

WHO IS REALLY BEHIND MEASURE D?

Are outside influences leading the charge to stop the city's Utility User's Tax?

On April 10, 2018 the residents of Sierra Madre will be asked whether or not to retain the existing User Utility Tax (UUT) which provides funding for vital services in the city. The current tax was approved by voters by a wide margin in 2016 despite organized attempts to defeat it. In fact, the opposition, waged by "Citizens For An Affordable Sierra Madre - No On Measure UUT 2016" campaign, terminated prior to Election day. (<http://mtviewsnews.com/v10/htm/n15/index.htm>). While the committee is still listed as 'active,' activity surrounding Measure D has not yet surfaced.

Measure D is sponsored by residents Earl Richey, a vocal longtime opponent of Sierra Madre's city government and David McMonigle. It asks voters to abolish the existing Utility Users Tax that funds services like Police, Fire and Public Works in Sierra Madre. The tax generates a substantial portion of Sierra Madre's General Fund and is paid for by taxing businesses, homeowners and renters, based upon their usage of qualifying utilities. As the city has no commercial tax base to speak of, like Arcadia or San Marino, the impact of a repeal would be significant.

So, the question was asked, "who is really behind the push to repeal the tax?" It appears that In addition to those who signed the petition to qualify for the ballot, the California Tax Limitation Committee (CTLC) has their eyes on Sierra Madre. The group's website has five city 'profiles' listed: San Marino, Pasadena, Ventura, Sierra Madre, South Pasadena and Glendale. Of those cities, only Sierra Madre has a recent posting as of January 28, 2018. The information listed from 2016 does not reflect the current financial position of the city.

As election day gets closer, residents who live in Sierra Madre and vote in Sierra Madre, will need make an informed decision about the tax by learning how it impacts the quality of life and what life would be like without it.

S. Henderson/MVNews

ELECTION COVERAGE

On April 10, 2018, voters in Sierra Madre will go to the polls and select three people from a field of four to sit on the City Council. They will also vote on Measure D (see related story above). The Mountain Views News will provide our readers with comprehensive coverage of this election. Each week, as we have done in the past, we will profile the candidates and give each of the candidates the opportunity to introduce themselves to our readers by answering the following questions:

1. Why are you running for City Council? 2. What are you going to do for Sierra Madre?
3. How do you plan on accomplishing your goals?

(All candidates are being asked to answer the same questions and their answers will be published unedited.)

The paper will also review the pros and cons of the proposed Measure D and the Advisory Measure. The schedule will be as follows:

March 3rd	Candidate Andy Bencosme
March 10th	Candidate Gene Goss
March 17th	Candidate Denise Delmar
March 24th	Candidate Rachelle Arizmendi
March 31st	Measure D and the Advisory Measure



It is our sincere hope that each candidate will submit their answers so that we can share them with our readers. A separate letter has been sent to each candidate asking them to participate. In addition to the candidate spotlights, we will attempt to cover the various forums sponsored by local organizations. Where possible, the unedited video of these forums will be broadcast on the papers website. Our reporting on this election will be as fair and objective as possible. We will also provide for you the calendar of important dates regarding the election. MVNews

WELCOME SGT. BAILEY

Son of former SMPD Chief joins the department!



SMPD Chief Joe Ortiz (right) welcomed Sergeant Kyle Bailey. Sgt. Bailey to the force this week. Bailey has over 25 years in law enforcement with the Azusa Police Department. Kyle's grandfather was a Constable with Azusa PD and his father, Wayne Bailey, spent his career here in Sierra Madre and retired as Sierra Madre's Chief of Police! Say hello to Sgt. Bailey whenever you get a chance.

Photo courtesy SMPD

THE LIBRARY SURVEY IS ON THE WAY!

A Word From City Manager
Gabe Engeland

In early February every residential address will receive a survey asking for input on the future of the Library. The documents gathered here will give additional details on the state and condition of the current Library building and also will provide information relevant to the proposal to move the Library from its current location to the Recreation Center at Sierra Vista Park.

We are posting all available information in our transparency portal in an effort to help residents become better educated on the issue prior to completing the survey.

People have strong feelings about the Library building and the services the Library provides to our community. This survey will give every household the opportunity to express their opinions on


this topic and inform the City Council of the desires of the city as a whole. There is no wrong answer to the survey and we are committed to providing quality Library services to the community regardless of the outcome of the survey.

If, after reviewing the documents, you have additional questions please feel free to contact me directly at GEngeland@CityofSierraMadre.com or call me at 626 355 2917.

All of this information can be found at: www.CityofSierraMadre.com/Transparency


CHECK YOUR MAIL BOX
Library Building Survey Coming Soon

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Incidents of fraud are on the rise, and scammers' tactics are becoming more complex. This presentation will help give you the information you need to Outsmart the Scammers. During the program, we'll discuss how to spot certain red flags that may indicate a fraudulent encounter, resources individuals can turn to in the event they or loved ones are targeted, and steps attendees can take to help protect themselves and loved ones.

Learn to protect yourself! Here is an overview...

Collection Fraud • The Grandparent Scam • Romance/Long-distance Relationship/Sweetheart Scam • Lottery/Sweepstakes Scam • Other Red Flags • Protect Yourself and Those You Love • Other Resources Available • Friend or Fraud?


Speakers, SMPD Officers – Sergeant Henry Amos and Detective Raymond So

EVENT DETAILS
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2018
From: 3:00pm – 4:00pm
at The Kensington
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Mon:	Sunny	Hi 70s	Lows 40s
Tues:	Sunny	Hi 70s	Lows 40s
Wed:	Sunny	Hi 70s	Lows 40s
Thur:	Sunny	Hi 70s	Lows 40s
Fri:	Sunny	Hi 70s	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 February 13, 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, February 13, 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

February 13, 2018 at 6:30 pm

February 27, 2018 at 6:30 pm

Planning Commission

February 1, 2018 at 7:00 pm

February 15, 2018 at 7:00 pm

Community Service Commission

February 26, 2018 at 6:30 pm

Senior Community Commission

February 1, 2018 at 3:00 pm

Library Board of Trustees

February 28, 2018 at 7:00 pm

Energy, Environment, and Natural Resource Commission

February 21, 2018 at 7:00 pm



See something.
Say something.

SIERRA MADRE ONE BOOK, ONE CITY

Today's the Day! Have you read this year's One Book One City selection, "In God We Trust: All Others Pay Cash?"

"In God We Trust: All Others Pay Cash" represents one of the peaks of his achievement, a compound of irony, affection, and perfect detail that speaks across generations.

Stop by the Library to pick up your copy and grab a calendar of events.

**One Book
One City**

**IN GOD WE TRUST:
All Others Pay Cash**

By Jean Shepherd

February 2018

Sierra Madre Public Library
440 W Sierra Madre Blvd, Sierra Madre, CA 91024



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ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A WAY TO SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY?

The City of Sierra Madre currently has 2 commission vacancies:

Senior Community Commission
Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources
Commission

Applications - The City of Sierra Madre encourages residents to apply for positions on City commissions that have vacancies. This is a great opportunity for Sierra Madre residents to get involved in the community.

If you are interested in filling any one of these vacancies go to the city's website, www.cityofsierramadre.com to download an application.



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REMEMBRANCE DORIS KATHERINE BEHRENS

Born April 11, 1931

Passed away January 21, 2018

Doris was born in Los Angeles, California to Charles and Margaret Littrell. She grew up in Rosemead and San Gabriel, attending San Gabriel Mission Grammar School and El Monte Union High School. She married Robert E. Behrens in November, 1951, at the San Gabriel Mission. Their first home was in Arcadia, in St. Luke's Parish. They moved to Sierra Madre in 1959, with their first four children. Two more followed. All six children attended St. Rita School, where Doris and Bob were very active in the parish. Doris loved music, movies, family gatherings, playing cards and traveling. She always had a smile on her face, and could make a friend anywhere she went. Her last four months were spent at the Kensington in Sierra Madre, where she enjoyed the loving staff and all the activities. Doris was preceded in death by her husband Bob (1990), and her sister Jean. She is survived by her six children, Tom, Jerry, Ellen (Hoffman), Rick, Sue and Steve, her eleven grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. She will be greatly missed.



Viewing and Rosary at Cabot & Sons, Friday, February 2, at 6:00 PM. Funeral Mass at St. Rita Church, Saturday, February 3, 10:00 AM. Donations may be made in Doris' name to: St. Rita Parish, Alverno Heights Academy or The Convalescent Aid Society.



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Sierra Madre Woman's Club

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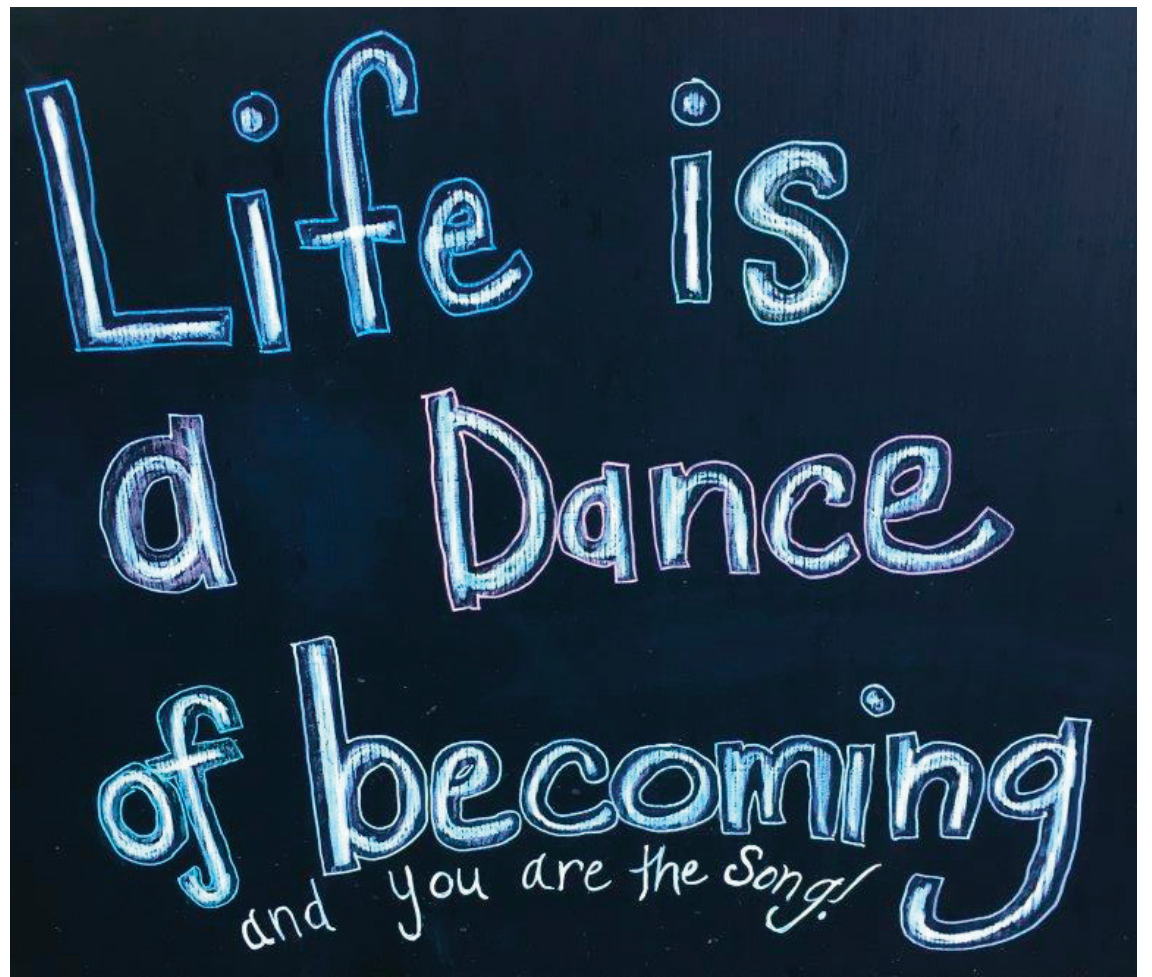
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Walking Sierra Madre...The Social Side

by Deanne Davis



"I think that I shall never see,
A poem lovely as a tree.
A Tree whose hungry mouth is prest,
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast.
A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray.
A tree that may in Summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair.
Upon whose bosom snow has lain,
Who intimately lives with rain.
Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree." Joyce Kilmer

I'm sure you remember the big Ficus tree on Baldwin just south of the Post Office? The one that's now gone? Well, I stopped for a few minutes the other day as I was leaving the Post Office and had a moment of melancholy, I guess you'd call it, visualizing that tree and all its beauty. Arline Golden and a bunch of other people did their best in August of 2016 to convince the Public Works Department not to cut down this tree. As you all know, that tree had caused the sidewalk to rise up into a really dangerous situation for anybody who wanted to walk by it. The tree is gone, the sidewalk is flat and, by the time you read this, will probably be beautifully paved. It's tough to be on both sides of a question, isn't it. We all wanted to save the tree, but we also didn't want to break an ankle trying to get past it. We have so many beautiful trees here in town. Our orange tree has actually made oranges this year! I don't know if I'm picking them too early or what, but they're not sweet and juicy, they're bitter and juicy. Having fed them at all the stated intervals and doing my best to give them water, I'm a little disappointed in them. I'm leaving them on the tree and hoping they will shape up!

"Life is a dance of becoming!"

Don't you love that! Saw it up in the canyon and couldn't resist. Speaking of becoming, was delighted to see that sad little empty building on the south side of Creative Arts Group where once one of Lew Watanabe's fountains gurgled away is going to

become a tea shop/café sometime in the future. At least someone has plans and will be going before the City to discuss it on January 18th. Let's cross our fingers that something wonderful will be coming there.

Camellias are starting to bloom. The Gooden School has some beautiful plants along their fence and mine are blooming, too. I thought I'd killed them all off, but more water helped considerably. Duh!

The Friends of the Library is hosting its "Best Used Books Sale" February 2-3. When our kids were young, we'd all go down and bring home tons of books. Thank you, Mary Tumilty for all your kindness to our children, most especially giving an adult library card to twelve-year old Leah so she could read all the Perry Mason mysteries. I, personally, was thrilled to find a copy of "The Egg & I" by Betty MacDonald after I lent mine to a friend who, callously, failed to return it. Take a look! You might find that treasure you've been seeking. It's 3-7 on 2/2 and 10-2 on 2/3. All proceeds will go to library services, acquisitions and programs. We're all awaiting that survey that will be coming soon to express our feelings about where the Library really ought to be.

