m. Cards are only \$0.25 each! Everyone is welcome to join. Activity may be canceled if less than five people.

Free Blood Pressure Testing: 2nd Tuesdays of the month from 11a.m. to 12p.m. No appt. is necessary.

Brain Games - *New Activity*: Join us on Thursday November 16th, at 10:30a.m. to 11:30a.m. for

Scattergories. A creative thinking game by naming objects within a set of categories. Everyone is welcome, and no experience is needed. What a great way to strengthen your brain and make new friends. Activities are facilitated by Senior Volunteers.

Free Legal Consultation: Wednesday, November 15th from 10:30a.m. to Noon. Attorney Lem Makupson is available for legal consultation. Specializing in Family Law, Wills, Trusts, Estates, and Injury. Appointments are required by calling 626-355-7394.

Senior Club: Meets every Saturday at the Hart Park House Senior Center. Brown Bag Lunch at 11:30a.m.

Chair Yoga: Mondays & Wednesdays from 11:00a.m. to 11:45a.m. with Paul Hagen. Classes

include yoga and balance exercises. All ability levels are encouraged and welcomed!* A voluntary donation of \$5.00 per week is suggested but not required.

Birthday Celebrations: Every 2nd Thursday monthly at the Hart Park House, share some free birthday cake provided by the Sierra Madre Civic Club.

Game Day: Every Thursday starting at 12:00p.m. Come join this group of Seniors in their poker game. Other games are offered to all.

Free Strength Training Class: Fridays from 12:45p.m. to 1:30p.m. with Lisa Brandley. This energetic class utilizes light weights, low impact resistance and training conditioning. Class equipment is provided.



UPCOMING EXCURSIONS:

Richard Nixon Presidential Library & Museum

Date: Friday, January 19, 2018

Time: 9:30a.m. – 3:30p.m.

Meeting Location: Hart Park House Senior Center

Cost: \$20 (Does not include lunch)

Enjoy the all new library and museum featuring nearly 70 major exhibits, 600 photographs, 8,000 square feet of wall murals and more than 300 artifacts. Through the two and a half hour tour, visitors experience history through the eyes of Richard Nixon, and discover the influential accomplishments that continue to shape our country's future. Lunch is on your own at a nearby restaurant. Level of Walking: Medium.

Registration for Sierra Madre Residents starts now through January 5th. Non-resident registration starts online January 6th; or in person on Monday, January 8, 2018. Due to scheduled street closures, please allow time for parking which will be behind City Hall and below Mariposa. Bus will be parked and located on Mariposa.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Explore DNA and Genealogy

Thursday, January 25th 2:00p.m. – 3:30p.m. at the Hart Park House

Explore a bit about DNA for yourself by joining this initial workshop for the Adult STEAM Program and promises all participants fun with Science! This session is geared towards beginners – no science background required. Sign-up by calling the Library to reserve your spot: 626-355-7186.

Seasonal Crafts

Thursday, January 25th 12:30 – 1:30p.m. at the Hart Park House

Join us in making Valentine Day wreaths with ribbons, tulles, and decorations. It will make a great accent for your home. All materials provided. Please call the Hart Park House for reservations 626-355-7394.

Valentine's Day Crafts with Instructor Kt Boyce

Monday, February 5th 12:30 – 1:30p.m.

Come share your poems or hear beautiful love stories in history. Kt will also demonstrate card-making with collages, drawings, stencils and calligraphy. Materials and supplies will be provided, but remember spaces are limited!

Call for reservations at 626-355-7394.

KATIE TseThis and That



BONDERIZED

Sometimes inspiration comes from the most unusual places. I was in the ladies' room at work and, for the first time, actually read the label on the inside of

the stall door. I've noticed the sticker before; it has a



picture of the door with metal layers peeling off like an onion. It was probably meant to impress us. And indeed I am impressed, because I certainly wouldn't know where to begin if I had to build a bathroom stall door by myself.

Anyway, this time I read the label. "Bonderized," it said. I'd heard of bonded, as in, "The step-father bonded with his wife's son during their fishing trip." And then there's bonded like, "The miracle of triglycerides was discovered when scientists bonded hydrogen to carbon; laying ground for margarine and 'Cheese Whiz.'" But "bonderized"... The first thing that came to mind was Bond. James Bond.

Working from this definition, to Bonderize something means to infuse it with stealth, danger, a Scottish accent, promiscuity, or all of the above. A Bonderized drink is shaken, not stirred. Since Agent 007 is known for nifty gadgets, dull or embarrassing housewares can be Bonderized to resemble something more fashionable. For example, you might cringe if your guests saw your nose/ear-hair trimmer lying in plain view on the bathroom counter. But if it looks like a remote control, they might think, "Ooh, I bet he has a TV or stereo system hooked up somewhere in here!"

The rest of the stall door sticker was worn with age, and I could barely read something to the effect of "Sanyware: Guaranteed life long quality." I considered crouching down to get a better look, but was afraid coworkers would think I was weird for staying in there so long. Would someone recognize my shoes

(nondescript flats from Payless)? Whenever I am in a stall next to someone whose feet aren't moving, I always worry that they've had a stroke or something. Maybe I should bring my new, souped up phone and take a picture. It would be silent enough to not draw attention, but that particular day I had no pockets in

which to conceal the phone. I worried that people would think I was a pervert or something.

I considered asking one of the guys if their stall (assuming they had at least one) was "Bonderized." No one at work knows I write for the paper, so I couldn't say, "It's for an article!"

I'd have to come up with some plausible reason for taking interest in the gents' room stall doors. I could see myself blundering, "It's for a project I'm working on..." about the relative durability of different metals... or something."

I looked up "Sanyware," and it appears that

they're still operating, specializing in different stall arrangements and galvanization. A teacher friend told me of a bathroom at her school that was built during the depression by the WPA. "Peter Goodwall" evidently made sure that his tilework would be there for some time, because he engraved his name upon a floor tile -- in one of the stalls. I've never designed or built a public bathroom, but perhaps if I did, I'd want to leave a lasting impression, too. Maybe I'd scrawl the rabbit at toilet eye level. I don't know if I'd be bold enough to leave my name. I might just write, "This & that & the other."

As if the idea of Bonderization wasn't captivating enough, I then noticed the bottom of the sticker read, "To be removed after architect's inspection." Not only is this obviously a really old bathroom stall, but apparently it's never even been inspected! I suppose the danger of using an uninspected stall adds a certain flair to using the ladies' room. In that sense, it certainly is "Bonderized!"

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Looking Up
with Bob Eklund

A CENTURY OF CEPHEIDS:TWO ASTRONOMERS, A HUNDRED YEARS APART, USE STARS TO MEASURE THE UNIVERSE

How far away is that galaxy?

Our entire understanding of the universe is based on knowing the distance to other galaxies, yet this seemingly simple question turns out to be fiendishly difficult to answer. The best answer came more than 100 years ago from an astronomer who was mostly unrecognized in her time -- and today, another astronomer has used Sloan Digital Sky Survey (SDSS) data to make those distance measurements more precise than ever.

