



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 Measures D which attempts to abolish the city's current Utility User Tax and Measure A an Advisory Measure. The Mountain Views News is committed

to providing our readers with comprehensive coverage of this election.

MEASURE D SPELLS DISASTER FOR SIERRA MADRE

By John Capoccia, Former Mayor and current City Council Member

Measure D must be defeated on April 10. Mayor Arizmendi and Council Member Harabedian, in drafting the Argument Against Measure D, for which every member of the City Council is a signatory, clearly described the devastating consequences to Sierra Madre should this sham of a measure pass.

Sierra Madre's Kiwanis, with the League of Women Voters, planned a Measure D discussion this past Tuesday March 27. The intent was to provide an unbiased forum to debate the pros and cons of Measure D. Mike Alexander, President of the California Tax Limitation Committee and an ardent backer of Measure D (He does not live in Sierra Madre), was invited to argue in favor, and I was chosen to argue the No on D position. Mr. Alexander had stated publicly on his KRLA radio show that he would send someone. Ten minutes before the forum was to start, Kiwanis was informed via a text message that Mr. Alexander decided it wouldn't be a good idea, and no one would be coming to argue in favor of Measure D. I'm sorry, but that was incredibly rude and disrespectful to Kiwanis, the League of Women Voters, and Sierra Madre's citizens. I wasn't surprised. Mr. Alexander is not one of us either in body or spirit, and does not care about Sierra Madre - He's got other motives.

And, it deprived me of something that I was really looking forward to - I couldn't wait to go toe to toe with ANY proponent of Measure D even though I was advised that it's demeaning to enter into a battle of wits with the unarmed. Yes, the proponents of Measure D are indeed unarmed. The only rational justification for this stunt is vindictive - its purpose is to destroy our Village of the Foothills.

In preparation for the debate, I listened to two recent sessions of Mr. Alexander's "Radio Free LA" show that's broadcast on KRLA. Last week, Mr. Alexander purportedly featured a distinguished guest, Dr. Rod Kiewitt, professor of Political Science from the prestigious California Institute of Technology to help him make the case that Measure D is good for Sierra Madre. As I was listening, a thought occurred: Wait, is he arguing for or against Measure D??

Dr. Kiewitt did a wonderful job of articulating common concerns about the chronic underfunding of public sector pensions, and the resultant unsustainability of the current CalPERS system. The taxpayers of all California cities, including Sierra Madre are suffering as a result of ever-increasing statutory demands from CalPERS. Each year, pension obligations chew up a bigger and bigger percentage of cities' General Fund expenditures. Each increasing dollar spent on pension obligations is one less dollar that is available for public safety, parks, library etc.

All cities know that they cannot get out of their pension obligations, so to deal with the problem, other cities are raising taxes, while Sierra Madre is reducing expenses. Cutting Sierra Madre's revenue by 24% will do absolutely nothing to fix the pension problem. But you can count on this: stripping \$2.6 million per year from the General Fund will devastate public safety and other services valued by Sierra Madre citizens.

For more information, please take some time and review the "Transparency" section on the City of Sierra Madre website. For your convenience, just google "City of Sierra Madre Transparency" and you'll quickly be redirected to the website destination.

A few years ago, the City of Sierra Madre held several town halls to plan budget cuts resulting from the Utility Users Tax sunset from 10% to 8%. Hundreds attended, and as a result, freshly informed voters overwhelmingly sent the message that they want to maintain the current level of services by approving Measure UUT by 72.3% at

the 2016 election. Measure UUT set the utility tax at 10%.

If Measure D passes, we WILL face bankruptcy or disincorporation or both. It will be a messy, costly disaster.

Mr. Alexander's guest, Dr. Kiewitt agrees. I'll paraphrase a few of his comments from the radio show: "Bankruptcy (for cities) is messy and expensive," and "Bankruptcy won't solve your problems entirely?" When asked about how cities emerge from bankruptcy, Dr. Kiewitt said: "Bond holders get stiffed, they lose everything. Unions come out well, they might take a haircut on OPEB" (Other Post Employment Benefits). When he says unions come out well, he means that their pensions remain intact.

When asked how cities fare after bankruptcy, Dr. Kiewitt responds: "Cities get hammered - far less level of fire and police services. Municipal services are far reduced."

Dr. Kiewitt made another interesting statement: "I personally believe strongly in a nice level of municipal services." That's rich - in other words, go ahead and bankrupt your own city, Sierra Madre, but stay out of mine...

Susan, mike thinks it is not a good idea for us to participate. He thinks it might be taken badly by the community. Thanks anyway. Marcy

Screenshot of text recieved 20 minutes before Debate was to begin. Teapac, on behalf of the proponents of Measure D requested and was granted the opportunity to present their arguments in favor of Measure D in this edition, but never submitted anything.