One last thought: If you were born in January you are ambitious and powerful. Born leader, stubborn nature. You always stand out in the crowd. You love to live the good life. You're a romantic at heart, a deep thinker and loyal to friends. You're ever ready to learn and try out new things, serious about life. You like to make others happy. Not too much of an introvert or too much of an extrovert either. You're smart and well dressed. Pretty cool!

My book page: Amazon.com: Deanne Davis – check out Noah & The Unicorns...or maybe The Vuillaume Violin

Both available there, along with other goodies! Star of Wonder the CD is now on TuneCore! Take a look!

Blog: www.authordeanne.com

Follow me on Twitter, too! <https://twitter.com/playwrightdd>

SIERRA MADRE POLICE BLOTTER

January 21 to January 28, 2018 During this period, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 307 day and night time calls for service.

Sunday, January 21 Officers responded to a call regarding theft of coins from washing machines in the 700 block of W. Sierra Madre Blvd. An unknown suspect(s) used an unknown tool to gain access to the washing machines coin deposit box and stole an unknown amount of change. Case to Detectives

Officers responded to the 500 block of Santa Anita Court regarding a theft from a vehicle. The investigation revealed that a theft from an unlocked vehicle had occurred between 10:00 p.m. on January 21, 2018 and 7:45 a.m. on January 22, 2018. The stolen property was subsequently discovered adjacent to the victim's residence and returned to the owner. Case to Detectives

Monday, January 22 A male subject was contacted in the 300 block of W. Sierra Madre Blvd. upon

the reports of a suspicious person loitering in the area. The male subject had a warrant for his arrest and was in possession of a controlled substance and drug paraphernalia. He was arrested and transported to the Pasadena jail for booking.

At about 3:39 p.m. Unknown suspect(s) entered a vehicle located in a driveway off Mountain Trail and stole an empty black storage bin with tools. The suspect(s) fled in an unknown direction. Case to Detectives

Between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. on 1/22 an unknown suspect(s) entered a driveway in the 500 block of San Gabriel Ct and entered a vehicle and ransacked the interior and took approximately \$260.00 worth of property. Case to Detectives

Thursday January 25, Officers responded to the 600 block of W. Sierra Madre Blvd for a theft from vehicle investigation. An unknown suspect(s) entered an unlocked vehicle and removed several items from the glove box and center console. Case to Detectives

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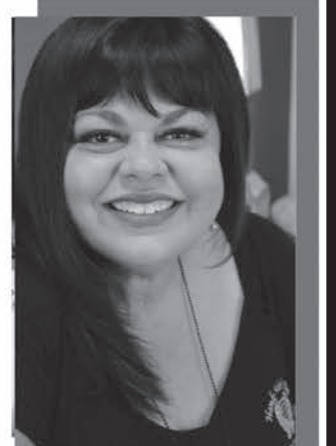


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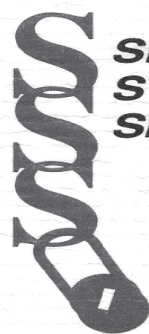
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Pat Tiger, RN - The Director of Case Management with Methodist Hospital. She has been a nurse for 36 years and 22 years of that time in Case Management working for Hospitals, LTACs, HMOs and IPAs. She also has experience in Quality Improvement and Infectious Disease.



Marc Garlett, Esq. - A family trust attorney. He founded CalLaw Professional Corporation which includes the Law Offices of Marc G. Garlett in Sierra Madre. His passion and professional focus is to help Seniors and their families.



Brenda Shokend, MA - An independent Aging Life Care Manager / Geriatric Care Manager, with over 25 years of experience working with seniors and their families.

EVENT DETAILS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2018
From: 6:30pm - 8:00pm

at The Kensington
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News From Your Community For Your Community

Man Arrested for Pasadena Church Fire

Members of the Inter-Agency House of Worship Task Force, last week, arrested a man alleged to have vandalized and set fire to a 129-year-old Episcopal church in Pasadena earlier this month.

According to police, Christian Michael Garcia, 25, was arrested January 25, for suspicion of arson and vandalism, by personnel from LAPD Major Crimes Division and Criminal Conspiracy Section along with LAFD Arson/Counter-Terrorism Section Investigators and Pasadena Fire and Police Department Arson Investigators.

The fire, first reported at 2:20 a.m. at 1100 N. Avenue 64 took 14 minutes to knock down. Pasadena Fire PIO Lisa Derderian said investigators were not calling it a hate crime, but an arson, vandalism and burglary.

“The Collaboration of our Federal and local partners and the tireless work of investigators from the various agencies in the task force, made this arrest possible and is a testament to the productive working relationship, first responders have here in Southern California when a community is threatened by criminal activity,” said Pasadena Fire Chief Bertral Washington and Pasadena Police chief Philip Sanchez.

Garcia was wanted in connection to incidents involved an incendiary fire and vandalism at Resurrection Church in Boyle Heights, as well as Pasadena and multiple other acts of arson and at houses of worship in the city and County of Los Angeles.

The House of Worship Task Force consists of personnel from the Los Angeles Fire Department, Los Angeles Police Department, Pasadena Fire Department, Pasadena Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Pet of the Week



Special Love: Affectionate Neeka (A191603), a 12-year-old Australian shepherd mix, is calm and friendly. She's easy to leash and loves going for walks. Volunteers say she is well-behaved and takes treats gently from your hand. Sweet Neeka came to the Pasadena Humane Society when her owner could no longer care for her. Neeka qualifies for our Seniors for Seniors program making her adoption free for any adopter age 60 and over.

The regular adoption fee for dogs is \$130. All dogs are spayed or neutered, microchipped, and vaccinated before going to their new home.

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 A191603 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.



Council to Discuss ‘One Arroyo’ Project

The city council is set Monday night to hear the findings of a, year-long, outreach on the Arroyo Seco, that included 15 presentations to community groups and council districts, four Arroyo walks with Mayor Terry Tornek, and other awareness including the first (pictured above) “One Arroyo Day” in late November bringing together 20 Arroyo-based organizations.

They will also vote to allocate \$100,000 to the “One Arroyo Project,” to continue the effort through the end of this year. The budget includes \$50, 000 for Fundraising Assessment & Development-Related Activities; \$30,000 for Development of Fund raising Materials & Renderings and \$30,000 for Trail Development/ Public Funding Strategist. City officials said the project

maintains a balance of \$25,000 that can be used.

City officials, last year, set up the Arroyo Advisory Group (AAG).

According to a staff report, “As part of the July report, the AAG recommended the creation of an end-to-end trail system as a pilot project to advance the One Arroyo vision. At that time, council approved a trail concept study as part of the next phase in the process to further explore the possibility of creating an end-to-end trail system throughout the Arroyo that would restore broken connections and enhance the trail user experience.”

The council will also hear the finding of a survey by the AAG. “The top priorities of the 2,652 survey respondents included: maintenance, environment/ ecology, trails amenities,

and activities. The top new amenities confirmed by the survey included: restrooms, bike trails, and places to relax. Overall, 57 percent of respondents expressed interest in wanting to see improvements, 70 percent were interested in more open space amenities, and 60 percent were interested in more open space programs. The survey also confirmed that the majority of respondents felt that the AAG's One Arroyo vision was appropriate and reflective of the community's desire to honor it as a natural place with opportunities for the community to come together in recreation and reflection.”

The city council meets at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Pasadena City Hall 100 North Garfield Avenue, room S249. Photo by D. Lee /MVNews

'South Pasadena's Own' Don Friesen

Don Friesen, the star of the hilarious Showtime one-hour comedy special, “Ask Your Mom,” will be making a live appearance in the Community Room on Thursday, February 8 at 7:00 p.m. The free program will showcase the talents of the engaging, clever, and just flat-out funny South Pasadena resident. Appropriate for all ages and presenting “One of the best up and coming comedians in the country,” the program is sponsored by the South Pasadena Public Library and the Friends of the South Pasadena Public Library. Friesen's routines capture the ironies of parenting, marriage and everyday absurdities through characters, voices, parodies and some of the best material around. The Seattle Post-Intelligencer says “Friesen will leave a lasting comic impression,” and describes him as “offbeat, satirical, self-deprecating and slightly out of control.”

As the only two-time winner in the 36-year history of the prestigious San Francisco International Comedy Competition, Don Friesen ignites stages with a playful, high-energy spoof of his life as a modern suburban dad trying to get through the day with a bit of money in the bank and a scrap of dignity intact. He's a wanna-be geek who constantly upgrades to the latest tech tool, but can never get it to work, leading to signature bits about Idiot Guides, texting and passwords. Friesen's impressive credits include “Live at Gotham,” “The Lewis Black Christmas Special,” and “Comics Unleashed.” Don was also featured in TBS’ “The Comedy Festival” in Las Vegas and is wildly popular on KLOS' 5:00 Funnies and XM Sirius satellite radio.

The Community Room is located at 1115 El Centro Street. No tickets or reservations are necessary and refreshments will be served.

More Shakeup at the Altadena Library



By Dean Lee

No official reason had been given after Altadena Library Trustee Adalila Zelada-Garcia unexpectedly resigned from the board and after Altadena Library Director Mindy Kittay has gone on medical leave, both last month, according to library staff.

At a special meeting Jan. 25, Board President John McDonald and other members voted in favor of appointing Ryan Roy as acting library director. McDonald said, a vote, and the special meeting was needed anticipating Kittay's prolonged leave. The board mentioned the Family and Medical Leave Act, a federal law that guarantees employees up to 12 workweeks of unpaid leave, without the threat of job loss.

Kittay made the announcement to library staff Jan. 23. She was also absent from the regular board meeting the night before when the resignation of Zelada-Garcia was announced. Staff said the two were likely unrelated.

At the Jan. 22 meeting, the board members and Kittay were set to discuss, in closed session, her job performance. Members of the community expressed concern that Kittay may quit.

Board members also briefly discussed how to fill Zelada-Garcia's now vacant seat. The public asked that they wait,

possibly to the next election Nov. 6, before filling the seat. Although, board member Ira Bershatsky asked that they appoint someone immediately, within weeks.

The trustees sent out a statement saying they are accepting letters of interest from anyone who would like to serve on the board “for the unexpired 2020 term.”

Those applying must be at least 18, a resident of and registered to vote in Altadena. The board meets at 5 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month. The board will interview potential candidates at the next board meeting at 5 p.m. on February 26th. The applicant selected must agree to be willing to run in the Nov. 6, 2018 election for the 4-year term, if necessary. Interested parties should submit a letter of interest, resume, and completed supplemental questionnaire (on library's website) to the Library's Acting Director Ryan Roy by 5 p.m. on February 16. The Altadena Library is located at 600 E. Mariposa St.

McDonald said all applicants will be interviewed and the final appointment will be made by the board.

Ryan Roy said that in Kittay's absent, all of the planned community activities, at both the main library and Bob Lucas branch will continue.

Free February Events at Pasadena Senior Center

There is something for everyone in February at the Pasadena Senior Center, 85 E. Holly St. You do not have to be a member to attend. Some events require advance reservations as noted.

Tax Time – Wednesdays and Fridays to Apr. 13, from 9 to 11 a.m. Representatives from the AARP Foundation's Tax-Aide program will assist low- to middle-income filers in preparing their federal income tax returns. There is no age limit. Appointments are required: 626-795-4331.

Tech It Up! The Basics and Benefits of Technology – Mondays, Feb. 5 to 26, from 3 to 4:30 pm. (the Feb. 19 will be canceled due to the holiday). Learn the basics and advantages of technology you can use in your everyday life. Each class will have a specific focus on a common application of technology, its benefits, disadvantages, basic setup and instructions along with other helpful hints. Feb. 5: What are apps? Feb. 12: Twitter; Feb. 26: Amazon. Presented by Jade Myer, a Pasadena community Gold Award Girl Scout candidate.

A Toast to the Joys of Music – Tuesdays, Feb. 6 to 27, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Tom Campbell will play guitar and sing songs in the Senior Center Lounge. Stop by and enjoy his covers of traditional country, country rock, blues, folk, gospel and classic rock originally made famous by Willie Nelson, Merle Haggard, Vince Gill, Elvis Presley, B.B. King, Neil Young, The Grateful Dead, The Rolling Stones and many more.

Savvy Caregivers – Tuesdays, Feb. 6 to March 13, from 1 to 3 p.m. Caregivers will learn basic knowledge and skills needed to care for family members who have been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. Presented by Alzheimer's Greater Los Angeles. Registration is required: 626-685-6730.

Scenic Walkers Club – Wednesdays, Feb. 7 to 28, at 10 a.m. Join this new group for a series of leisurely walks to enjoy the great outdoors and get some exercise. Alan Colville will give you a list of items to bring, let you know what to expect, provide detailed itineraries and arrange transportation. For more information or to sign up, email alancolville@charter.net.

Pasadena Home

Improvement Program – Thursdays, Feb. 8, at 1 p.m. Staff from Pasadena Water and Power will be on hand to explain no-cost home installation services that can help Pasadena residents with City of Pasadena electricity accounts save water, electricity and money for a limited time by replacing light bulbs and insulation, installing efficient toilets, getting their central air conditioners tuned up and more.

Diabetes Workshop – Fridays, Feb. 9 to March 16, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Whether you or someone you care about is diabetic or pre-diabetic, this series will encourage you to make lifestyle changes while learning more about your diabetes and how it affects your health. Workshop topics include diet, exercise, medication issues, managing complications and the impact of diabetes on eyes, teeth and feet. Reservations are required: 626-685-6732.

Friday Movie Matinees – Fridays at 1 p.m. Everyone enjoys movies and the pleasures they bring. Feb. 2: “Viceroy's House” (2017, NR) starring Hugh Bonneville and Gillian Anderson. The final Viceroy of India, Lord Mountbatten, is tasked with overseeing the transition of British India to independence but meets with conflict as different sides clash in the face of monumental change. Feb. 9: “Into the Wild” (2007, R) starring Emile Hirsch and Vince Vaughn. After graduating from Emory University, top student and athlete Christopher McCandless abandons his possessions, gives his entire \$24,000 savings account to charity and hitchhikes to Alaska to live in the wilderness, encountering a series of characters along the way who shape his life.