"It's been fascinating to work with such historically significant stars," says Kate Hartman, an undergraduate from Pomona College. Hartman studied "Cepheid variables," a type of star that periodically pulses in and out, varying in brightness over the course of a few days or weeks.

The pattern was first noticed in 1784 in the constellation Cepheus in the northern sky, so these stars became known as "Cepheid variables." Cepheid variables went from interesting to completely indispensable in the early 1900s thanks to the work by astronomer Henrietta Leavitt. Leavitt's contributions were largely ignored for one simple reason -- she was a woman at a time when women were not taken seriously as astronomers.

In fact, when Leavitt was first hired by Harvard College Observatory in 1895, she was hired as a "computer." In the days before modern computers, a "computer" was a person hired to perform complex calculations, assisted only by pencil and paper. Although the work was demanding, it was not taken seriously by the male professional scientists of the time -- it was seen as rote work not requiring intelligence or insight that could be done by anyone, even a woman.

So in 1908 when Leavitt discovered a relationship between the brightness (or "luminosity") of a Cepheid variable star and the time it took to go through a full cycle of change (its "period"), her work was not immediately recognized for its significance. It took years for the mostly-male astronomy community to realize that this relationship (today known as "the Leavitt Law") means that measuring the period of a Cepheid variable immediately gives its true brightness -- and furthermore, that comparing this to its apparent brightness immediately gives its distance.

Using the period-luminosity relationship that Leavitt discovered, others later calculated the distances to Cepheid variables in galaxies outside



our own Milky Way. In doing so, they discovered that our universe is expanding, starting from a single point more than 14 billion years ago at the Big Bang -- a discovery that would have never been possible without the discovery of the Leavitt Law.

More than a century later, astronomers like Hartman are carrying on Leavitt's work. Her announcement came about as a result of a ten-week summer research project at Carnegie Observatories. Hartman worked closely with her research advisor, Rachael Beaton, a Hubble and Carnegie-Princeton fellow now based at Princeton University.

The tool that Hartman and Beaton are using to

improve our knowledge of Cepheid variables is the Sloan Digital Sky Survey's Apache Point Galactic Evolution Experiment (APOGEE), which is systematically mapping the chemical compositions and motions of stars in all components of our galaxy.

The very property of these stars that allowed Henrietta Leavitt to discover the Leavitt Law -- their predictable variations in brightness -- creates challenges for APOGEE. "Over a pulsation cycle of a Cepheid variable, the star's properties change," says Beaton. "Its temperature, surface gravity, and atmospheric properties can vary greatly over a fairly short time. So how can APOGEE properly measure them? I thought it would

be an excellent summer research project to find out."

The undergraduate to take on the challenge was Kate Hartman. She was able to demonstrate that it is possible to get consistent measurements of the chemical makeup of Cepheid variables, regardless of when in their cycle they were observed by APOGEE.

Hartman explains, "I had to look at multiple spectra from the same Cepheid variable and measure the amount of different elements in the star. When we looked at a star's spectrum across its entire pulsation cycle, we found no significant differences in the results. That means that we're getting reliable results every time we look."



CHRISTOPHER Nyerges

AN ARGUMENT FOR FRUGALITY

[Nyerges is the author of various books such as "Extreme Simplicity: Homesteading in the City," "Self-Sufficient Home," "Squatter in Los Angeles,"

and other books. He has led outdoor field trips since 1974. His schedule is available at www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance.com or at Box 41834, Eagle Rock, CA 90041]

I don't like seeing people waste money, their own or other people's. For most of us, money represents the transfer of our work into a tangible abstract which we use to get the things and services we need in life. Money equals our time, our work, our life. If you think that I am placing too much value on money it's undoubtedly because I place money right up there with oxygen as something that is essential. (yes, stolen quote)

I am not optimistic about the state of our economic health, with the government doing what no one of us can do -- survive decade after decade with "deficit spending," which means money we don't have, which means, literally, bankruptcy!

The individual should do everything possible to live within their economic means both as a lifestyle, a mentality, and as a way to avoid personal disaster. Though this is part of a much longer series about personal economics, let's start with credit cards.

The convenience of a credit card is obvious. I can go to Trader Joes and not have to worry about carrying sufficient cash, and I can buy what I need, slide my card, and go home with groceries. The problem with this is that too many users -- especially in the beginning -- get addicted to the card in the same way that one gets addicted to heroin. It is so easy, and it feels so good, but it is not free.

Let me begin with my conclusion, something that too many have learned too late. If you cannot pay off your credit card at the end of each month, you cannot afford what you have purchased, and you should not buy whatever it is you think you need or want. There are a few exceptions, however, as my friend Robert Blair always told me: A house, obviously. An education, because the education presumably will enable you, long-term, to earn much more than you would have earned without it. And, unfortunately, a vehicle. More on these three later.

Remember, if you cannot pay off the balance of your card every month, you cannot afford the items in question, and should not buy them in the first place.

But everyone forgets that last sentence, at one time or another, to their peril.

The balance -- and interest -- build. You learn to pay the minimum required by the credit card company, as the principle gets bigger. Eventually, you learn to juggle your credit card debt from card to card to try and find the lowest interest rate to

handle your balance.

Eventually, all your money goes to paying off the minimum amount due, and it seems that you will never get out of debt. Was it worth it? You're now a slave of the banks.

I once overheard a conversation where the individual was describing how much money they had left. "What does that mean?" I inquired. They were describing how much more credit they had left on their credit card, as if that was their own money in a wallet somewhere. In fact, the person had NO money "left" -- the amount being discussed was simply the amount of more money that the credit card company would allow the person to go even deeper into debt without worrying too much. Though lots of people use credit cards without any serious problems, for many others, the use of easy credit is part of the fast road to financial failure. If you're one of those people, one of your best courses of action is to first take a complete assessment of all your actual needs. Stop buying anything you absolutely cannot live without. In fact, if you are having difficulty paying off your credit cards each month, you might be well advised to cut up those cards and operate on a cash basis until you know you are back on solid footing.

There are also legitimate agencies that help you manage your debt so you can get out of debt. This means the agency will re-negotiate your debt so that you can pay one fee each month, often at a lower interest rate. Obviously, however, you must change your behavior or you will never get out of debt, and you will be "poor" forever.

When I read statistics about how up to 90% of the American public are dissatisfied and unfulfilled in their life, I have to look at the possible reasons. One of the biggest reasons is a dissatisfaction with one's chosen employment, because -- let's face it -- everyone needs an income and sometimes we take whatever we can get. If we do not continually seek employment that is more personally fulfilling, we begin to wonder what our life is all about. I have seen it all too often. Then, too many of us try to find fulfillment or happiness with the junk that we buy, and then we lose ourselves into our technological world of emails and smart phones and facebook and twitters and television. And that choice to seek meaning with more stuff, and more technology, proves to be a futile path, where we don't find happiness and we get even poorer.