Dr. Kiewitt was very impressive when talking about subjects within his formidable area of expertise. But, he was completely uninformed and demonstrated that when he was lured by Mr. Alexander onto a subject with which he is unfamiliar - Sierra Madre. He was asked about the effect on Sierra Madre with the loss of revenue should Measure D pass and he responded, "They (Sierra Madre) have options, they can shift police to the County". Satisfied that he extracted that little tidbit from Dr. Kiewitt, Mr. Alexander quickly thanked him for his participation and broke away. Please realize that he DID NOT say that we'll get pension relief. He knows that won't happen.

Sierra Madre has "been there, done that" with police services. We looked at contracting with the Sheriff in 2016. We entertained proposals for various levels of service and concluded that we should retain and maintain our own police department, consistent with the wishes of the majority of voters. This time, if we lose our UUT revenue, we will not be negotiating with the Sheriff, instead, our hands will be tied. We'll simply abandon our own PD and hand police services over to the Sheriff. They'll provide a minimum level of service, which of course we'll have to pay for. We will also be forced to abandon Paramedic Service, and turn that over to the County. Sierra Madre will not get the two to (Cont. on page 4)

HONORING THE MEMORY OF THOSE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES



Chairman of the ANCA Pasadena, Boghos Patatian, and committee members receive a Proclamation in Recognition of Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day, from Mayor Rachel Arizmendi and the City of Sierra Madre. Council Member John Harabedian spoke on the importance of recognizing the Armenian Genocide (April 24) and remembering the 1.5 million people who died starting in 1915.

COUNCIL APPROVES SECOND READING OF AMENDED NON-CONFORMING USE ORDINANCE

Sierra Madre City Council approved a motion for a second reading by title only of Ordinance 1396, which addresses nonconforming land uses and historical preservation issues.

Specific modifications to the ordinance would affect Title 17, Chapter 17.56 of the Sierra Madre Municipal Code: Nonconforming Uses Ordinance, and Chapter 17.82 of the Historical Preservation Ordinance. The motion, approved during the regularly scheduled meeting on March 27, also waived any further readings and recommended that the City Manager prepare a summary of Ordinance 1396.

Chapter 17.56 of Ordinance 1396 regulates land/structures that at one time were in compliance with zoning ordinances (conforming), but as a result of changes in regulations, are no longer in compliance (nonconforming). On August 3, 2017, the Planning Commission appointed a subcommittee to provide recommendations on a complete overhaul of Chapter 17.56, which includes laws on items such as alterations, repairs, maintenance, unlawful uses and nuisance abatement.

The Planning Commission found that the ordinance, as it stood, was inadequate in addressing issues that commonly occur in situations involving nonconforming land use. The ordinance had not been updated in several years and property owners' hands were tied when it came to making necessary improvements to structures that had become nonconforming over time.

The three-member subcommittee took cues from similar ordinances in surrounding cities, including Pasadena, in

order to set a template for an amended ordinance for Sierra Madre.

After several meetings, the Planning Commission appeared before the Council once again on December 14, 2017 and recommended approval of Ordinance 1396.

On March 13, 2018, City Council approved a motion for a first reading recommending adoption of Ordinance 1396 concerning amendments to the City's Nonconforming Uses Ordinance. Though the Council voiced concern over the vagueness of some of the terminology in the ordinance such as 'structural alterations' and 'expansion of nonconforming use,' they approved the ordinance without any additional changes.

In addition, the Council also reviewed amendments to Historic Preservation Ordinance Chapter 17.82 which deals with adaptive reuse of structures in residential zones. The City didn't call for any additional amendments to this Chapter. The Planning Commission initially recommended changes to the Chapter including allowing historical properties to be used for professional businesses, and converting single-family residences to bed and breakfast inns.

To read the entire ordinance and resolutions, visit www.cityofsierramadre.com/cityhall/agendas, click on the City Council tab on the left menu, the agenda for March 27, 2018, and Consent Action item C on page two of the Agenda. The next City Council meeting is April 10, 2018 at 6:30 in City Hall Council Chambers, 232 W. Sierra Madre Boulevard.