A Pain in the Neck! – Thursdays, Feb. 8, at 10 a.m. Do you have neck pain? Learn easy and comfortable exercises to reduce cervical pain and make your neck feel better. Presented by Vincent Physical Therapy.

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. Services are also provided for frail, low-income and homebound seniors.

ARCADIA

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

ARCADIA UNIFIED FIGHTS FOR FAIR FUNDING IN SACRAMENTO

-Board of Education Adopts Fair Funding Resolution Urging State Legislators to Act-



ARCADIA-- Arcadia Unified School District's collective of students, teachers, parents, staff, and Board of Education recently made its annual journey to Sacramento to advocate for fair and adequate funding for Arcadia Unified schools as well as weigh in on other important education issues at the 2018 California State Parent Teacher Association (California PTA) Legislation Conference.

This annual conference offers a forum for California PTA leaders, volunteers, parents, and school representatives to discuss issues in education policy, strategize lobbying efforts, and rally together in an effort to create a unified voice for students, families, and teachers across the state. California is one of the lowest funded states in the country, ranking at 46 out of the 50 states on a highest to lowest funded scale. This year, California PTAs top conference discussion items and priorities to present to legislators included ensuring equity and adequacy in public education and ensuring families are involved and engaged in the local decision-making process through the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) and Local Control and Accountability Plans (LCAPs).

"The California PTA Legislation Conference is one of the most important events we can attend as PTA parents, teachers and administrators," said First Avenue Middle School teacher Catherine Keyston who has attended this annual conference seven times and counting.

"In many ways, school funding determines the amount of experiences schools are able to offer students and the quality of education we can give them. We need to have a deeper understanding of how school funding works, and we need our state government to understand why funding schools is one of the most important places they can allocate state funds."

For the past several years, Arcadia Unified has taken at least one Arcadia High School student to this conference, offering students the opportunity to advocate for themselves, their peers, and their teachers and letting

policymakers hear directly from those most impacted by education legislation.

"This conference was eye-opening and exposed me to the inner workings of education and policy-making," shared Arcadia High School junior Aaron Wu. "I originally thought our school district was doing just fine, but after attending this conference, I've learned that the entire California education system needs major reform. I was honored to represent Arcadia in its fight for needed change."

"For change to occur, constructive conversations between politicians and those they represent must take place. I've always enjoyed the political process and advocating for our outstanding students and teachers not only at Foothills Middle School and in Arcadia Unified but throughout all of California," said Principal of Foothills Middle School Ben Acker.

The Arcadia Unified School District Board of Education continued the fight for fair funding the evening the 14-member Arcadia delegation returned from Sacramento. With a unanimous 5-0 vote, the Arcadia Unified Board of Education signed Resolution 1361 "calling for full and fair funding of California's public schools."

The resolution states that while California has the sixth largest economy in the world, the state falls in the nation's bottom quintile on nearly every measure of public K-12 school funding and staffing. Resolution 1361 "urges the State Legislature to fund California public schools at the national average or higher by the year 2020, and at a level that is equal to or above the average of the top 10 states nationally by 2025 and to maintain, at a minimum, this level of funding until otherwise decreed."

For more information about the Arcadia Unified School District, please visit www.ausd.net, and for more information on advocacy efforts and programs in Arcadia Unified, tune into the district's Digital Education Station series at www.youtube.com/ArcadiaUnified.

ARCADIA POLICE BLOTTER

For the period of Sunday, January 21st, through Saturday, January 27th, the Police Department responded to 876 calls for service, of which 104 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

Sunday, January 21:

At approximately 2:34 a.m., an officer responded to a residence on the 1000 block of West Huntington Drive regarding a medical assist. The officer noticed an unsecured firearm inside the residence. The officer obtained consent from the subject to hold his firearms for safekeeping. While gathering the firearms, the officer discovered the subject was in possession of Non-California compliant firearms and a switch blade. The 40-year-old male from Arcadia was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

At about 2:49 p.m., an officer was dispatched to the Sprint Store, 651 West Duarte Road, regarding a theft report. An investigation revealed the suspect entered the store and asked an employee questions pertaining to a cellphone plan. When the employee left to retrieve the information he requested, the suspect grabbed a silver iPhone X from the display table and ran out of the store. The investigation is ongoing.

Monday, January 22:

Around 7:13 a.m., an officer responded to Arcadia Service Center, 40 East Duarte Road, regarding a report of vandalism. An investigation revealed an unknown suspect(s) spray painted the rear and driver's side of the victim's vehicle. The investigation is ongoing.

Tuesday, January 23:

Just after 9:45 a.m., an officer conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle near the intersection of Duarte Road and First Avenue for speeding. Upon contacting the driver, the officer discovered the 47-year-old male from Pasadena had been driving with an expired license. He was cited and released in the field. His vehicle was released to a licensed driver.

At approximately 7:44 p.m., an officer responded to a residence in the 400 block of San Luis Rey Road regarding the report of a burglary. An investigation revealed unknown suspect(s) entered the home by breaking a rear sliding glass door. The suspects ransacked the residence and fled the scene. The investigation is ongoing.

Wednesday, January 24:

Around 1:33 p.m., an officer responded to Motel 6, 225 West Colorado Place, regarding a stolen vehicle report. The officer discovered an unknown suspect stole the victim's vehicle sometime during the previous night. The unoccupied vehicle was later recovered by San Bernardino Sheriff's Department, damaged and stripped. No suspects were seen and no witnesses were located.

Shortly after 1:52 p.m., an officer was dispatched to a residence in the 1000 block of La Cadena Avenue regarding a theft from vehicle report. The victim discovered an unknown suspect had smashed the passenger side window of his vehicle and stole his suitcase sometime during the previous night. No suspects were seen and no witnesses were located.

Thursday, January 25:

Around 6:16 p.m., an officer responded to the front counter of the Arcadia Police Department regarding a report of domestic violence. An investigation revealed the suspect began arguing with his fiancé over text messages. The suspect then kneeled her

in the stomach, slapped her and punched her several times, causing visible injury. An Emergency Protective Order was issued and the 25-year-old male from Arcadia was located, arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

At approximately 9:27 p.m., officers responded to a residence in the 100 block of West Palm Drive regarding a burglary alarm activation. Officers discovered an open window with pry marks to the rear of the residence. The property loss could not be determined at the time due to the residents residing out of the country for most of the year. The unknown suspect(s) fled the scene with an unknown amount of stolen property in an unknown direction.

Friday, January 26:

Just after 1:09 a.m., an officer conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle in the area of Huntington Drive and Baldwin Avenue for making an unsafe left turn, failing to stop at a red light and having no license plates displayed. The officer discovered the 25-year-old female from Alhambra was driving without a license and was on probation for fraud. Further investigation revealed the driver and three passengers were in possession of stolen mail, stolen identification information, a fraudulent check and a burglary tool. One subject also had an outstanding warrant for his arrest. The driver along with the 34-year-old male from El Monte, 19-year-old female from San Gabriel and 20-year-old female from Los Angeles, were arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

At approximately 3:13 a.m., officers responded to a residence in the 100 block of West La Sierra Drive regarding the report of a burglary. The resident was awoken by an unknown sound and went to investigate the sound. At that time she noticed her rear sliding glass door had been smashed and two men were standing outside of her window. The suspects saw her and quickly fled the scene. The investigation is ongoing.

Just before 10:00 p.m., officers were dispatched to the Residence Inn by Marriott, 321 East Huntington Drive, regarding a robbery that had just occurred. An investigation revealed the suspect entered the hotel lobby carrying a black handgun in one hand and a black plastic briefcase in the other. The suspect demanded "all of the money" from the desk clerk. The clerk gave him all of the cash from the drawer and the suspect told her to get down behind the counter. He then fled the scene in an unknown direction.

The suspect is described as a male Hispanic, in his forties, 6 feet 1 inch tall, 220 pounds, wearing a black hat, a black windbreaker jacket, jeans, and a black mask covering his face.

Saturday, January 27:

At approximately 6:44 p.m., officers responded to a residence in the 800 block of Arcadia Avenue regarding a vehicle theft. The victim last saw her vehicle parked in her designated parking spot. An investigation revealed an unknown suspect abandoned a vehicle nearby that had been reported stolen from Duarte. The suspect then stole the victim's vehicle and fled the scene in an unknown direction. The investigation is ongoing.

Just after 9:19 a.m., an officer responded to Macy's, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding a subject detained for vandalism. A Loss Prevention Officer witnessed a subject remove security sensors from several pairs of jeans, leaving the jeans damaged. The subject was found to be in possession of magnets, knives and an electric engraver. The 25-year-old male from Camarillo was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

MONROVIA - DUARTE

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

WATER RATE ADJUSTMENT APPROVED – TYPICAL RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER TO SEE INCREASE OF \$16.87 / MONTH BEGINNING ON THEIR APRIL 2018 UTILITY BILLS

On Tuesday, January 16, the City Council held a Public Hearing to consider the proposed adjustments to our water rates in order to pay for the new pass-through water production costs related to the ongoing drought conditions in our region. These fees are being levied on the City by the Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster (Watermaster) and the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (Upper District) in order to address the water supply shortage in the Main San Gabriel Basin following the historic, decade-long drought. Instituting these fees allowed the Watermaster to purchase 40.7 billion gallons at a cost of over \$100 million to replenish the groundwater aquifer that supplies our region, and return the Basin to a healthy level to ensure a continued water supply.

In accordance with California's Proposition 218 process, those customers opposed to the new rates were required to submit a protest ballot. If 50% + 1 of water customers, equivalent to 4,650 ballots, protested the new rates, then the City Council would be unable to adopt them. In total, the City received 583 protest ballots, which did not meet the 50%

+1 threshold. After hearing public input, the City Council moved to approve the new rates. The new costs will take effect as of March 8, 2018, and will first appear on customers' April 2018 bills. Based on the proposed rate increase, the typical single-family residential water customer (who uses 15 units of water per month) will see a monthly increase in their water bill of \$16.87 effective March 8, 2018. For more information, view the flyer on the City's webpage. Based on the proposed rate increase, the typical single-family residential water customer (who uses 15 units of water per month) will see a monthly increase in their water bill of \$16.87 effective March 8, 2018.

We know that this water rate adjustment will cause additional financial strain on residents and business owners, and it is important to note that a senior discount and economic hardship discount will continue to be offered to residents for whom the proposed fee adjustments would present an undue burden. To apply, please complete the discount application available on the City's website here, or in person at City Hall.

MONROVIA NEWS



By Joan Schmidt

During the last two weeks, the Monrovia Arcadia Duarte Town Council has participated in two great events with the City of Monrovia. The first was a joint Council Meeting between the Monrovia City Council and the Monrovia Arcadia Duarte Town Council on Tuesday, January 23. During the joint meeting, discussed topics included street and sidewalk repair/replacement in the southern portion of the City where the county area begins, Metro Gold Line traffic signals and delay, the renovated Santa Fe Depot, and the partnership in the Station Square Concerts.

On January 31, the City of Monrovia held its annual State of the City Address. Festivities were held at the Studio Movie Grill, beginning with a VIP Reception on the Mezzanine Level. The entire Monrovia City Council Members, City Manager Oliver Chi and City Clerk Alice Atkins warmly welcomed the Town Council as we arrived. Also attending were City Treasurer Steve Baker, Police Chief Alan Sanvictores, and City Staff. Supervisor Kathryn Barger with Senior Field Deputy Debra Mendelsohn, Hector Elizalde for Congressman Grace Napolitano, Kristy Lopez for Senator Anthony Portantino, and Alfonso Somilleda for Assemblywoman Blanca Rubio also were on hand to hear the Address.

The Address followed the Reception. After Posting of Colors and a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem, Mayor Adams began the Address. He noted that it's been exactly 1000 days that the current city council has worked together; they may have different ideas/opinions, but always come together for the good of the City.

There were so many wonderful topics covered. Lack of space limits me, but I will share some highlights. Mayor Adams spoke of the great economic growth. In one year, Monrovia has seen 300,000 square feet of office space built and 2000 new jobs! Monrovia is very proud of new businesses coming into the City such as City of Hope, and Beckman Research. There has also been a great increase in available housing.

Monrovia Redevelopment has been divided into six sections and four are already complete. Redevelopment projects include streets, sidewalks, water/ sewer lines and much more.

There was mention of their great Fire Department (Class 2) and Police Department being honored by the International Association of Police Chiefs, CA State Attorney, James Q. Wilson Award for Excellence, and the Cisco Community Policing Award.

There were two slides showing terrible crimes that the state considers, "Non-violent", including rape and domestic violence! Local police agencies have formed a coalition to put pressure on Sacramento to combat the horrible repercussions from AB 109 and Props 47 & 57.

On a more positive note, there was mention of Outreach Programs and addressing the homeless population. Officers carry a list of shelters and service agencies that could help the homeless.

Mayor Adams spoke of the partnership of the Town and City Councils, and how we are working together on projects, such as the Station Square Concert series. It was a positive event showing what a great community Monrovia is!

Catch breaking news at:
mtnviewsnews.com

ALVERNO HEIGHTS ACADEMY VARSITY SOCCER WINS TWO IN A ROW!

The Jaguars successfully held both opponents at zero during the first League games of the season

On January 10, the Alverno Heights Academy Jaguars defeated the Bishop Conaty- Our Lady of Loretto Wildcats 3-0 in a Horizon League away game.

The Jaguars' first goal came in the 25th minute when freshman midfielder Amanda Mercado '21 (23) took a pass from sophomore midfielder Cassie Lianto '20 (10) and drove up the right-sideline to shoot through the hands of the Wildcats goalkeeper. In the 40th minute, senior midfielder Jazmin Rebollo '18 (19) made a run along the left-sideline and received a pass from co-captain junior midfielder Megan Cavender '19 (22). Rebollo '18 found Lianto '20 just outside the penalty box, and Lianto '20 scored the Jaguars' second goal. In the 62nd minute, co-captain junior midfielder Beatriz Rivas '18 (16) took possession of the ball and passed to Lianto '20 who played a through-ball to Cavender '19. Cavender '19 shot the ball high past the outstretched arms of the goalkeeper for the Jaguars' third goal.