Yes, I know this is just the tip of an iceberg. In summary, you really must work hard to stay out of debt by always delineating need from want. If your life doesn't depend on it, don't buy it. And your fulfillment in life will come from your face-to-face interactions and workings with other people. Go on a diet from your technological toys for a while. You might find a new life that was there all along, and you might find that your wallet is a bit healthier too.



OUT TO PASTOR

A Weekly Religion Column by Rev. James Snyder

I'M IN LEFTOVER HEAVEN

I do confess that I enjoy the holiday seasons just like everybody else. One of the main ingredients I enjoy more than anything else is the holiday cuisine. At our house, I must duly confess, it is the best.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage is the cooking queen when it comes to all of this holiday food. She does a wonderful job and my job is simply to consume as much of it as I possibly can. We both manage our jobs quite professionally! As long as no dish has anything like broccoli in it, I will eat it and enjoy it. Broccoli has a way of confusing my taste buds. I'll not go into any further detail.

It amazes me how my wife can go to the grocery store, buy bags of groceries and turn all of that into the most scrumptious dinner this side of heaven. As much as I love the holiday cuisine, I must concede there is something I love more than that. I must be careful how I say this because I do not want to compromise in any way my attendance at the next holiday banquet in our residence. I have learned through the years as a husband to be careful what I say and what I do not say and I must say that I am still on the learning track here. What is better than a holiday banquet?

Right here is where I need to walk very carefully. For years, I have kept this little thought to myself. However, I must come out and confess this. No longer can I keep it a secret because it is a very important aspect of my holiday celebration.

As good as the holiday banquet is in our house there is something much better. I am referring, of course, to leftovers.

My wife cooks so much that there is always an abundance of leftovers. If you know anything about my wife, you know she does not throw anything away. We recycle as much as possible, which also includes food. To throw food away in our house is a criminal offense. You do not want to know the penalty!

Through the years the leftovers have become better and better. I know that the quality of any leftover has to do with the initial cooking. I must say I enjoy that first level of cooking for Thanksgiving and Christmas and every other holiday. I have come to discover, however, that the leftovers are just as good if not better than the originals.

I never thought too much about this until recently. The refrigerator was packed with food left over from our Christmas and New Year's Day dinners. The table was set most spectacularly and I, and a few family members, set down to stuff ourselves with these holiday vittles. Oh, how delicious every bite was.

I must say I had come to the point, as everybody

else around the table did, that I was stuffed and I could not entertain another bite.

At this point, the dessert came to the table. Oh boy, looking at that dessert and smelling the marvelous aroma I rediscovered my appetite. When the call came out, "Anybody want dessert?" I was the first to respond in the positive. I believe in positive thinking, especially at dessert time.

It was the next day when the reality of all of this set in. As my wife is thinking about dinner, she asked me a simple question, "How about having leftovers tonight for dinner?"

At the time I did not think too much of it and grunted a positive response and went back to reading my book.

In a few moments, I began to smell something wonderfully delicious. The smell was coming from the kitchen and then I heard a wonderful invitation, "Supper's ready. Let's eat."

As I situated myself at the table, I began to look around at what was called "leftovers" and was delighted by what I saw.

We always have prayer before we eat and I must confess I had a very abbreviated prayer because I wanted to get into those leftovers.

Every bite seemed more delicious than the previous bite. How my wife can take leftovers and mix it all up into a marvelously delicious supper I will never know. I do not need to know. All I need to do is enjoy the delicacy of her cuisine art.

For the next week, we enjoyed leftovers every suppertime. The last night the table was not quite as full as before and my wife informed me that this was the last of the leftovers.

Of course, my heart sank within me realizing that the delicious aspect of the holiday banqueting was about to come to a close. I never realized before how much I loved those leftovers. I don't know if it is because I am getting older, or, if I am just recognizing things I've never recognized before.

There is a little bit of magic associated with putting together leftovers and making them more delicious than the original setting.

As I finished the last of the leftovers I thought of something Jesus said after he fed the multitude, "When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost" (John 6:12).

Even in my spiritual life when God blesses me, there are leftovers people around can enjoy. A life so blessed, blesses everybody around.

Dr. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, 1471 Pine Road, Ocala, FL 34472. He lives with his wife in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 352-687-4240 or e-mail jamesnyder2@att.net. The church web site is www.whatafellowship.com.

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NEW LAWS continued from page 1)

to more expensive medications, ultimately costing insurers more and potentially driving up premiums.

Affordable Housing

Eager to address California's severe housing affordability crisis, legislators crafted more than a dozen new laws last session that aim to spur development. Some have broader implications for all residents, including Senate Bill 2, which adds a fee of \$75 to \$225 on real estate transactions. It is expected to generate up to \$300 million annually for affordable housing projects, programs that assist homeless people and long-range development planning. If a community has not met its state-mandated housing needs, Senate Bill 35 allows developers to bypass the lengthy, and often expensive, review process for new projects.

Assembly Bill 167 seeks to tamp down on "not in my backyard" backlash by making it harder for cities and counties to vote down proposed developments that fit within their long-range housing plans.

Immigration

Senate Bill 54, arguably the most controversial new law of 2018, makes California a "sanctuary state." A rebuke to President Donald Trump's plans to ramp up deportations of undocumented immigrants, it limits the ability of state and local police to cooperate with federal immigration enforcement. Officers cannot inquire about someone's immigration status or detain them on a hold request from the federal government, unless they have been convicted of one of more than 800 crimes.

The legislative "resistance" to Trump continued with more policies to assist immigrants, including Assembly Bill 291, which prohibits landlords from reporting their undocumented renters;

Senate Bill 257, which allows students whose parents are deported to continue attending California schools;

Assembly Bill 450, which bans employers from cooperating with or allowing immigration enforcement raids at their work sites without a court order.

Minimum Wage

California's lowest earners are in for a raise: The minimum wage increases by 50 cents, to \$11 per hour for workers at companies with at least 26 employees, and to \$10.50 for those at smaller firms. It is part of an agreement reached nearly two years ago, Senate Bill 3, that will continue to hike the hourly wage annually until it reaches \$15 in 2022 for large companies, and in 2023 for all workers.

Diaper changing stations Parents across the state will have an easier time sharing diaper duty in the future. Assembly Bill 1127 requires state and local agencies, as well as public venues such as movie theaters, grocery stores, sports arenas and restaurants, to provide at least one diaper-changing station accessible to women and men. The law applies to new construction or significant renovations of facilities.

Schools

California is closing the chapter on a contentious era in education: Assembly Bill 830 eliminates the high school exit exam, which was instituted, beginning with the Class of 2006, to ensure that students demonstrated a minimum proficiency in English and math before graduating. Tens of thousands of students never passed the exam and consequently never received a diploma. A decade later, lawmakers suspended the requirement to rewrite the test; now, they are simply doing away with it instead.

In an effort to keep poor female students attending class, schools will also provide free tampons and pads. Assembly Bill 10 requires middle and high schools where at least 40 percent of students meet the federal poverty threshold to stock half their campus restrooms with free menstrual products.