Senior defender Nikki Oberhammer '18 (17) and freshman forward Afton Okwu '21 (18) combined with Mercado '21, Rebollo '18, Cavender '19, and Lianto '20 for the Jaguars' 9 shots on goal. The Jaguars starting backline of junior Elisia Bendy '19 (2), and freshmen Helen Abascal '21 (3), Joanna Bendy '21 (6), and Nicole Sao '21 (9), did not allow a shot on goal or a corner kick; while the Wildcats defense gave up 9 corner kicks. Co-captain senior goalkeeper Ally Mercado '18 (0) earned her first clean slate of the season.

During the season opener, the Jaguars played a home game against the Sacred Heart of Jesus Comets. Plagued with illness and injury, the Jaguars at one point in the match played down 2 players; but team co-captain senior midfielder Ally Mercado's (8) winning goal gave the team the season opening victory.

The Jaguars' first scoring opportunity came in the 6th minute. Freshman midfielder Paola Munoz '21 (20) was able to break through the midfield and passed to freshman forward Emma Alvarez '21 (13). Alvarez '21 centered the ball to freshman forward Juliana Abascal '21 (11) whose header was saved by the Comets goalkeeper. In the 10th minute, co-captain junior midfielder Beatriz Rivas '19 (16) had a free kick that was blocked by the Comets goalkeeper. But it wasn't until the 39th minute that a throw-in by Mercado '18 came back to her that she was able to shoot past the outstretched arms of the goalkeeper for the winning goal. Mercado '18 attempted an insurance goal in the second half with another shot on goal in the 45th minute, but the 1-0 lead stood for the victory.

The Jaguars backline of junior Elisia Bendy '19 (2),



and freshmen Helen Abascal '21 (3), Joanna Bendy '21 (6), and Nicole Sao '21 (9), did not allow a corner kick and allowed only 5 shots on goal. Freshman goalkeeper Amanda Mercado '21 (0) saved those 5 shots on goal and earned her third clean slate of the season.

The two wins bring the Jaguars' record to 2-0 and 4-5 overall. They will next face San Gabriel Mission on Friday, January 12, 2018.

About Alverno Heights Academy

Alverno Heights Academy is an all-girls, independent, progressive Catholic, college preparatory school dedicated to its mission of empowering each young woman to be exactly the person she wants to be. Located on the property of the former Barlow Estate in Sierra Madre, California, Alverno Heights Academy was founded in 1960 by the Sisters of St. Francis who sought to create an environment in the San Gabriel Valley where young women could become informed and knowledgeable persons. Later renamed Alverno High School and sponsored by the Immaculate Heart Community, Alverno's program—academic, spiritual, aesthetic, social, and physical—has been shaped by the staff, trustees, and students. As Alverno Heights Academy once again, the school remains committed to its mission by encouraging each of their young women to be who they imagine. For more information about Alverno Heights Academy, please visit www.alvernoheightsacademy.org.

GOLDENWORDS: DR. DAN'S COLLEGE CORNER

“WHO AM I, ANYWAY?” THE ROLE OF YOUR CULTURAL IDENTITY IN YOUR EDUCATIONAL CHOICES

In my column last week, I suggested that we all benefit by enhancing our “intercultural IQ,” our sense of the ethnic history and culture of both classmates and everyone else in our lives. If your “intercultural IQ” is strong and expansive enough, you'll be able to challenge ethnic and racial stereotypes, perceive the human commonalities that cut across even the most seemingly disparate groups, and begin to compare and contrast the habits, families and values of others with your own.

If you're a student contemplating your college search, or a high school Senior awaiting news of your acceptances, or already matriculated in college, you have many elements already in play in your decision-making. You've examined schools by size, academic program areas, geographic locations, student social culture and spirit and lots more. I am going to suggest one more “template” to employ.

If you add a few reflective questions to your college considerations that factor in your own ethnic or cultural identity, you'll be collecting surprisingly crucial information that will predict your acclimation to and success in college.

Are you “living on the hyphen?” By this I mean do you strongly identify internally and to others with your cultural heritage? Do you check application boxes as African-American, Mexican-American, other Latino heritages, Albanian-American, Pacific Islander-American, etc.? Then consider asking:

--How can I test the general racial and ethnic climate on a particular campus? Let's start with one specialty group that has a real choice.

--Do I want to attend a college or university primarily with others who self-identify with my ethnicity?

For African-American students, this is a viable question to pose, as they might seriously consider the benefits of enrolling at one of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (Spelman, Howard, Fisk, Morehouse, Hampton, etc).

Will I enjoy college more if I make this choice?

Will I be more academically successful? Will I have more career and social opportunities thanks to the networks and contacts available through alums and consortia of other HBCU institutions?

There are no dedicated universities and colleges for other ethnic or racial groups, but for all ethnic groups, African-Americans included, if I choose a mainstream university or college, can or should I examine the support

provided to my fellow students who share my ethnicity?

Should I be ready to find and join appropriate cultural “affinity groups” on a campus like UCLA, or Pitzer or USC or Occidental? What political, social and other resources might this affiliation yield?

Is it important for me to be taught directly by professors who share my cultural heritage? And even if they look like me, do we have class commonalities as well?

To be coached, advised or mentored similarly?

Does the school participate in or provide post-graduate opportunities specifically designed to support under-represented constituencies?

Do I have a “critical mass” consideration: how many people of my broad cultural background will make me comfortable attending a particular school?

Could there be such a thing as “too many of us” at a mainstream campus?

“Who IS us, anyhow?” Assume that your own assumptions about your race or ethnicity, like your notions of religion, politics and other topics, will be up for review and redefinition once you're in college.

If high school is a time for me to figure out who I'm becoming on many levels, how can my exploration of college choices help me learn about myself about my cultural and ethnic signature?

Asking the right questions about these topics, if you feel they are questions you should be asking yourself, will help you prepare to succeed wherever you enroll in college or university.

And if you're already in college, examining your relationship with your “hyphen” can definitely help you make the most of your education inside and outside the classroom. After a year of particularly vivid challenges to our national identity on issues of race, class and ethnicity, you'll want to harness the power and pride of straddling the hyphen of your heritage for the common good.

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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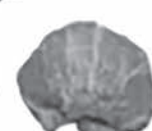
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PUPPY BOWL XIV A SUPER SUNDAY ALTERNATIVE

Happy Tails

by Chris Leclerc



You either love it or you hate it, so they say.

Yes indeed, football is all the rage for many (many, many) Americans, but for certain others, well...not so much. And as for the former - the avid lovers of the sport - this may very well be the most wonderful time of the year. The time of year to gear up for the "big game".

With parties to be planned, bets to be placed and new televisions to be purchased (apparently TV sales during the week prior to the Super Bowl far-and-away forego that of the week prior to Black Friday), Super Bowl Sunday has become all but an official holiday in our country.

Meanwhile, those who are less-than-lovers of the sport and just happen to live with a football fan should know better than to mess with the clicker or get between them and the set while the big game is on.

If you are one of those people who couldn't care less about football but you really dig your dogs, there is an awesome alternative available for your viewing enjoyment while the frantic football fans are carousing, jumping, yelling, jeering and cheering for their respective teams in the other room.

This Sunday, February 4th, Puppy Bowl XIV will air on Animal Planet from 3-5pm ET/PT and with several new features, this year's event promises to be the absolute best yet. The action will kick off with "The Star-Spangled Banner" played by Jokgu, the piano playing chicken. No doubt, you will definitely want to tune in early so as not to miss out on that!

Fifteenth in the series of this not-too-shabby, shaggy-chic show will feature the typical two terrific tail-wagging teams, Team Ruff and Team Fluff, each going nose-to-nose in competition with a goal to win the big titles, not the least of which is 'Most Adorable, Adoptable Pack of Pups in the USA'.

This year's fun furry face-off will be held at Geico's all new bone-shaped theater. Puppy Bowl XIV's featured players are rescues from areas devastated by major disasters in 2017 including Houston, Puerto Rico and Florida. To fill the two teams' rosters, Animal Planet worked with 48 different animal shelters and rescue organizations from 25 states.

For the first time ever, this year's viewers will be able to make their own digital Puppy Bowl trading cards using

photos of their own pets to create a souvenir from the show, with ten different frames to choose from and fun stats like "Pawsome Talent", "Favorite TV Show" and "Naughtiest Habit".

Another fun feature of this year's "puppy play-off" is the Puppy Bowl virtual reality series, which will give viewers a glimpse at the puppies' point of view and take them through Puppy Bowl Training Camp, all via the Discovery VR iOS and Android apps, Samsung VR and the Animal Planet YouTube channel.

Also new this year, Animal Planet is set to premiere the first-ever Puppy Bowl Presents: The Dog Bowl, which features adult dogs living in rescues and shelters, similarly competing in a fuzzy football competition on Team Wags and Team Tails.

To add to the fun, the Dog Bowl will feature several celebrity dogs from Instagram, including Rufus the Pug, Hamilton the Pug and Chloe Kardoggian. And as always, all of the puppy players - as well as their adult dog counterparts - are up for adoption!

The Animal Planet Twitter account has been promoting the Puppy Bowl all NFL season with "prediction" videos where puppies choose a winning team based on which labeled bowl of food is finished first. I personally find watching those promos far more fun than any other ads I've seen promoting the Super Bowl.

If you are interested in more details about this ever-growing, popular pup-lover's viewing alternative to the Super Bowl, as well as a close-up look at this year's full Puppy Bowl lineup, visit animalplanet.com where you can enjoy a sneak preview of the event itself and get an early look at the pre-game show. This year's event is sure to be a win/win for all involved.



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Katnip News!



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HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

Yogic Wisdom for Everyday Life

MEDITATION MADE EASY



The benefits of meditation are immense and indisputable. It

has many fruits many of which include emotional balance, improved physical health and a strong spiritual connection. There are studies out that connect meditation to positive changes in brain function. It's never too late to start a meditation practice or begin again or re-up your current practice. Things get in the way and life happens. What's important is that we go back to the practice. New or not new, don't make it complicated. As Yogarupa Rod Stryker says, 10 minutes a day is better than 1 hour once a week. It's the consistency that's going to pay off and help us in our daily life each day. Remember, a meditation practice is going to provide a place for further development and spiritual connection. Always make sure to find a comfortable seat for meditation. There's nothing like having your leg fall asleep or having an uncomfortable hip bothering you while you're trying to be still. The seated position should allow the spine to be tall with the natural curve in the lower back. If seated on

the floor is uncomfortable, sit in a chair or against a wall. Set aside enough time to sit for meditation and make sure you have a space where you won't fear interruption or distraction. Meditation is usually best in the morning just after waking up. If you can avoid looking at your phone or other electronic device before meditating, please do (or don't). It's best to have all of your focus and awareness moving toward an internal point of view. Once there, begin to breathe and relax the body. If you use a guided meditation to begin, that's ok for a while. Eventually, you'll want to move into just sitting on your own while maintaining breath, internal awareness and visualization. Happy Meditating! Again, don't make it complex, even if your head is busy, you are still meditating. Learning to focus is part of the process. As you get on the road to beauty and bliss, seek out teachers whom you respect and the style of meditation that calls to you. Contact me to learn more about starting a meditation practice, keely@keelytotten.com.

Namaste friends, Keely Totten,
Yoga & Meditation Teacher

THE MISSING PAGE

Real Life Tips from Life's Instruction Manual

DREAMS AND DREAMERS

Each year February is designated as the month to honor and remember the contributions of African Americans. We have been celebrating Black History Month for most of my life, at first, it was only a week and took over the month in the 1970's. It is the month when we honor the dreams and dreamers of our nation. Each week this month I will introduce you to someone that I love and respect; someone that has made a difference in my life.

This week, meet James Lawson. We know about Martin Luther King, but Rev. Lawson is an equally important part of the early days of the civil rights movement, he was a contemporary and partner of Dr. King. By the time that they met in 1956, Lawson had met and studied with Mahatma Gandhi in India; he had already spent a year in federal prison as a conscientious objector to the Korean War. They had heard of each other, their work and already respected one another. They were both men of similar backgrounds. Both were raised in the church and were not only ministers but were also the sons of ministers too. Rev. Lawson was pursuing his master's degree at Oberlin College, and he had a plan to leave the North and go the South to help with the movement right after he earned his doctorate at Yale, then

he would be ready. Then he would feel qualified. But when they met, King needed help right away, and he believed that Lawson was already qualified. At a short ten minute meeting, he enlisted Rev. Lawson.

Just as it was for Dr. King in 1955, when opportunity knocked for Rev. Lawson; he didn't feel ready, it wasn't convenient, and he didn't know how to lead yet, but he accepted the challenge. He moved to Nashville, Tennessee, and lead Gandhian nonviolence workshops. Soon he was leading eight young Black college students to integrate the lunch counters of downtown Nashville, armed with nothing but the power of love and prayer. All because he had a dream and he allowed that dream to have him.

What would happen if we all answered the call of our dreams? We would change the world!

Lori is a lawyer and coach. Learn more about her, sign up for her workshops and download her app at www.LoriAHarris.com

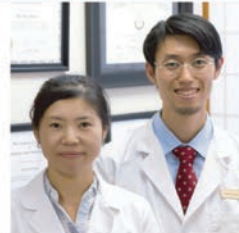


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TABLE FOR TWO by Peter Dills thechefknows@yahoo.com

WAGYU

When I first stepped foot in Pasadena in the early 1970's there were just a handful of restaurants, and fewer steakhouses. If memory serves, there was the Western, Steer and Stein, Monty's, and of course Sizzler on Arroyo Parkway (yes, some considered that a steakhouse). Fast forward to 2018 and my, how times have changed! I sometimes think that Pasadena is the new Mecca for the beloved Cow!! There's not enough space in this article to name all the steakhouses, but some are better than others. I often wonder, as I am sure you do, is the meat coming from the same source, what is the best 2%, and if it's so special how come it's everyone's claim to fame? Grass Fed? Corn fed? Bone in? Boneless? For me, the way to go is dry aged. One of the best steaks I ever made at home was from a supermarket 50% off section.

So, what is the best steak house in Pasadena? Well, it might not be a "traditional" steakhouse that serves clam chowder or gives you a bread basket! Alexander's Steakhouse makes its home at the old McCormick and Schmicks location on North Los Robles – it has the same floor plan (picture a 60's James Bond Movie Geisha set with a Nuevo Art deco feel). Getting to the meat of the matter, a steak can run as much three digits, but before you think I've lost my touch with the everyday working class, I've said time and time again if you enjoy a meal it's worth it. Alexander's is a special occasion restaurant, but I am not just talking anniversaries or birthdays; I am talking about life. You deserve to give it a try.