College Tuition

Assembly Bill 19 establishes the initial stage of a "free college"

program here, waiving the first year of fees for any first-time student who enrolls full-time at one of California's 114 community colleges. That promise, however, depends on the state setting aside enough money in its 2018-19 budget to cover the fee waivers.

Gender

California continues to ease the process for transgender people to get updated identification documents. Senate Bill 179 removes the requirement that they have undergone any treatment before applying with the state to change the gender on their birth certificate. It also adds a "nonbinary" option for those who do not identify as either male or female, which will be available on driver's licenses as well starting in 2019.

Guns

California already has among the nation's strictest gun control laws, and the Legislature continues to tighten them. Assembly Bill 424 eliminates a policy, implemented only last year, that gave school administrators authority to decide whether employees with concealed carry permits should be allowed to bring their firearms onto campus. Now they will be banned. Under Assembly Bill 725, someone convicted of a hate crime will lose their right to possess a gun for 10 years. And new restrictions on buying ammunition are beginning to take effect. While background checks will not be required until next year, customers must now purchase their ammunition through a licensed vendor. That means even if you order your ammunition online, you must ship it to a vendor and pick it up in person.

Walking

You are now permitted to do something you were probably doing anyway: cross the street when the red hand signal is flashing. Assembly Bill 390 eliminates the penalty for entering a crosswalk after a "Don't Walk" symbol appears, as long as there is a countdown that indicates how much time is left for pedestrians to

cross.

Marijuana

Voters legalized recreational marijuana in 2016 with Proposition 64, and now it is available for retail purchase. Adults 21 and older can buy up to an ounce of weed and up to 8 grams of cannabis concentrates, though only in cities, like Sacramento and Oakland, that have permitted stores.

NEW DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLE LAWS

Cannabis Use in Vehicles (SB 65, Hill): This law prohibits smoking or ingesting marijuana or marijuana products while driving or riding as a passenger in a vehicle. The DMV will assign negligent operator point counts for this violation. In addition to the California Driver Handbook, the DMV also will revise the Motorcycle Handbook and the DMV's website to include information relating to marijuana violations.

Buses and Seatbelts (SB 20, Hill): Beginning July 1, 2018, this law requires a passenger on a bus equipped with seat belts to be properly restrained by a safety belt. This law also prohibits a parent, legal guardian, or chartering party to transport on a bus, or permit to be transported on a bus, a child who is at least 8 years of age but under 16 years of age, unless they are properly restrained by a safety belt or an appropriate child passenger restraint system that meets federal safety standards. A violation of these provisions is an infraction punishable by a fine.

DUI - Passenger for Hire (AB 2687, Achadjian): Beginning July 1, 2018, this law makes it unlawful for a person to operate a motor vehicle with a blood alcohol concentration of 0.04 percent or more when a passenger for hire is in the vehicle at the time of the offense. This will mean that drivers of passenger for hire, in their personal vehicles, will be held to a higher standard of safety while transporting people. The DMV will suspend a person's driver license if a conviction is added to their record. Commercial driver license holders will receive a

disqualification.

Parking Violations for Registration or Driver License Renewal (AB 503, Lackey): This law makes changes to a requirement under which vehicle registration renewal and driver license issuance or renewal is not granted for having unpaid parking penalties and fees. The law creates a process for low-income Californians with outstanding parking violations to repay their fines and penalties prior to the parking violation being reported to the DMV. The law also allows the registered owner of a vehicle to file for Planned Non-Operation status when unpaid parking penalties are on the vehicle's record. It also allows for someone with outstanding parking penalties and fees, to obtain or renew a driver license.

HOV Decal Program (AB 544 Bloom): Beginning January 1, 2019, this law creates a new decal program to allow certain low emission vehicles to access high-occupancy vehicle lanes, regardless of vehicle occupancy level, for a four-year term. Access to high-occupancy vehicle lanes for vehicles with green and white decals will expire January 1, 2019. Vehicles issued a green or white decal in 2017 or 2018 will be eligible to reapply for a decal in 2019 granting them access to high-occupancy toll lanes until January 1, 2022.

Disabled Person Parking Placards and Plates (SB 611, Hill): This law makes changes to the administration of the Disabled Person Parking Placard and Disabled Person License Plate Program, including requiring applicants to provide proof of true full name and birthdate. The law also will limit the number of replacement disabled person parking placards an applicant can request without obtaining a medical certification to four in two years. It also requires the DMV to establish a renewal process that requires applicants to return a renewal notice by mail every six years. Currently, all permanent disabled placards expire in June 2019 and they are automatically renewed every two years. The

placards expiring in June 2023 will be the first batch of placards subject to renewal. Applicants will not be required to obtain a medical certification as part of the renewal process. For more information about the new law effecting Disabled Person Placard and Plates, visit the DMV website.

Motorcycle Training Courses (AB 1027, Acosta): This law authorizes the DMV to accept a certificate of satisfactory completion of any motorcyclist-training program approved by the California Highway Patrol in lieu of the required motorcycle skills test. Applicants for an original motorcycle license or motorcycle endorsement under 21 years of age continue to be required to complete a novice motorcyclist-training program.

Firefighter License Plate Program for Surviving Family Member (AB 1338, Low): This law allows a surviving spouse, domestic partner, or child of a deceased firefighter or deceased retired firefighter to independently apply for and receive a California Firefighter Special License Plate for their vehicle.

Private Carriers of Passengers (SB 19, Hill): Beginning July 1, 2018, this law transfers regulatory authority over private carriers of passengers (such as church and youth buses) from the California Public Utilities Commission to the DMV.

Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Program (SB 1, Beall): Beginning January 1, 2018, the DMV is required to begin collecting at the time of registration or renewal the Transportation Improvement Fee (TIF) ranging from \$25 - \$175, based on the vehicle's current value. The law also requires the department, beginning July 1, 2020, to collect a Road Improvement Fee for zero-emission vehicles with a model year of 2020 or later.

Source: Various News Outlets/
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AROUND SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

IT'S "ALL IN THE FAMILY" FOR SERGEANTS BURT AND KIM SHELTON BRINK AND DEPUTY TY



By Joan Schmidt

In the early nineties during my first tenure with the Town Council, I met a dedicated, hard-working Temple Station Deputy Burt Brink.

Fast forward to 2011. Retired from education and writing for the Mountain Views News, I attend a car show in Monrovia. Karen, Bob and I run into Burt. I ask if he was a deputy years ago at Temple and he responds, "yes". Then he inquires if I had been on the MAD Town Council several years back!

Over the last few years a lot has happened. Burt has found his soul mate, Kim, a beautiful woman-also a hardworking Sergeant with the Sheriff's Dept. They share the same high ideals, morals and are dedicated to serving others.

Kim's and Burt's journey to the Sheriff's Department followed different paths. Burt was an Arcadia Police Explorer (1977-1982), graduated from Rio Hondo Police Reserve Academy (1983) and was a reserve officer with Monterrey Park PD until January 1989 when he went to the Sheriff's Dept. He graduated from the Sheriff's Academy in May 1989 and went to Temple Station in 1991, where he worked patrol, traffic, field training officer, motors and Motor Training Officer. In 2009, he promoted to Sergeant and was assigned to Crescenta Valley Station in 2011, in charge of community relations, volunteers, police explorers, CERT reserves, and the Montrose Search and Rescue Team. In 2015, he transferred to Altadena station and in December was assigned to the Sheriff's Information Bureau as LASD's Press Information Officer, working directly under Sheriff Jim McDonnell. In October 2017, he retired

and is currently running for State Assembly. He was awarded "In the Line of Duty" Award, the "Distinguished Service Award" and the Legendary Lawman Award from the Sheriff's Department.

Kim was an EMT with Antelope Valley Wilson Ambulance in 1988, when she encountered deputies at scenes; this was now her career choice. She graduated from Sheriff's Academy in Aug. 1989, assigned to patrol at Lennox from 1991-1995, and transferred to Personnel as a background investigator. In 2006, she promoted to detective, went to Lancaster Station, then assigned to Operations Safe Streets. In 2008, she promoted to B-2 Detective at Headquarters Detective Bureau, Forgery and Fraud. 2010 brought a promotion to Sergeant and transfer to Palmdale Station. In 2014, she was assigned to a special Audit unit, working directly for the Sheriff.

Their "blended family" includes sons Tyler, a driver at the port in Portland, Oregon; Travis who attends "Lee Strasberg Theater and Film Institutes", pursuing a career in the acting field; Todd, attending high school and hoping to be a Special Effects Makeup Artist, and TY who recently graduated from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Academy and beginning a law enforcement career, following Kim and Burt.

Burt tells me he and Kim met 28 years ago in Patrol School, but did not meet again till 2011 when Kim was on loan at Crescenta Valley Sheriff's Station. They worked together a short time and Kim did NOT like him at first, but he finally was able to win her over!

And so, dear readers, it's truly "All in the Family" for the Shelton-Brinks!

\$20,000 REWARD REINSTATED FOR INFORMATION ON HIT-AND-RUN DEATH OF TEENAGER IN CANYON COUNTRY

LOS ANGELES COUNTY — Supervisor Kathryn Barger announced that the Board of Supervisors has reinstated a \$20,000 reward for information on the driver responsible for the hit-and-run death of 15-year-old Desiree Renee Lawson in Canyon Country on December 26, 2016.

At approximately 8:40 p.m., Santa Clarita Valley Sheriff's Station Deputies responded to the scene of a 15-year-old minor who was struck and killed by a motorist on Sierra Highway, south of

Soledad Canyon Road. The vehicle was described as a gold, tan, or dark sedan with a lowered front end and possible damage to the hood or front end. The City of Santa Clarita is also offering a \$5,000 reward.

Supervisor Barger urged anyone with information to call Sheriff's Sgt. Scott Shoemaker or Detective Mark Cramer at (661) 255-1121. Callers wishing to remain anonymous may call Crime Stoppers at (800) 222-TIPS (8477).

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if you can't run then walk,
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Jeff's Book Pics

By Jeff Brown

Real Happiness at Work: Meditations for Accomplishment, Achievement, and Peace

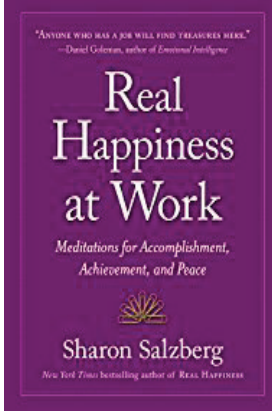
by Sharon Salzberg

Real Happiness at Work brings the profound benefits of meditation to an area where people could use it most: the workplace. And it's written by one of the world's leading meditation teachers. A follow-up to Real Happiness, the New York Times bestseller, Sharon Salzberg's Real Happiness at Work is a practical guide to improving work life through mindfulness, compassion, and ingenuity. It's about being committed without being consumed, competitive without being cruel, managing time and emotions to counterbalance stress and frustration. It shows readers how to be more creative, organized, and accomplished in order to do better, more productive work. Dividing the idea of workplace satisfaction into eight pillars, Real Happiness at Work is filled with secular wisdom; core meditations on broad themes like motivation, awareness, and seeing the good in others; and more than a dozen exercises, including Moving From Me to We and When Things Go Wrong. Sprinkled throughout the book are short "stealth" meditations, the kind that are quick, private, and doable anywhere. "Let the phone ring three times, follow your breath, then pick it up" and "For an upcoming one-on-one conversation, resolve to listen more and speak less." Even the best jobs are filled with stress, tough deadlines, impatient bosses, seemingly endless meetings all the ills of harried life. But as science increasingly shows, meditation is the antidote.

Patrick Leigh Fermor: A Life in Letters

by Patrick Leigh Fermor and Adam Sisman

The first extensive collection of letters written by war hero and travel writing legend Patrick Leigh Fermor. Handsome, spirited, and erudite, Patrick Leigh Fermor was a war hero and one of the greatest travel writers of his generation. He was also a wonderful friend. The letters in this collection span almost seventy years, the first written ten days before Paddy's twenty-fifth birthday, the last when he was ninety-four, and the correspondents include Deborah Devonshire, Nancy Mitford, Lawrence Durrell, Diana Cooper, and his lifelong companion, Joan Rayner. The letters exhibit many of Fermor's most engaging characteristics: his lust for life, his unending curiosity, his lyrical descriptive powers, his love of



language, his exuberance, and his tendency to get into scrapes—particularly when drinking and, quite separately, driving. Here are plenty of extraordinary stories: the hunt for Byron's slippers in one of the remotest regions of Greece; an ignominious dismissal from Somerset Maugham's Villa Mauresque; and hiding behind a bush to dub Dirk Bogarde into Greek during the shooting of Ill Met by Moonlight. The letters radiate warmth and gaiety; many are enhanced with witty illustrations and comic verse, while others contain riddles and puns. Every one of them entertains.

The Sky Below: A True Story of Summits, Space, and Speed

by Scott Parazynski, Susy Flory

"Scott Parazynski's drive, curiosity, inventiveness, and great humor shine through the pages of The Sky Below and will certainly inspire future generations to pursue their dreams with every fiber in their being." —John Glenn, NASA astronaut. An epic memoir from a man whose life is defined by exploration and innovation, The Sky Below re-creates some of the most unforgettable adventures of our time. From dramatic, high-risk spacewalks to author Scott Parazynski's death-defying quest to summit Mount Everest—his body ravaged by a career in space—readers will experience the life of an elite athlete, physician, and explorer. This intimate, compelling account offers a rare portrait of space exploration from the inside. A global nomad raised in the shadow of NASA's Apollo missions, Parazynski never lost sight of his childhood dream to one day don a spacesuit and float outside the airlock. With deep passion, unbridled creativity, resilience, humility, and self-deprecation, Parazynski chases his dream of the ultimate adventure experience, again and again and again. In an era that transitioned from moon shots to the Space Shuttle, space station, and Mars research, Parazynski flies with John Glenn, tests jet packs, trains in

Russia to become a cosmonaut, and flies five missions to outer space (including seven spacewalks) in his seventeen-year NASA career. An unparalleled, visceral opportunity to understand what it's like to train for—and deploy to—a home in zero gravity, The Sky Below also portrays an astronaut's engagement with the challenges of his life on Earth, including raising a beautiful autistic daughter and finding true love.