The menu is divided into six sections starting with "For the table" (appetizers) and ending with Steaks - quite straightforward, I would say. I posted a few pictures on Facebook and a few comments there suggested Japanese Fusion. I've never been to Japan, but if that helps describe the menu let's use that term. Daughter Lauren and I loved the restaurant from start to finish. We started off with Hamachi Shots and dry aged takaki (explaining the ingredients and the menu descriptions would just be confusing, so just enjoy the ride like we did). Next up was Foie PB & J – yes, duck

liver with peanut butter and jelly (my suggestion is to accept the bread service and put it on some bread, it's quite good). I think the hit of the night was the little gem salad with romaine, let's call it a close cousin of the Caesar with some kick to it. I am coming back just for this salad, it was that good. For you seafood lovers, the swordfish is line-caught off the coast of Monterey

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and cooked to perfection. However, we are land lovers and that what makes Alexander's stand high above the crowd. I have seen Wagyu steaks on menus at LA restaurants that are US-raised, but at Alexander's they have the real deal. All Wagyu is imported from Japan except for the Imperial Wagyu; Japanese Wagyu is graded A5 - ask your server for the definition. Whether it's chicken, pork, or steak I think the bone gives you the most tenderness, and the 18 oz. T-bone steak is a winner. Grilled in their open kitchen, it was so good I see-sawed about whether to finish it or take it home. My decision came easily since we also tried a variety of pre-main-course suggestions. The sides are traditional in name only; we had the blue lake green beans. The restaurant has a full bar with extensive wine list, and is only open for dinner. If you are a foodie, steak lover, or just want a special night out, I gave it two thumbs up.

What Else You need to Know
Alexander's offers valet or underground parking, 111 N. Los Robles Ave. Pasadena (626) 486-1111 Join me every Saturday afternoon on KRLA the ANSWER and AM 830 KLAA on Sunday at 5 PM, reach me at diningwithdills@gmail.com

Julie's Favorite Family Recipes

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Marc Garlett, Esq. – A family trust attorney. He founded CalLaw Professional Corporation which includes the Law Offices of Marc G. Garlett in Sierra Madre. His passion and professional focus is to help Seniors and their families.

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BABY BOOMERS FINDING COMPANIONSHIP ONLINE

Dear Savvy Senior,
What can you tell me about online dating for baby boomers? I'm 57 and recently divorced, and would like to find a new friend to spend time with.

Lonely Linda

Dear Linda,
Whether you're interested in dating again or just looking for a friend to spend time with, online dating sites have become a very popular and effective way for baby boomers to meet new single people.

Making new friends can be challenging as we get older, which is why online dating sites are an excellent option for baby boomers. They provide an easy and convenient way to meet dozens of new people, without ever having to leave home. And, to make things even easier, many sites today use matchmaking algorithms that factor in your interests and preferences so they can steer you to matches that are best suited for you. Here are some other tips to help you get started.

Choose a site or two: There are literally hundreds of different matchmaking websites and apps available, so choosing can be a bit confusing. Costs typically range between \$15 and \$20 per month, however some dating sites are completely free to use. Depending on your preferences here are some popular options to look into.

If you don't want to spend any money, free sites like OKCupid.com and PlentyofFish.com are good places to start, but these sites have a lot of advertising. There are also free apps like Tinder (GoTinder.com) and Bumble.com, but these tend to be geared toward younger adults looking for casual romance.

If you're interested in lots of choices consider Match.com, which has a huge membership in all demographics. Or checkout eHarmony.com, which is also very large but more targeted for people who want to take things slow.

Or, if you are looking to find a specific type of person, there are hundreds of niche sites like: OurTime.com, SeniorPeopleMeet.com and 50more.com for those 50 and older; EliteSingles.com for professionals; DateMyPet.com for animal lovers; VeggieDate.org for vegetarians; JDate.com for Jewish singles; BlackPeopleMeet.com for African



Americans; and ChristianMingle.com for Christians.

Create a profile: When you join a matchmaking site you'll need to create a personality profile that reflects who you are, including recent photos, hobbies, interests, favorite activities and more. If you need some help, sites like ProfileHelper.com can write one for you for a fee.

Use caution: When you register with a site you remain anonymous. No one gets access to your personal contact information until you decide to give it out, so be prudent whom you give it to. Before meeting, you should chat on the phone or video chat a few times, and when you do meet in person for the first time, meet in a public place or bring a friend along. And if someone asks for money, don't send it. Online dating/sweetheart scams are out there so be aware. If you want to be extra cautious, you can even do a quick background check on your date at MyMatchChecker.com.

Don't be naive: In an effort to get more responses, many people will exaggerate or flat out lie in their profiles, or post pictures that are 10 years old or 20 pounds lighter. So don't believe everything you see or read.

Make an effort: A lot of times, people – especially women – sit back and let others come to them. Don't be afraid to make the first move. When you find someone you like, send a short note that says, "I really enjoyed your profile. I think we have some things in common." Keep it simple.

Don't get discouraged: If you don't get a response from someone, don't let it bother you. Just move on. There are many others that will be interested in you and it only takes one person to make online dating worthwhile.

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

KATIE TseThis and That



POETIC JUSTICE

Perhaps you've noticed that there's a new "Most Interesting Man in the World" on the Dos Equis commercials. Personally I liked the old one better, but no

matter who Dos Equis chooses to be the face of their beer, I know who the real "Most Interesting Man in the World" is --my dad's cousin, Phil.

As his unofficial title suggests, Phil is a fascinating person and has been the subject of many of my articles (see "Kinkajou!" "Grease Ball, the Chicken," and "Busted!" about the time when the Sierra Madre PD picked up Phil as a kid because he and his friend went AWOL to spend his mom's cigarette money on candy).

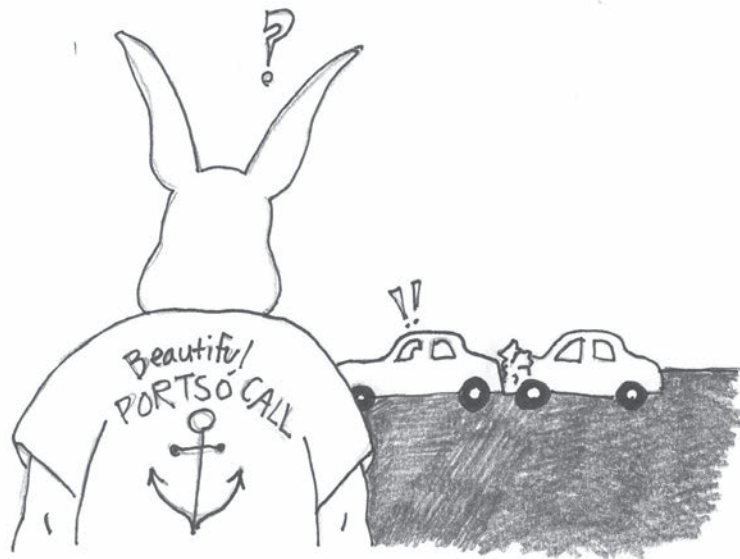
This week's story takes place in Ports O' Call in the 1990's. Phil and his wife had just parked when they saw an elderly woman crunch her vehicle into a parked car as she was trying to pull out. The woman exited her car, wrote something on a slip of paper, and left it on the windshield. Phil, being the astute person that he is, wrote down her license plate number and reported the incident at the guard booth.

When Phil and his wife returned from their day,

the injured vehicle was still there but the note was gone! They assumed the woman was just making a show of leaving her information because there were a number of onlookers present, and that she then returned later to remove the note. Phil wrote down an explanation of what happened, including the woman's license plate number, and slipped it through the crack in the window.

After that, Phil and his wife forgot about the whole thing, until about a month later when a lavish cheese gift basket arrived at their house. The man who owned the damaged car approached the woman regarding payment for the accident. She replied that she had already written a check for a couple hundred dollars to the man who owned the car.

Apparently there was a crew working in the parking lot and one of the workers who witnessed the crash took the note and hit up the poor lady for money, claiming it was his car that she smashed. Since he had accepted a check, it was possible for the bank to trace it back to him. Interestingly, the car the woman hit was owned by the Long Beach Chief of Police. Phil sums up the story with, "I wouldn't want to be the guy with her check!"



SENIOR HAPPENINGS



HAPPY BIRTHDAY! ...February Birthdays*

Beatrice DaRe, Cathrine Adde, Hilda Pittman, Anne-Marie Stockdale, Susan Henderson, Allie Attay, Ursula El-Tawansy, Gladys Moser, Sylvia Lorhan, Ana Ptanski, Winifred Swanson, Marian DeMars, Vickie Vernon, Mary Beth Knox, Sharon Lefler.

* 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! to join. Activity may be canceled if less than five people.

Everyone is welcome

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.



Whale Watching Tour (Long Beach)

Date: Friday, February 16, 2018

Time: 10:30a.m. – 4:00p.m.

Meeting Location: Hart Park House Senior Center Cost: \$30 (Does not include lunch)

Join Harbor Breeze Cruises on an exciting California Whale watching journey to view some of the largest mammals on the planet! The experienced Long Beach crew and knowledgeable Aquarium of the Pacific educators will guide onboard guests and spectators as they search all types of awe-inspiring marine life. Participants can bring their own lunch to enjoy on the boat or purchase snack items on board. Level of Walking: Low/ Medium Registration for Sierra Madre Residents starts now through Monday, February 5th. Non-resident registration starts online or in person on Tuesday, February 6, 2018.

SENIOR CINEMA - 1ST & 3RD WEDNESDAY



February 7th at 1:00 p.m.

Lion (2016)

A traumatizing true story of a five year old, Saroo gets lost on a train which takes him thousands of miles across India, away from home and family. Saroo must learn to survive alone in Kolkata, before being adopted by his Australian Parents. Twenty-five years later, with his unwavering determination and a revolutionary technology, Google Earth, he sets out to find his lost family. Rated PG-13. Run Time: 2h.



February 21st at 1:00 p.m.

Hell or High Water (2016)

Toby is a divorced father who's trying to make a better life for his son. His brother Tanner is an ex-convict with a short temper and a loose trigger finger. Together, they plan a series of heists against the bank that's about to foreclose on their family ranch. This film received four nominated Academy Awards, including Best Picture and Best Supporting Actor for Jeff Bridges. Rated R. Run Time: 1h 42m.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

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.

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Looking Up with Bob Eklund



SPEND NEXT NEW YEAR'S EVE WITH NEW HORIZONS

The New Year's celebration to usher in 2019 will include an event like no other—more than four billion miles from Earth.

In a little under a year—shortly after midnight Eastern Time on Jan. 1, 2019—NASA's New Horizons spacecraft will buzz by the most primitive and most distant object ever explored. New Horizons' encounter with Kuiper Belt object 2014 MU69, which orbits a billion miles beyond Pluto, will offer the first close-up up look at such a pristine building block of the solar system—and will be performed in a region of deep space that was practically unknown just a generation ago.

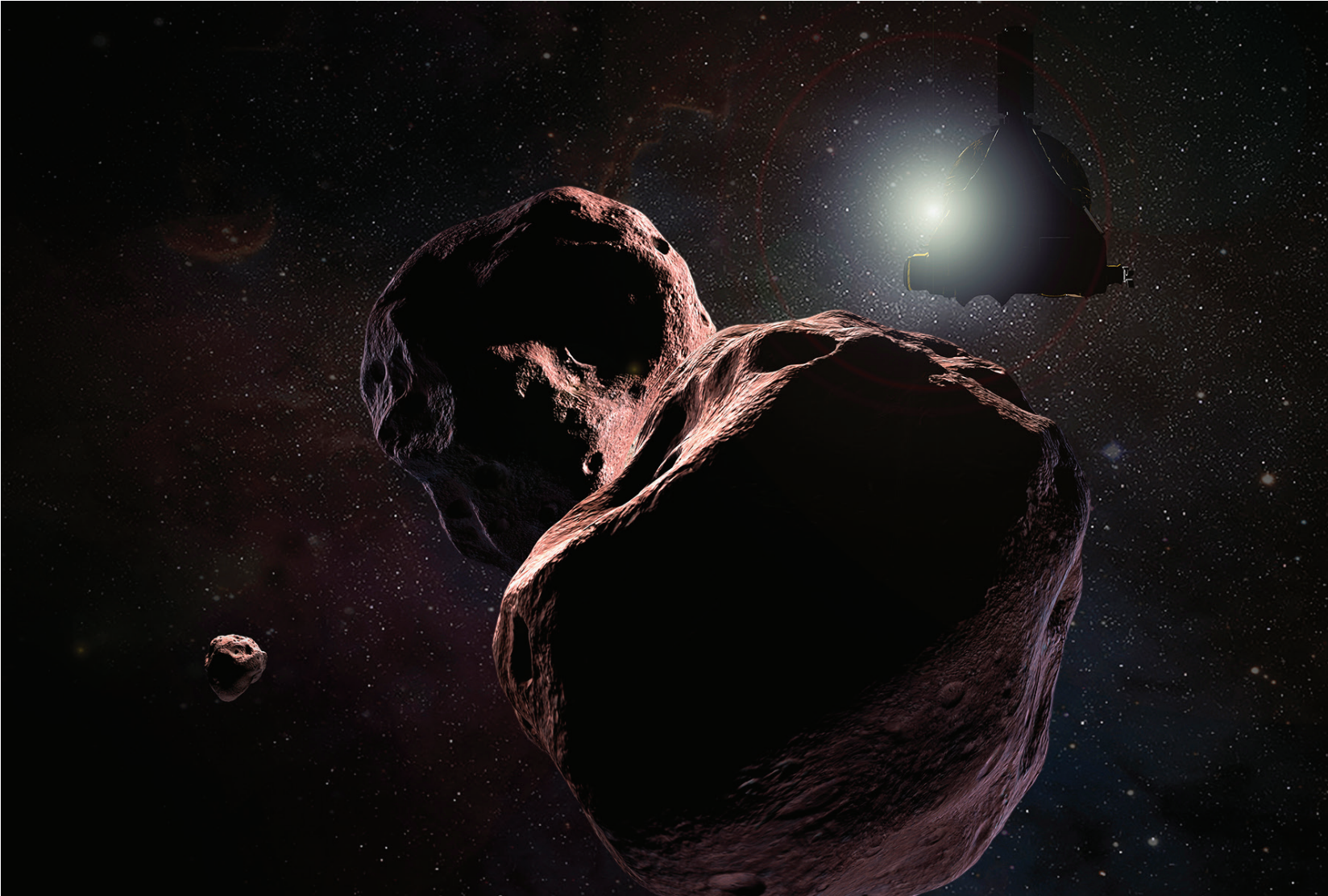
"The Voyagers and Pioneers flew through the Kuiper Belt at a time when we didn't know this region existed," said Jim Green, director of NASA's Planetary Science Division at Headquarters in Washington. "New Horizons is on the hunt to understand these objects, and we invite everyone to ring in the next year with the excitement of exploring the unknown."