FAMILY MATTERS

By Marc Garlett



if you are unable to make decisions for yourself. These are life and death decisions; make sure your agent is someone you trust. Work closely with a trusted estate planning lawyer to ensure your directive provides clear guidelines for your agent to follow.

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Your health care agent or personal representative will need access to your medical records to make educated decisions about your care. To do this, your agent will need a HIPAA authorization. This will ensure he or she has access to your medical records from HIPAA-covered health care providers.

Living Will Declaration

A living will provides specific guidelines for your end of life care. While your health care directive can include provisions for your agent to make certain decisions about your ongoing health care, a living will tells your agent how you would like those decisions made, such as if and when you want life support to be removed, whether you would want hydration and nutrition and what kind of care choices should be made for you, if you cannot make them for yourself. These types of absolute decisions about your life should be included in a living will for extra protection and assurance your desires will be known and honored.

These documents, if carefully crafted, will help you express and enforce your healthcare wishes, even if you cannot speak for yourself. If you want to ensure your preferences for your ongoing and end of life care are respected, these are the documents you need to have in place.

Dedicated to empowering your family, increasing your wealth and building your legacy,

MARC

A local attorney and father, Marc Garlett is on a mission to help parents protect what they love most. His office is located at 49 S. Baldwin Ave., Ste. G, Sierra Madre, CA 91024. Schedule an appointment to sit down and talk about ensuring a legacy of love and financial security for your family by calling 626.587.3058 or visit www.GarlettLaw.com for more information.

All Things

By Jeff Brown

LIFE LONG FRIENDS DISCOVER SOMETHING WONDERFUL!!

Alan Robinson and Walter Macfarlane were born in Hawaii 15 months apart. The duo met in 6th grade and have been friends for 60 years. While they've shared a very close bond, they never thought they were related, until a DNA website revealed their relationship. Robinson was adopted, and Macfarlane did not know who his father was, so the pair were always searching individually for information on their families. For years,

Macfarlane tried unsuccessfully to find clues about his father. With the help of his daughter, they began sifting through matches he got on a DNA website. One of the top matches was username Robi737 which was his best friend. They discovered they are brothers. The duo shared the news with family. They plan to travel and enjoy retirement together. "This is the best Christmas present I could ever imagine having," Robinson said.

FIRST 2018 CONCERT OF THE PASADENA COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA

Award-winning soprano Anita Protich performs Beethoven's "Ah perfido!"

PCO performs Mendelssohn's "Overture for Winds", Beethoven's "Ah perfido!," Op. 65 with Anita Protich as soprano soloist and Mendelssohn's "Symphony No. 4" under the baton of Music Director Beth Pflueger.

Felix Mendelssohn began composing his "Symphony No. 4" (commonly known as the "Italian") while traveling in Italy during a European tour when he was 21 years old, and he completed it in Berlin in 1833. The work is inspired by Italy's people, landscapes and art. Mendelssohn conducted the world premiere in London at a London Philharmonic Society concert that influenced English composers for generations to come. Surprisingly, the composer was never satisfied with the last movement, although critics have always referred to it as a perfect work.

Mendelssohn wrote the "Overture for Winds" at age 15, displaying the mature understanding for complex musical ideas he possessed at a young age. Set in sonata form, this popular wind/band piece begins slowly and then drastically transforms into a buoyant Allegro. Originally written for one flute, two clarinets, two oboes, two bassoons, two horns, one trumpet, and one English bass horn, the piece exhibits classical counterpoint through

the use of polyphonic imitation. Since its composition, the piece has been modernized to make it accessible for modern wind ensembles and performers.

Written in 1796, "Ah! perfido" ("Ah! Faithless One") is an early work by Ludwig van Beethoven written in the 18th century operatic style as a concert aria for soprano and orchestra. The work is set to verses by the great Italian poet and librettist, Pietro Trapassi, known professionally as Metastasio. It is said that in addition to being technically difficult to sing, the gut-wrenching text about fury, betrayal and feminine compassion requires a particular ability and artistry to execute well. Beethoven captures the emotional depth of the text with music that allows the tension to ebb and flow while remaining well-balanced in a style reminiscent of Mozart.

WHERE: In the sanctuary of First Church of the Nazarene, 3700 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., Pasadena (just west of Michillinda Avenue). Ample free parking, wheelchair accessible.

WHEN: Friday, January 26, 2018, 8:00 p.m.

FURTHER INFORMATION: Email publicity@pcomusic.org, or visit us online at www.pcomusic.org.

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BUSINESS TODAY

The latest on Business News, Trends and Techniques

By La Quetta M. Shamblee, MBA



THE INSANITY OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Most people think it would be insane to think of starting a business, but then, it takes a certain level of insanity to forgo the "security" of a regular paycheck from an employer. Which is why most people will never take the plunge into full-time self-employment of owning a business. All entrepreneurs are risk takers, however, there are varying levels ranging from cautious, calculated risks, to those who seem crazy enough to leap from a cliff with the belief they have wings to fly. You will find examples of extreme success at all levels of risk, but the entrepreneurs who seem to be wired to tolerate risks that appear illogical to most of us, see life through a different lens.

To observers it may appear that an entrepreneur willing to take risks has no fear, but that isn't the case. They have simply decided that the risk is worth the anticipated reward. Most people can't relate to this because of the fear that prevents them from ever moving beyond a pre-defined comfort zone. The comfort zone of a 9-to-5 for the majority can feel like a prison to a free-thinking entrepreneur. They think "outside the box" and are therefore driven to venture, seek and experiment outside of the boundaries of what is normal to everyone else.

They would rather work 20 hours a day to build their own enterprise, than to work 8 hours a day to build for someone else. Seems odd, but one of the trade-offs is a sense of relief, pride and satisfaction knowing that they are doing what they really want to do. Some of them find their niche, build a business and operate it for decades until they decide to sell

it, pass it on to family or close it after enjoying years as the creator of their own livelihood.

Others are serial entrepreneurs, leaving a trail of multiple business ventures. Some of the ventures are successful, but some are relegated to the collective heap of business failures. But again, a difference in perspective – the entrepreneur interprets each failure as a lesson learned, information to help them make better decisions the next time. Like the inventor and entrepreneur, Thomas Edison, 10,000 "failed" experiments to create the light bulb are simply viewed as discovering all of the ways it didn't work.

The correlation of failure to success is evident across the landscape of all accomplishments, large and small. It is something we all understood as children, but as we get older we forgot this fact. How many times did you fall before you learned to skate or ride a bicycle? Remember the frustration you felt as the older kids whizzed past you, and perhaps your mom, dad, or another kid encouraged you to keep trying. Or, you simply convinced yourself to try until finally, you were skating and riding along with everyone else.

So too, is the plight of risk-taking entrepreneurs who may find themselves, low on funds with bruised credit ratings, watching other whiz past them with the comfort and security of a steady paycheck. Those destined for success will get up and try again, knowing that they need to move beyond this latest lesson of what didn't work to keep searching until they discover what does.

We're offering these fun & creative classes for Kids

Hurry! Winter Session Begins January 15!

Drawing & Painting Classes for Kids

Mud Shop for Kids

Register online, by phone or in person

Creative Arts Group

108 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre

(626) 355-8350 CreativeArtsGroup.org

YOUR INVITATION TO AN EVENT AT THE KENSINGTON SIERRA MADRE

Please RSVP via email to SSciurba@KensingtonSL.com or by calling 626-355-5700

Parkinson's Support Group

Join us at The Kensington on 3rd Thursday of every month to be a part of this new group.

Half of the meetings will be informative, but you'll also get a chance to connect with other people and engage in fun activities like dance or art.

AMY CARLSON, diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease in 2012 at age 44, will be facilitating this new group. Amy is a big advocate of being a self advocate. She believes that an "Always Now" attitude is the way to tackle every day. She also knows that exercise is the cornerstone to living well with PD. She wants to be a resource for people in the San Gabriel Valley who have Parkinson's Disease as much as possible and has authored the Meetup Group People with Parkinson's Pursuing Wellness to help do that.

Facilitator: Amy Carlson

People with Parkinson's Pursuing Wellness

EVENT DETAILS

STARTS THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2017

From: 6:30pm – 8:00pm

at The Kensington

245 West Sierra Madre Blvd.

Sierra Madre, CA 91024

(626) 355-5700

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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 80 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., No. 327, Sierra Madre, California, 91024. All contents are copyrighted and may not be reproduced without the express written consent of the publisher. All rights reserved. All submissions to this newspaper become the property of the Mountain Views News and may be published in part or whole.

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Mountain Views News Mission Statement

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

TOM PURCELL



FRIGID WINTER SAD FOR ANTI-TRUMPERS

Boy, it's cold across America. It's so cold, politicians are picking their own pockets, people are flocking inside the U.S. Capitol just for the hot air, and the outlook for anti-Trumpers has been downgraded from miserable and bewildered to hopelessly depressed.

Here's one reason anti-Trumpers are especially down this winter: Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD).

According to About.com, this woeful malady is triggered by overcast winter weather. Lack of exposure to sunlight can cause low levels of melatonin and serotonin. Low levels of both cause depression-like symptoms.

Lots of people are affected by SAD at this time every year, but, according to Dr. Norman Rosenthal - who, reports Newsweek, was the "first to describe the syndrome" - anti-Trumpers are especially susceptible to SAD symptoms this year.

That's because stress exacerbates SAD symptoms, and anti-Trumpers are under severe stress. "You know, people are worried, then you hear that the president is going to annihilate North Korea," Rosenthal tells Newsweek. "I think these stressors definitely do register more powerfully."

Anti-Trumpers must also contend with a sizable list of Trump administration accomplishments.

President Trump successfully appointed Justice Neil Gorsuch, a solid conservative, to the Supreme Court, and is the first president to have 12 appellate appointments confirmed by the Senate during the first year of his presidency.

He signed into law the largest tax-reform bill in 31 years - a bill that makes conservatives happy as it makes anti-Trumpers sad.

"In addition to slashing the corporate tax rate from 35 to 21 percent, the landmark legislation cut individual rates for all income tax levels, doubled the child tax credit to \$2,000, and dramatically increased the standard deduction," reports the Washington Examiner.

Trump is slowly dismantling ObamaCare, which drove up premiums and deductibles for millions of middle-class Americans. The individual mandate was repealed as part of Republican tax reform.

Repealing the individual mandate is a big first step toward replacing ObamaCare's complexity with more creative health-care reform strategy that addresses the elephant in the living room: massive costs.

That can be accomplished, in part, by introducing a variety of market-based options that give patients more control over the insurance they choose, the dollars they spend and the health-care decisions they make with their doctors.

Another step toward reducing premiums and deductibles - toward extending high-quality insurance and care to the uninsured and needy - is to tackle massive complexity, and there is growing optimism that Trump may succeed in doing so.

Trump is undoing a variety of costly regulations imposed on the country during the Obama administration - many of these regulations impeded economic growth.

According to the Examiner, the Trump administration has "canceled or delayed more than 1,500 regulations in the first 11 months" and "ultimately cut 22 regulations for each new one enacted (last) year, saving taxpayers billions of dollars over the coming years."

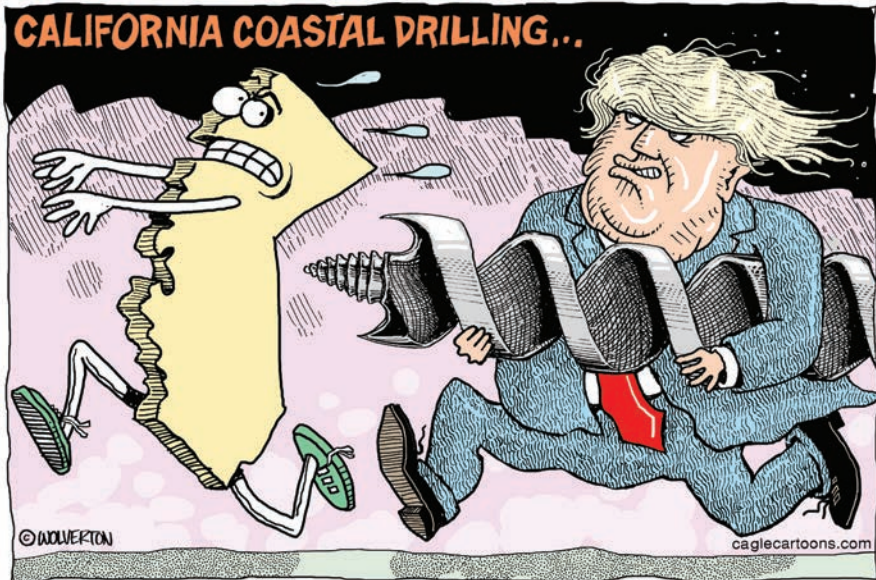
In any event, some of Trump's "conservative" successes may be a pleasant surprise to conservatives and libertarians, who were not big Trump supporters (I am in this group), but they are extremely unpleasant to progressives - particularly during this bitter-cold winter.

Their SAD symptoms include increased anxiety and irritability. They are eating less and having difficulty falling asleep. They are craving carbohydrates and packing on weight, eating junk food.

So I empathize with you, my Trump-loathing friends. The only hope for you is that Trump's tax and regulation reforms work so well that America's economy enjoys 4-percent growth again.

We'll be so busy depositing our economic windfall in the bank, nobody will have time to suffer SAD symptoms.