"Our flyby of MU69 on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day 2019 will be an exciting sequel to the historic exploration New Horizons performed at Pluto in 2015," added Alan Stern, New Horizons principal investigator from Southwest Research Institute (SwRI) in Boulder, Colorado. "Nothing even like MU69 has ever been explored before."

As with the hundreds of thousands of other small worlds in this zone of icy bodies, MU69 is shrouded in mystery. In fact, the all we know about it has come from the Hubble Space Telescope (used to discover the object in 2014) and a comprehensive observation campaign last summer, in which the New Horizons team gathered data on MU69 as it passed in front of three stars. Those observations indicated that MU69 could be two objects, perhaps accompanied by a moon.

"That tells us this object is going to have a lot of surprises in store for New Horizons," said Marc Buie, the New Horizons science team member from SwRI who led the observation campaign. "We're going to see something that dates back to the formation of the solar system."

New Horizons will fly about three times closer to MU69 than it did to Pluto in July 2015, allowing the spacecraft's cameras to provide a more detailed look at the object's surface. Project Scientist Hal



Weaver, of the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory (APL) in Laurel, Maryland, pointed out that New Horizons' vantage point from about 2,175 miles from MU69 will allow it spot details about the size of a basketball court.

"Combining images with the measurements we make of the composition of and environment around MU69, should teach us a great deal about

objects like MU69 that built dwarf planets like Pluto," Weaver said.

The MU69 flyby is the centerpiece of the current New Horizons extended mission that also includes observations of more than two-dozen other Kuiper Belt objects, as well as measurements of the plasma, gas and dust environment of the Kuiper Belt. "This post-Pluto mission is a complete and comprehensive

exploration of the Kuiper Belt," said Alice Bowman, New Horizons mission operations manager, also from APL. "The spacecraft is collecting data out there throughout each year while the mission team works together to plan and shape the MU69 flyby."

You can contact Bob Eklund at: beklund@MtnViewsNews.com.



CHRISTOPHER Nyerges
YEAR OF THE DOG

[Nyerges is the author of "Extreme Simplicity," "How to Survive Anywhere," and other books. He teaches survival and self-reliance at Pasadena City college and throughout the community. He can be reached at www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance.com, or Box 41834, Eagle Rock, CA 90041]

As we are about to begin the Chinese Year of the Dog, it is a good time to take note of all the good things about dogs. It seems that everyone has something to say about the character of dogs. They exhibit unconditional love, they are loyal, and they really seem to want to be a part of your life, to the extent that they are able.

Many of our most profound observations about human nature come from our observation of dogs. For example, Sigmund Freud noted that "dogs love their friends and bite their enemies, quite unlike people who are incapable of pure love and always have to mix love and hate."

James Thurber observed, "If I have any beliefs about immortality, it is that certain dogs I have known will go to heaven, and very, very few persons." One of my favorite episodes of the Twilight Zone was "The Hunt," where Hyder Simpson and his dog went for a hunt one day. Hyder's dog jumped into a pool, and didn't come out and Hyder looked for him, eventually finding him. They both had died, but Hyder didn't know it, and he strolled down a road where a man informed him he'd died and that he was now at heaven. Hyder was about to enter but the gatekeeper said dogs were not allowed. So Hyder just kept strolling, saying he'd not go anywhere if his dog couldn't go. He eventually came to another gate and the gatekeeper again invited him in. "What about my dog?" asked Hyder hesitantly. "Oh, he's welcome" said the gatekeeper. It turned out that this was the real heaven, where both Hyder and his dog were welcome. The other gatekeeper was at the entrance to hell! It's an excellent episode and makes you think about what is important to you in life – and after life.

Ann Landers once wrote, "Don't accept your dog's admiration as conclusive evidence that you are wonderful." And I really like the bumper sticker I once saw that read, "I wish I was half the person that my dog believes I am." A dog is the only thing on earth that loves you more than he loves himself, said Josh Billings. And Andy Rooney noted that the average dog is a nicer person than the average person. How true that often seems!

We make fun of some habits of dogs, like going in circles many times before they will lie down, or sniffing everything, because perhaps we do not understand dogs. Dave Barry once comically noted that "dogs need to sniff the ground; it's how they keep abreast of current events. The ground is a giant dog newspaper, containing all kinds of late-breaking dog news items, which, if they are especially urgent, are often continued in the next yard." Funny, but probably true. I remember walking my pit bull Cassius Clay in my Altadena neighborhood, and there were certain lines of bushes which he had to slowly sniff before we could move on. It took so long to get by that area that I would sometimes avoid it entirely or I would never get home. What did Cassius smell? His brain was likely translating the different odors left by other dogs, just as Barry suggests, and those odors conveyed a complex picture of each dog that had passed by and probably a few things about its history.

As for the intelligence of dogs, I believe it is quite high. Much has been made of the supposed higher intelligence of pigs vs. dogs. I don't doubt that some scientist conducted some tests of brain activity and found that pigs were higher functioning in some areas. They certainly have incredible memories. When I had both a pig and a dog, I observed that my pig, Otis, had an incredible memory, but the memory was largely limited to food: where he once found it, whether he liked it, and whether he might find more there again. Whereas the pig seemed to be less interested in humans and wanted to live for food and pleasure, the dog's mentality was very much geared to the human "master," and very much included the concepts that we humans call love and loyalty.

When my dog Cassius Clay died some years ago, I

buried him out back and made a little stone marker for him, and invited some friends over for a little memorial. To my amazement, over 30 people showed up to talk about their loved pets (dogs and otherwise) and to share their own stories. Dogs are such beautiful creatures. I am sometimes embarrassed to say that I felt more love for my Cassius Clay, and Ramah before him, than I think I have felt for some humans. I don't think that makes me a bad person, but rather, someone who has learned to love beyond the human barrier.

I have so many dog stories – many of those stories I have shared in this column. Stories of upliftment, sad stories, hilarious stories, stories of how our dog pal made our life more meaningful, and taught us to love even more. I realize that if you're not a "dog person," you're not going to get this. I remember once on the Dennis Prager radio show, he talked about people who love dogs dearly, and in trying to figure this out, Prager concluded that people who find that they can love dogs more than people have some sort of deficiency, and they are trying to make up for it by loving dogs. Respectfully, I think you got that one wrong Dennis. Granted, no two people are alike, but I see that people who can love dogs too are people who are big lovers, not small lovers. They are people whose hearts are bigs and they see the beautiful life force and vitalistic energy within these non-human beings.

I have spent some time attempting to master human-to-dog communication. First, it is definitely not about words, and it is not easy. Yes, dogs will remember certain sounds and what they are intended to convey, regardless what human language you are speaking. But they primarily pick up on your tone and intent. They know anger, fear, uncertainty, love, respect, and many more of the so-called human emotions. And I also believe that Beatrice Lydecker got it right in her book, "What the Animals Tell Me," where she shared her "secrets" to animal communication. Essentially, Lydecker explains that you need to think in pictures, and to then attempt to convey those pictures to the animal, mentally. I experimented with the Lydecker approach many times with Cassius and found that, towards the end of his life, we had some very deep and profound exchanges of ideas.

Hooray, the Year of the Dog! What an auspicious year. I will share more dog stories as this year proceeds, and feel free to share your stories.

Also, be sure to read the weekly column by our own "canyon canine columnist" Chris Leclerc, who is telling us the tales of her dog-walking adventures, and other animal news every week.



OUT TO PASTOR

A Weekly Religion Column by Rev. James Snyder

PLEASE, JUST LET ME GROW OLD!

One of the New Year's resolutions I made, which the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage reminded me, is to take a day off and just relax.

That is a rather hard thing for me to do, especially every week.

The first week in January, I was busy about my business and my wife said, "Which day this week are you going to take off and relax?"

"What do you mean?" I asked. "Remember your New Year's resolution," she reminded me, "that you are going to take one day a week off to relax?"

I did remember that, but I did not think anybody was listening. Then I thought if anybody was listening, they really did not think I was serious about it. I have learned after many years of being a husband never to cross swords with "the Wife."

Looking at her rather casually, I said, "I'm going to do that tomorrow."

"Today," she said, "is the tomorrow you talked about yesterday."

I slowly remove my necktie and said, "Can I do this rather slowly until I get used to it?"

Of course, there was no negotiating with her about this. If I was serious about my New Year's resolutions, which I probably was not, I was going to have to start it today. With her, there was no tomorrow about it.

I sat down in my easy chair, picked up my laptop computer and was getting it running when my wife came into the room and said, "Nope, that is not part of taking your day off. Put that computer away."

With a deep sigh, I shut down my computer and put it back. Then I picked up a book and began reading, thinking this is okay.

"Nope, that is not part of taking your day off. Put that book away."

You know what it is like not having access to your computer and not able to read a book? If this is relaxing, oh please, let me get back to work. Her insistence was that I take the day off and as much as possible do nothing.

I queried her, "What can I do on my day off?"

She pointed to the TV and said, "You can watch a little bit of TV, and then take a nap."

It has been a long time since I watched any daytime TV. I spent the first half hour trying to find something interesting to watch and found absolutely nothing.

There were game shows, soap operas and something they call reality shows. In five minutes of watching one reality show, I realized there was no "reality" about any of it. If that is reality, oh please, help me!

Eventually my wife came in to check on me to make sure I was "taking the day off."

I then said to her, "Would reading my Bible be a part of my day off?"

How could anybody refuse me from reading my Bible? She responded in the negative. Imagine that! According to her, if I would read my Bible I would begin also to work on a sermon for Sunday. And, "That would be considered work," she explained.

Therefore, here I am taking the day off, which is turning out to be one of the most stressful days of my life.

After a while, I was watching something on TV, have no idea what in the world it was, but noticed the commercials. Now my problem was that I could not tell the difference between a commercial and a TV show. They seem to run together and there was hardly any difference between the two.

I begin to notice some of these commercials. Maybe it was the audience they thought they had at that time, not considering someone like me. Most of the commercials were on how to stay young and look young no matter how old you are.

According to some of these commercials, if you are 40 you should look like you are 20. I tried to think that through and it did not make sense to me. Why does one want to be 20 the rest of their life? And, what was so special about 1998?

Then there were cosmetics that made you look younger. All kinds of solutions, creams and even pills that would make you look young.

My question was, if I look young, like 20, do I really feel young? And, what does it really feel like to be young?

Not only do I need to feel young, but also I need to look young and obviously a young person is skinny. When did skinny become the trademark of young?

To get back to my skinny physique they had all kinds of diets for me. They guaranteed that their diet would enable me to lose 50 pounds. My question would be, which pounds would I be losing? From some of these commercials I think the pounds they lost were the ones between their ears.

After a day of watching stupid TV programs and commercials, I have only one comment.

Please, just let me get old!

I understand what James was saying, "Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that" (James 4:14-15).

I find it comforting to know that my life is in God's hands.

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. Phone 352-687-4240 or e-mail jamesnyder2@att.net. The church web site is www.whatafellowship.com.

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SECTION B

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LOS ANGELES, Jan. 30, 2017 – Southern California Gas Co. (SoCalGas) is offering customers up to \$75 in incentives to participate in its Smart Thermostat Program. The program is designed to help households that have purchased, installed and registered an ecobee or Nest smart thermostat conserve natural gas for home heating this winter. “Smart thermostats can help customers save money and energy, and the incentives that SoCalGas is offering as part of the Smart Thermostat Program makes purchasing a device an even more worthwhile investment,” said Dan Rendler, director of customer programs and assistance at SoCalGas. “Participating in the program is an easy way for customers to conserve natural gas during critical periods while still being comfortable in their homes.” Residential owners of ecobee or Nest-registered devices with gas heating in SoCalGas’ service territory, except those who are currently enrolled in Southern California Edison’s (SCE) Save Power Days electric demand response program, are eligible to participate in the Smart Thermostat Program. SoCalGas and SCE are working on a process that will allow dual-enrollment across both programs by next winter. By participating in the Smart Thermostat Program, customers agree to allow minor adjustments to be made to their smart thermostat temperature settings for a few hours on days when SoCalGas calls a Natural Gas Conservation event. These events will help lower the risk of possible natural gas shortages when demand is at its highest. Participants are notified two hours before any adjustments are made via their smart thermostat, web portal, mobile app and/or email. SoCalGas customers who enroll in the program will receive a \$50 check for signing up by Mar. 1st and another \$25 for staying enrolled through the duration of the program, which concludes on Apr. 1st. Customers who participated in the SoCalGas Advisory Thermostat Program with ecobee devices last year will

receive \$25 for their full participation in the Smart Thermostat Program this year.

SoCalGas is a leader in energy conservation, helping to keep natural gas bills affordable for customers and protecting the environment. Since 1990, the company’s energy efficiency and rebate programs have helped families and businesses save approximately \$672 million on their natural gas bills and reduced emissions equal to taking almost 700,000 cars off the road.

For more information about the Smart Thermostat Program, go to www.socalgas.com. About SoCalGas Headquartered in Los Angeles, SoCalGas is the largest natural gas distribution utility in the United States, providing clean, safe, affordable and reliable natural gas service to 21.7 million customers in Central and Southern California. Its service territory spans 22,000 square miles from Fresno to the Mexican border, reaching more than 550 communities through 5.9 million meters and 101,000 miles of pipeline. More than 90 percent of Southern California single-family home residents use natural gas for home heat and hot water. In addition, natural gas plays a key role in providing electricity to Californians—about 60 percent of electric power generated in the state comes from gas-fired power plants. SoCalGas has served communities in California for 150 years and is committed to being a leader in the region’s clean energy future. The company is working to accelerate the use of renewable natural gas, a carbon-neutral or carbon-negative fuel created by capturing and conditioning greenhouse gas emissions from farms, landfills and wastewater treatment plants. SoCalGas is a subsidiary of Semptra Energy (NYSE: SRE), a Fortune 500 energy services holding company based in San Diego. For more information visit socalgas.com/newsroom or connect with SoCalGas on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/SoCalGas) (@SoCalGas), [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/SoCalGas) (@SoCalGas) and [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/SoCalGas).

HARASSMENT RETALIATION PREVENTION ACT PASSES STATE SENATE

Sacramento, California – Today, SB 429, the Harassment Retaliation Prevention Act, passed the State Senate with unanimous bi-partisan support. SB 419 is jointly authored by Senators Anthony J. Portantino, D – La Cañada Flintridge and Connie M. Leyva, D – Chino. It has numerous co-authors from both parties. The Act, proposes to extend protections against all forms of harassment for legislative staff, legislative advocates and others who have business within the California State Capitol. Senator Portantino has a long record of fighting for accountability, whistleblower protection, and transparency in the legislature. Senator Leyva is the Vice Chair of the Women’s Legislative Caucus and a leading voice for civil and worker’s rights.

“Today, I am proud to join with my colleagues in the Senate as we build on the courageous efforts of women in Sacramento who have come forward demanding action. SB 419 is an important and urgent measure that creates protections from all forms of harassment in the capitol. As a dad and a legislator, it’s my responsibility to do my part to ensure a safe work atmosphere. Under the bill, harassment will no longer

be tolerated and both houses of the legislature are mandated to maintain all complaint records for twelve years,” said Senator Portantino. The Harassment Retaliation Prevention Act, protects victims from all forms of harassment in and around the Legislature. It also serves to protect against retaliation once cases are reported. The bill enhances the anti-retaliation provisions of California’s Fair Employment and Housing Act, which protects legislative employees and lobbyists who report sexual or related harassment. It is a companion and complimentary Bill with AB 403 of which Portantino and Leyva are co-Authors.

“As the joint author of this legislation, SB 419 is a necessary and important step to address some of the ongoing concerns related to sexual harassment within the Capitol community. This legislation makes it clear that retaliation will not be tolerated and helps to ensure greater accountability. Ultimately, SB 419 protects the women and men that work in our legislative community. Coming forward is an incredibly difficult moment for any victim and SB 419 sends a clear message that retaliation will not be tolerated,” commented Senator Connie M. Leyva.

COUNTY VOTES TO SUPPORT LEGISLATION AMENDING STATE LAW TO PROVIDE LIFESAVING MEDICAL CARE FOR THE MENTALLY ILL

LOS ANGELES COUNTY –The Board of Supervisors today voted 4-1 with Supervisor Sheila Kuehl opposing, to approve a motion by Supervisors Kathryn Barger and Mark Ridley-Thomas sponsoring state legislation amending the state’s definition of gravely disabled to enable the county to provide critical medical care for the mentally ill.

Numerous mental health professionals and advocates voiced support for the motion including Dr. Susan Patrovi, Medical Director of Homeless Healthcare LA, Brittney Weissman, Executive Director of National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Los Angeles County Council and Los Angeles City Councilmember David Ryu.

Supervisor Barger pointed out that more than 830 homeless people died on the streets of L.A. County last year and that with proper medical attention, the deaths could have been prevented.

“Allowing the most vulnerable to languish and even die on the streets without a lifeline to medical care is inhumane,” she said. “With today’s action, we can move forward to employ an effective approach to help deliver lifesaving treatment and care for those desperately in need and add California to 37 other

states who consider medical treatment a basic human need for those suffering from a mental illness.”

The legislation would amend the state’s definition of “gravely disabled” pursuant to the recommendation by the Department of Mental Health (DMH), to read, “a condition in which a person, as a result of a mental health disorder, is unable to provide for his or her basic personal needs for food, clothing, shelter, or medical treatment where the lack or failure of such treatment results in substantial physical harm or death.” This proposed addition (in the underlined section above) is similar to the criteria used in 37 states nationwide.

On October 31, 2017 the Board of Supervisors approved a motion by Barger that directed DMH to work with mental health advocacy groups, civil rights organizations, and other stakeholders to develop this legislative recommendation.

“Acknowledging that signs of physical harm due to self-neglect as a result of serious mental conditions are a rational and objective means for detecting grave disability,” said Dr. Jonathan Sherin, director of the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health.



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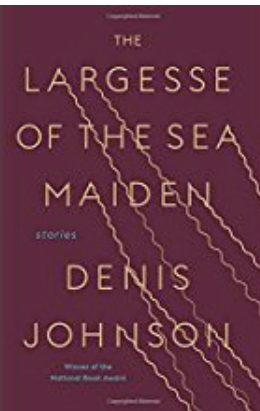
Jeff's Book Pics

By Jeff Brown

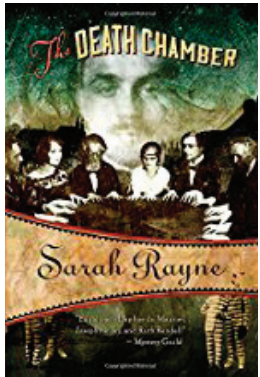
The Largesse of the Sea Maiden: Stories

by Denis Johnson

Twenty-five years after Jesus' Son, a haunting new collection of short stories on mortality and transcendence, from National Book Award winner and two-time Pulitzer Prize finalist Denis JohnsonThe Largesse of the Sea Maiden is the long-awaited new story collection from Denis Johnson. Written in the luminous prose that made him one of the most beloved and important writers of his generation, this collection finds Johnson in new territory, contemplating the ghosts of the past and the elusive and unexpected ways the mysteries of the universe assert themselves. Finishedshortly before Johnson's death, this collection is the last word from a writer whose work will live on for many years to come.



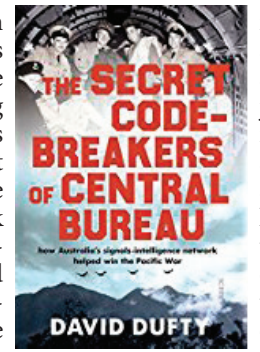
down of Admiral Yamamoto near Bougainville in 1943, and how on 14 August 1945, following Japan's offer of surrender, an Australian intelligence officer established the Allies' first direct radio contact with Japan since the war had begun.This is a rich historical account of a secret and little-understood side of the war, interwoven with lively personalities and personal stories. It is the story of Australia's version of Bletchley Park, of talented and dedicated individuals who significantly influenced the course of the Pacific War.



The Death Chamber

by Sarah Rayne

Calvary. The name does not inspire cheerful associations, and Calvary Gaol, with its grim façade and brutal history, does nothing to improve the reputation. On a chilly night its ghosts can all but be heard chattering, from the doomed political radical to the dapper ladies' man with a knife in his sleeve, from the blackmailed doctor to the spiritualist who fed, like a vampire, on the misery of World War I. Calvary is abandoned now, but those ghosts are still calling, and TV producer Chad Ingram can't stop listening. With a crew and a journalist in tow, he resolves to film in the prison's execution chamber—sure it's spooky, but with the bustle and technology of the 21st century, he can't imagine they've got anything to fear. Famous last words.Like all of Sarah Rayne's psychological thrillers, The Death Chamber blends different time periods, each with its own cast of characters, while never losing the plot threads.All the book reviews are from Amazon.com.



The Secret Code-Breakers of Central Bureau: how Australia's signals-intelligence network helped win the Pacific War

by David Duffy

A groundbreaking work of Australian military history, The Code-Breakers of Central Bureau tells the story of the country's significant code-breaking and signals-intelligence achievements during the Second World War. It reveals how Australians built a large and sophisticated intelligence network from scratch, how Australian code-breakers cracked Japanese army and air force codes, and how the code-breakers played a vital role in the battles of Midway, Milne Bay, the Coral Sea, Hollandia, and Leyte.The book also reveals Australian involvement in the shooting

FAMILY MATTERS

By Marc Garlett



WHY YOUR ESTATE PLANNER NEEDS TO KNOW IF YOU'VE LENT MONEY TO FAMILY

More and more, children and grandchildren are skipping the traditional bank and obtaining loans from parents or grandparents. Unfortunately, we have all heard stories of families torn apart because of disagreements over money. So, what can you do to make sure your intra-family loans help — rather than hurt — your family?

As far as estate planning is concerned, money you lend to others is legally an asset. If you have lent money to a family member, the presence of these assets in your estate can be problematic for your surviving family members. This is because your executor and successor trustee are under a legal requirement, known as fiduciary care, to collect the outstanding obligation, even if the other party is a family member.

If the amount of money that you have lent out is significant -- and "significant" can be relative -- it is important to document it as you plan your estate. For example, if you wish to forgive the debt there are special terms that must be included in your trust or will for this to happen. On the other hand, you may want the debt to be paid out of the inheritance the borrower is otherwise receiving. In that case, the payment of the debt from the inheritance must be addressed in your estate planning documents.

A Brief Loan Primer

A loan is a legal and financial arrangement where money is borrowed and is expected to be paid back with interest. Generally, a loan involves a promissory note, which is a signed document by the borrower containing a written promise to repay a stated sum of money to the lender in accordance with a schedule, at a specified date, or on

demand. In some cases collateral, like real estate or other property, is used to secure the loan. Collateral is something pledged as security for repayment of the loan. If the borrower quits making payments, then the collateral can be taken by the lender.

Lending as an Estate Planning Tool

When properly structured and well documented, loans can be a smart estate planning tool for many families. This is because lenders (usually grandparents or parents) can essentially give access to an inheritance without any immediate gift or estate tax problems, generate a better return on their cash than they could with bank deposits, and borrowers (usually children or grandchildren) can take out loans at interest rates lower than commercial rates and with better terms. In fact, the Internal Revenue Service allows borrowers who are related to one another to pay very low rates on intra-family loans. Furthermore, the total interest paid on these types of transactions over the life of the loan stays within the family. If structured and documented properly, intra-family loans may effectively transfer money within the family, for the purchase of a home, the financing of a business, or any other purpose.

Sometimes loans can be used in sophisticated estate tax planning strategies as a way to shift assets into special estate-tax saving trusts. One variant of this technique is sometimes called an installment sale to a grantor trust. Although this sophisticated strategy and others like it are usually only appropriate for those with a net worth of at least several million dollars, other types of intra-family loans, perhaps for home improvement, an automobile purchase, or a business, can help families across the wealth spectrum.

There are a few important points to keep in mind regarding these types of loans: the loan must be well-documented, lenders should usually ask for collateral, the lender should make sure the borrower can repay the loan, and the income and estate tax implications should be examined thoroughly.

Deciding What You Want

While you were kind enough to help a member of your family by lending him or her money, do not let this become a legal dilemma in the event of your incapacity or after your death. Instead, use your estate plan to specifically express what you want to have happen regarding these assets. Before lending money, it is important to carefully consider how the loan should be structured, documented, and repaid. If you or someone you know has lent money and has questions about how this affects your estate plan, let us know and we'll help you find the answers.

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 55 Auburn Avenue, 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

WHALE HELLO: ORCAS CAN IMITATE HUMAN SPEECH, RESEARCHERS FIND

An international team of researchers, working with two orcas at an aquarium in France, have found that the whales were able to replicate the sounds of human speech, including words like “hello” and “bye-bye,” as well as series of sounds like “ah ah.”The orcas could also imitate a human blowing a raspberry, or copy the sound of another orca, scientists say.You can hear the result in a video published by The Guardian, pulling from the scientists' data.It suggests that whales could be learning vocal patterns from each other in the wild.That fits the observations of researchers in the field, who found groups of whales with “vocal dialects that are often referred to as traditions or cultures,” the researchers write. “Our results lend support to the hypothesis that the vocal variants

observed in natural populations of this species can be socially learned by imitation.”Study: Friends' Brains Mirror Each Other's Responses. These cliques really click. According to new research conducted on 279 grad students, besties' brains have striking similarities. The Dartmouth College-UCLA researchers scanned participants' brains while they viewed the same sets of video clips and observed that very close friends' neurons fired in “exceptionally similar” ways. Scientists were then able to predict the intensity of a friendship by matching brain reactions. Future research will gauge whether we're attracted to our brain doubles or if neural response patterns are influenced over time by the company we keep.

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BUSINESS TODAY

The latest on Business News, Trends and Techniques

By La Quetta M. Shamblee, MBA



“LESSONS FROM THE GEESE”: TEAMWORK & LEADERSHIP LESSONS FROM NATURE

Nature provides us with a bounty of lessons that can be applied to business. Simple, yet profound, the following presentation about migrating geese provides some poignant insight into what it takes to work together successfully as a team. This analogy includes five facts relating to geese in-flight, with lessons that we can apply to our personal and professional lives.

Fact 1: As each goose flap its wings it creates an “uplift” for the birds that follow. By flying in a “V” formation, the whole flock adds 71% greater range than if each bird flew alone.

Lesson: People who share a common sense of direction and community can get where they are going quicker and easier because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.

Fact 2: When a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of flying alone. It quickly moves back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front of it. Lesson: If we have as much sense as a goose we stay in formation with those headed where we want to go. We are willing to accept their help and give our help to others.

Fact 3: When the lead goose tires, it rotates back into the formation and another goose flies to the point position.

Lesson: It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks and sharing leadership, as with geese, people are interdependent on each other's skill, capabilities and

unique arrangement of gifts, talents or resources.

Fact 4: The geese flying in formation honk to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

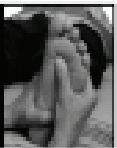
Lesson: We need to make sure our honking is encouraging. In groups where there is encouragement, the productivity is much greater. The power of encouragement (to stand by one's heart or core values and encourage the heart and core of others) is the quality of honking we seek.

Fact 5: When a goose gets sick, wounded or shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow it down to help and protect it. They stay until it dies or can fly again. Then they launch out with another formation or catch up with the flock.


Lesson: If we have as much sense as geese, we will stand by each other in difficult times as well as when we are strong.

This rendition of “Lessons from Geese” was transcribed from a speech given by Angeles Arrien at the 1991 Organizational Development Network, which has been broadly touted as being based on the work of Milton Olson. However, in a 2009 article written by Sue Widemark, she learned that the original version was written in 1972 by science teacher, Dr. Robert McNeish for a sermon he delivered in his church. Widemark discovered this information while conducting additional research that resulted in a personal conversation with the daughter of Milton Olson.

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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



LIGHTEN UP, CRITICS, IT'S GROUNDHOG DAY

If I were Punxsutawney Phil, I might think twice before coming out of my burrow this year.