Copyright 2018 by Tom Purcell. Tom Purcell, author of "Misadventures of a 1970's Childhood" and "Wicked Is the Whiskey," a Sean McClanahan mystery novel, both available at Amazon.com, is a Pittsburgh Tribune-Review humor columnist and is nationally syndicated exclusively by Cagle Cartoons Inc. For info on using this column in your publication or website, contact Sales@cagle.com or call (805) 969-2829. Send comments to Tom at Tom@TomPurcell.com.



LEFT TURN/RIGHT TURN

DICK POLMAN



ON IMMIGRATION, TRUMP IS RUDDERLESS

It was awesome this week to watch Donald Trump in action - or, more accurately, inaction.

Clearly stung by Michael Wolff's true portrayal, in "Fire and Fury," of a guy whose sole core conviction is himself, a guy of limited intellect who knows squat about policy, Trump invited the media to watch him preside over a White House confab on immigration with congressional leaders. He got a few good reviews, because at this point the bar is so low that if he stays semi-attentive for 55 minutes without tweeting or drooling, somebody inevitably concludes that This Was The Moment When He Became President of the United States.

But the camera doesn't lie. It was glaringly obvious that on the issue of immigration, mostly notably the future of the 700,000 dreamers (the undocumented immigrants who came to America as kids), the very stable genius has no idea what he believes. Based on what he said at the meeting, he believes in everything that everyone in both parties said - although he'd be fine with endorsing all of it or none of it, depending on what they want to do or not do.

That's the gist, compliments of a weak president who wants to lead from behind. Way behind.

Republican senators, in particular, were hoping that Trump would say what he wants; after all, in a normally functioning government, it's the president who frames the issues, and provides policy direction, for his congressional allies. But alas, as Sen. James Lankford admitted later, the meeting "got confusing at times."

At times Trump appeared to endorse the Democrats' idea of simply allowing the dreamers to stay in America, with no conditions attached - in legislative parlance, a "clean bill." When Sen. Dianne Feinstein asked on camera whether Trump would support a clean dreamer bill, he immediately declared, "Yeah, I would like to do it."

Huh? Isn't that the opposite of what his Republican allies currently want? And isn't that the opposite of what he promised his white-grievance fan base during the 2016 campaign, when he vowed that "on day one" he would kick the dreamers out of the country?

Well, yes. But what he vowed in 2016 was the opposite of what he believed in 2011, when he surfaced on Fox News to praise the dreamers: "You have people in this country for 20 years. They've done a great job, they've done wonderfully, they've gone to school, they've gotten good marks, they're productive. Now we're supposed to send them out of the country? I don't believe in that."

On Tuesday, his reaction to Feinstein vividly confirmed what Wolff says in his book, that Trump simply agrees with the last person who advises him. And as soon as Trump said yes to Feinstein, House majority leader Kevin McCarthy sought to be the last-last person to advise him. He quickly jumped in to gently tutor the pupil: "Mr. President, you need to be clear, though You have to have security."

Trump later appeared to correct himself and say that, yeah, he wants dreamers plus security. And his press office tried to clean up the mess by purging his apparent support for a clean dreamer bill from the official White House transcript. When his flacks were subsequently asked why Trump's comment was mysteriously gone, they hilariously insisted that the omission was inadvertent.

At other points in the meeting, Trump said that he's willing to support comprehensive immigration reform - including a path to citizenship - and hoped the negotiations would happen very soon. But when Republican Sen. David Perdue said it can't happen soon because Congress needs to focus on keeping the government open and passing a budget, Trump left the impression that he'd be fine with that too.

All told, his wobbles infuriated the rabid right, which doesn't want a citizenship path at all. As Ann Coulter tweeted, "Nothing Michael Wolff could say about Trump has hurt him as much as the [dreamer] lovefest right now."

Whoever knew that governing could be so hard? On immigration, the congressional Republicans want guidance and direction, but their so-called leader is a rudderless ship. At one point, he actually said: "I think my positions are going to be what the people in this room come up with. I am very much reliant on the people in this room."

It's so refreshing when he doesn't lie.

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MAKING SENSE by MICHAEL REAGAN

THE GOP CAN'T GET BURNT ON DACA DEAL



Everyone knows something has to be done for America's DACA kids.

Everyone with a good heart or a working brain knows it's not their fault their parents sneaked them into the country when they were kids under 16.

It's true that by law they are illegal immigrants.

But most DACA kids have grown up to become good, law-abiding Americans.

They've gone to school here. They've worked and paid taxes here. They've even served in our military.

Everyone except a few people on the far fringe knows it'd be wrong to deport these 800,000 so-called "Dreamers" -- now or in the future.

As we saw in Washington this week, DACA kids have become a bargaining chip for President Trump in his efforts to get Congress to build a border wall and reform immigration policy.

President Obama created America's DACA kids by executive order in 2012 with his Deferred Action for Child Arrivals program, which delayed the deportation of "Dreamers" who signed up for it for two years.

President Trump has already announced his administration's plans to phase out DACA, though this week a federal judge temporarily blocked that executive decision until a bunch of lawsuits challenging it are settled.

Trump and his Republican allies say they want to extend protections for the "Dreamers" as part of a larger legislative bill that also funds the wall and ends chain immigration.

Democrats in Congress say to Trump, "OK, but extend DACA's protections first, then we'll deal with the border wall and other stuff later."

The DACA bar fight is still in the first round.

But already it's a perfect example of how bad the Republicans are at educating the public about what they do in Washington and why they do it the way they do.

In this case, Republicans need to explain to the country why they are insisting on Congress doing DACA and immigration reform together.

The reason is because Republicans remember how badly they were burned by Democrats in 1986, after my father signed the Immigration Reform and Control Act, aka the Simpson-Mazzoli Act.

Part one of Simpson-Mazzoli allowed 3 million illegal immigrants to have a pathway to citizenship. That's the only part of the bill people remember today - the so-called "Reagan Amnesty."

But nearly everyone - particularly the mainstream liberal media that thinks American political history started when they woke up this morning - forgets about the second part.

Part 2 of Simpson-Mazzoli was an agreement to secure the southern border - which was never implemented in 1986 or to this day.

That's the memory Republicans are still haunted by today. They have good reason to not trust Democrats to keep their word on border security if they negotiate a two-step DACA-immigration deal.

Now it's up to the president, the speaker of the house and every important Republican in Washington to explain to the public why it's so important for DACA and border security to be done together.

The mainstream media will never fairly or fully explain the Republicans' position on their own, but if President Trump starts talking and tweeting about it, they'll have to.

If Trump can bring enough attention to the GOP side of the immigration debate, a win-win bipartisan deal might be possible.

The Republicans will have to cave on DACA and the Democrats will have to cave on the border wall.

President Trump has already said he'll be willing to take the political hit to get an immigration reform deal done. Let him.

He doesn't care anyway. He can say or do just about anything.

The worst that can happen to him is that in 2020 he has to go back to being a billionaire.

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