Groundhog Day 2018 is upon us. Every Feb. 2, Phil emerges from a stump in Punxsutawney. If he sees his shadow, there will be six more weeks of winter. If he doesn't, spring will be

just around the corner. Millions have enjoyed this ritual for years, but in these oh-so-serious times, problems may abound.

For starters, Groundhog Day evolved from Candlemas Day, a Christian holy day commemorating the Virgin Mary's purification. As this tradition evolved in Germany, Germans believed Candlemas Day could also predict the weather - which culminated with playfully pulling a hedgehog out of a tree stump. The tradition was brought to Punxsutawney in 1887 by German immigrants.

But how, some busybody critics may be thinking, can any government body impose on our diverse society any celebration that has its roots in Christianity? Aren't the people of Punxsutawney supporting one religion over the others? What about their insensitivity to atheists?

Other critics may complain that the event is too male-centric. The "Inner Circle," the "local dignitaries responsible for carrying on the tradition of Groundhog Day every year," is comprised of ONLY men. Critics may note that all weather-prediction responsibilities for the past 132 years have been assigned to a MALE groundhog. What about Punxsutawney Phyllis? Has she been too busy making Phil's coffee?

The Inner Circle talks of how it pampers Phil. He lives in a heated home. He's fed delicious treats. He receives excellent medical care. But People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals says Phil is being abused - that yanking a groundhog out of a stump before bright lights and a large crowd induces incredible stress. PETA wants an animatronic groundhog to replace Phil.

All such criticism will pale in comparison to what may happen if critics learn this tidbit about Phil's private life: Phil has a harem. To take the edge off of Phil's lonely bachelor existence, the Inner Circle provides him with three female companions. That's right: Punxsutawney's finest dignitaries are trafficking in "woodchucks of the night!"

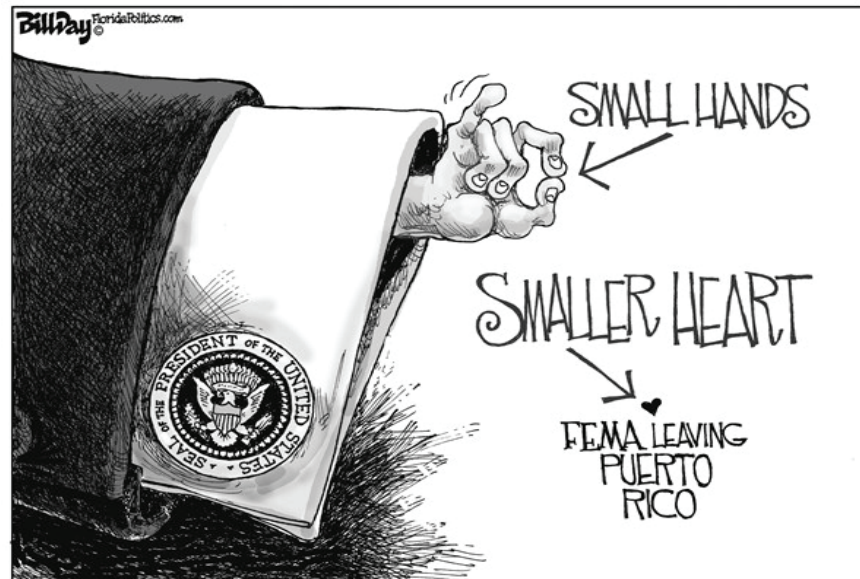
I, like millions of others, greatly enjoy Groundhog Day. I believe such traditions enrich our world and bring much-needed levity to our chaotic lives. I believe many American traditions evolved from a hodgepodge of cultural influences, and the best celebrate our common humanity - rather than pull us apart. I believe too many of us take ourselves too seriously. As we seek to correct the imperfections of our past - to embrace everyone and offend no one - we sometimes end up lost in the narrowness of our own best intentions.

It's Groundhog Day, a lighthearted occasion that offers a respite from a long, cold, brutal winter. Aside from PETA's protestations, I'm joking about Phil's potential critics, but we all could use a little lightening up about now.

Which is the whole point of Groundhog Day.

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LEFT TURN/RIGHT TURN

JOHN L. MICEK



TRUMP THE UNIFIER? DON'T BUY IT

President Donald Trump, who's never been shy about hammering his rivals and skewering his opponents, used his first State of the Union speech Tuesday night to call for unity as the nation attacks some of its biggest challenges.

In a nearly 90-minute prime-time speech that saw the president's Republican allies rise to their feet while Democrats sat stone-faced, Trump reiterated his call for an immigration reform plan that puts a premium on border security even as it provides an eventual path to citizenship for nearly 2 million undocumented immigrants.

"My duty, and the sacred duty of every elected official in this chamber, is to defend Americans -- to protect their safety, their families, their communities, and their right to the American Dream. Because Americans are dreamers too," Trump said.

But rather than arguing the case for an America made stronger by the contributions of immigrants, Trump raised the specter of MS-13 street gangs, which he said had exploited weaknesses in American immigration law to illegally enter the country and kill innocent citizens.

Trump's guests for his speech included the surviving family members of two Long Island teens who had been murdered by MS-13 gang members, as well as a member of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement whom Trump promised "reinforcements" in efforts to keep the border secure.

"It's time to begin moving toward a merit-based immigration system," encouraging immigration by people "who are skilled and who will love and respect our country," Trump said.

And if they're Norwegian, hey, all the better.

Trump's remarks about immigration evoked only the dangers posed by illegal immigration and by what he said were the risks posed by legal, family-based immigration and a visa Lottery program that brings diverse immigrants to the United States. His scripted remarks echoed those he'd made as a candidate, where he characterized immigrants from Mexico as criminals.

Democratic lawmakers, meanwhile, hosted "dreamers," undocumented immigrants brought to the United States as children who have found themselves unwitting pawns in the high-stakes battle of immigration reform.

The contrasting visions for a country that is growing steadily more diverse - and browner - by the day could not have been more stark.

As expected, Trump touted the effects of a tax reform package passed along party lines and sent to his desk late last year.

"Our massive tax cuts provide tremendous relief for the middle class and small businesses," he said, adding later, "There has never been a better time to start living the American Dream ... This is your time ... Together, we can achieve absolutely anything."

Yet it remains to be seen how many Americans will share in Trump's projected prosperity. Trump called for the passage of an infrastructure plan that calls for \$1.5 trillion in investment, leverage state and local resources and, where appropriate, private investment. Like most matters of policy, Trump did not offer much in the way of concrete detail on how he'd realize this effort, instead offering broad outlines.

He sounded an appropriately bellicose tone on national security and defense issues, talking tough when it came to such foreign regimes as North Korea.

"We know that weakness is the surest path to conflict and unmatched power is the surest mean to our true and great defense," he said, raising eyebrows in the hall of the House of Representatives and hackles elsewhere in the world.

Trump's scripted rhetoric and appeal to unity clashed with public statements he'd made on Twitter only days and hours earlier.

On Sunday, for instance, Trump criticized the rapper Jay Z, in a dispute over the African-American unemployment rate. Trump similarly blasted Congressional Democrats, to whom he'd appealed for cooperation, as "only interested in obstruction."

And without mentioning them by name, Trump appeared to continue his feud with professional football player who took a knee this season, rather than stand for the national anthem.

"Americans love their country and deserve a government that shows them the same love and loyalty in return," he said.

The president's rhetoric is unlikely to survive the night. But for a moment, it was tempting to think he actually meant what he said.

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MAKING SENSE by MICHAEL REAGAN

I'M STILL CHEERING FOR TRUMP



Donald Trump sure hit it out of the park Tuesday night.

Like millions of other people in America who tuned in to the president's first State of the Union Address, I'm still cheering.

I wasn't in Washington, in Soviet California, or anywhere else in Trump's America.

I was actually on a cruise ship with my wife on the other side of the world in the Tasman Sea between New Zealand and Australia.

After I watched Trump's prime-time TV address live in my cabin on the Celebrity Solstice - Wednesday afternoon, my time - I tweeted that it was so phenomenal I wanted to watch it all over again.

I wasn't kidding - or seasick.

I hadn't heard such a great speech by a president in a long, long time. And 75 percent of its 46 million viewers said they liked it, too, according to the polls.

The Hate Trump Media disagreed, of course. They thought the address went on too long. But that was because they couldn't wait to start picking it apart for being too gloomy, too mean to illegal immigrants or for mentioning "America" too many times.

Trump was interrupted more than a hundred times by the applause of everyone in the chamber except a bunch of bitter and sullen Democrats.

The Democrats - some of them dressed in black as part of some phony protest - refused to show the slightest sign of approval for the president when he pointed out how well America's workers and the economy are doing.

Lowest black unemployment rate in recorded history? Lowest Latino unemployment in history? Lowest overall unemployment rate in years?

Republicans stood and cheered every time.

Democrats sat and stared with their arms folded.

Or they showed disgust by rolling their eyes or making hideous faces that the GOP is already turning into deadly TV ads for the fall election.

The Democrats couldn't have clapped for President Trump even if they wanted to - even if he had brought Nancy Pelosi back from the dead - because they were sitting on their hands.

What the Democrats did to disrespect the president with their body language and petty behavior only helped the president, who proved he knows a thing or three about staging a state of the union address.

My father was the first to invite special guests or heroes to the address, where he could introduce them, praise them and tie them to what he'd say in his speech.

And on his first try President Trump has perfected the idea.

Every person he introduced during his speech told a story he wanted to tell, from the New Mexico policeman and his wife who adopted the baby of a heroin addict to the business owners who gave their employees bonuses because of Trump's income tax cuts.

For a long time I've been waiting for the president to deliver a great quote that would outlive his presidency - other than his latest tweet.

My father and John F. Kennedy did it many times.

And on Tuesday night I think Trump finally did it when he said it was his duty - and the duty of every elected official in the chamber - to defend the right of every American "to the American Dream. Because Americans are dreamers, too."

For me that was his best moment.

Everyone watching had to agree with the fact that everybody in America is a dreamer - except of course the Democrats and their teammates in the liberal media who saw Trump's statement as a cruel insult to the DACA kids who were brought here illegally at a young age. The Democrats will never admit it, or understand it, but they hurt themselves badly Tuesday night.

They looked like a bunch of losers and only made the president look better, more reasonable and more presidential.

They also proved that they hate Trump more than they love America.

And they did it in front of millions of American voters as the president was giving his best speech yet.

Copyright 2018 Michael Reagan. Michael Reagan is the son of President Ronald Reagan, a political consultant, and the author of "The New Reagan Revolution" (St. Martin's Press). He is the founder of the email service reagan.com and president of The Reagan Legacy Foundation. Visit his websites at www.reagan.com and www.michaelereagan.com. Send comments to Reagan@caglecartoons.com. Follow @reaganworld on Twitter. Mike's column is distributed exclusively by Cagle Cartoons newspaper syndicate. For info on using columns contact Sales at sales@cagle.com.

File No. 2018002576
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: ARYA

File No. 2018004472
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: PT: CASTRO JANITORIAL SERVICES 14610 PLUMMEER ST., APT. 206, PANORAMA CITY, CA. 91402. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) PEDRO CASTRO 14610 PLUMMER ST., APT. 206, PANORAMA CITY, CA. 91402 This Business is conducted by: INDIVIDUAL Signed: PEDRO CASTRO, OWNER This statement

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: JMI
ADVANCED WATERPROOF & COATING 8811
WOODMAN AVE, APT. #6, ARLETA, CA. 91313
Full name of registrant(s) is (are) FRANCISCO J.
TINAJERO CRUZ 8811 WOODMAN AVE, APT. #6,
ARLETA, CA. 91313. This business is conducted
under the name of: RAYAJERO CRUZ,
OWNER. This statement was filed with the
County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/09/2018.
The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact
business under the fictitious business name or names
listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious Name
Statement is filed for public information and is not
the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business
Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The

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AT LEAST ONCE in YOUR LIFETIME



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I've reviewed about **4,000 shows**
None can compare to what I saw tonight.”
—Richard Connema, renowned Broadway critic

“Absolutely the No.1 show in the world.
No other company or any style can match this!”
—Kenn Wells, former lead dancer of the English National Ballet

“Poetry in motion... Priceless.”
—Siegfried & Roy, Masters of the Impossible

“There is a massive power in this that can embrace the world. It brings great hope... It is truly a touch of heaven.”
—Daniel Herman, Minister of Culture of the Czech Republic

**“Absolutely the greatest of the great!
It must be experienced.”**
—Christine Walevska, “goddess of the cello”, watched Shen Yun 5 times

“Don't wait, get your tickets now!”
—Lee Meriwether, actress



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The following person(s) is (are) doing business as
BURGERMIM VALLEY VILLAGE 4806 LAUREL
CANYON BLVD, VALLEY VILLAGE, CA 91607.
Full name of registrant(s) is (are) S. ABULYAN,
INC. 4806 LAUREL CANYON BLVD, VALLEY
VILLAGE, CA 91607. This Business is conducted
as CORPORATION. Signed: S. ABULYAN, INC.,
SARMEN ABULYAN, PRESIDENT. This statement
was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County
on 01/10/2018. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:
GMOBOB CONSULTING 119 S. EVERETT ST. #2,
GLENDALE, CA. 91205. Full name of registrant(s)

File No. 2018008951)
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: MADE
BY: JASON BYRNES 19427 MERRIDY ST., NORTHRIDGE, CA
91324. Full name of registrant(s) is/are JASON
BYRNES 19427 MERRIDY ST., NORTHRIDGE, CA
91324. This Business is conducted by: INDIVIDUAL
JASON BYRNES, OWNER. This statement
was filed on 01/11/2018. The registrant(s) has/have commenced
to transact business under the fictitious business name or
names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious
Business Name Statement is filed with the date it was
filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious
Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date.
The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the
use of the fictitious business name in violation of the
rights of others or in violation of Federal, State or
local law (See Section 14141 et seq. Business and Professions
Code). ES Mountain Views News

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of JEANETTE ELIZABETH PARSON.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by CHRISTOPHER J. PARSON & CATHERINE M. PARSON in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that CHRISTOPHER J. PARSON & CATHERINE M. PARSON be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act . (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 02/14/18 at 8:30AM in Dept. 67 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.

Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner
JOHN L. SHAW - SBN 58283
LAW OFFICE OF JOHN L. SHAW
5816 TEMPLE CITY BLVD
TEMPLE CITY CA 91780
1/20, 1/27, 2/3/18
CNS-3090118#