K. McGuire/MVNews

ART OF THE GARDEN

A premier garden tour featuring four unique landscape designs in the foothill communities

Photo by Justin Brandstaler

Sunday, April 15

10:30-4:30 pm

Self-Guided Tour

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Tickets can be purchased online, by phone or in person

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Tues:	Ptly Cldy	Hi 70s	Lows 50s
Wed:	Ptly Cldy	Hi 70s	Lows 50s
Thur:	Ptly Cldy	Hi 70s	Lows 50s
Fri:	Ptly Cldy	Hi 70s	Lows 50s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

CITY OF SIERRA MADRE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

NEXT REGULAR April 24, 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 Woman's Club

550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 2018: 111 Years

Founded February 23, 1907 - "Living the Volunteer Life" in Friendship
Member of General Federation of Women's Clubs cfwc.org & gfwc.org

Saturday, April 7

SMWC Scholarships'

Submission Date Extended
For Pasadena Area

High School Seniors

Questions?

SierraMadreWomansClub@gmail.com

Explore Opportunities & Membership with Us

Join us for Member-Only Yoga w/ Paul Tuesdays, 10 am

GFWCSierraMadreWomansClub.org

Facebook/SierraMadreWomansClub

Rent the 1914 Historic **Essick House** 626-355-4379
Shop Award-Winning **Wistaria Thrift Shop** 355-7739
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Sierra Madre Woman's Club

Wistaria Thrift Shop



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Monday, Thursday, Friday 10 am-3 pm

Closed Saturdays
Until Further Notice

Gladly Accepting Clean, Gently Used Donations

10 am - 2 pm Weekdays

Essick House Parking Lot donations dropoff

June 2 - Brown Bag Sale

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

626-355-7739

GFWCSierraMadreWomansClub.org

Facebook SierraMadreWomansClub



SIERRA MADRE CITY

MEETINGS

Regular City Council Meeting

Tuesday, April 24, 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

March 27, 2018 at 6:30 pm

April 10, 2018 NO MEETING - ELECTION DAY

April 24, 2018 at 6:30 pm

Planning Commission

April 5, 2018 at 7:00 pm

April 19, 2018 at 7:00 pm

May 3, 2018 at 7:00 pm

Community Service Commission

April 16, 2018 at 6:30 pm

May 21, 2018 at 6:30 pm

Senior Community Commission

April 5, 2018 at 3:00 pm

May 3, 2018 at 3:00 pm

Library Board of Trustees

March 28, 2018 at 7:00 pm

April 25, 2018 at 7:00 pm

Energy, Environment, and Natural Resource Commission

April 18, 2018 at 7:00 pm

May 16, 2018 at 7:00 pm

DO YOU HAVE A STORY TO TELL?

Do you have a Sierra Madre memory to tell? This is your chance to have it recorded on video and stored at state and local archives. You will be part of the state historical record! AND there will be a presentation here in town of all the Sierra Madre videos created.

Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society members have regaled us with all kinds of wonderful memories of their lives in town - we know you have stories to tell! If you were raised here, what experiences and adventures did you have? If you moved to Sierra Madre, what was it like then compared to now? Do you have a memory connected to a place, or to a person - maybe a leading citizen of our town, or even a local character? These are just a few ideas to get you thinking what memory you'd like to tell.

Part of this memory-gathering project, California Listens, is a free 2-day workshop to create your little video (photos or memorabilia relating to your story are a big plus!). The workshop team will work with you all the way through, and you'll end up with skills that could be useful for recording memories for your family, or doing other video projects. The California Listens Digital Storytelling Workshop is set for Friday and Saturday May 11-12, 2018 from 9 am to 5 pm at City Hall, located at 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. in Sierra Madre.

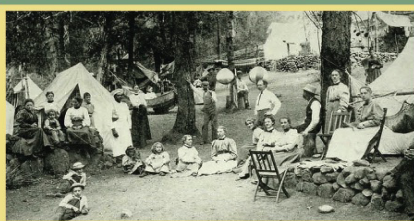
In the workshop, participants will make a short video on a computer and will learn: how to make a great video story, how to write a narration script and record it, how to prepare a visual treatment for a story, and the basics of video editing in WeVideo. Powerful and fun! Anyone can contribute regardless of experience or technical level.

The deadline to apply is April 28th. To apply, visit: storycenter.org/sierramadre or submit a paper application to the Sierra Madre Public Library. You can drop your application off at the library or mail it to them (Sierra Madre Public Library, 440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Sierra Madre, CA 91024). Or you can apply online at the website storycenter.org/sierramadre.

The workshop is free, but pre-registration is required. Those taking part must commit to preparation time, attendance during the entire two days.

Collected video stories will be shared at a presentation during the summer and will become part of state and local archives of stories about what it means to be Californian. View collected stories at californialistens.org

MT. WILSON TRAIL RACE



SIERRA MADRE CA

May 26th
2018

The Mt. Wilson Trail Race Training Group will be meet in Kersting Ct. every Saturday at 7:00 am beginning Saturday, February 3rd through Saturday, May 19th.

It is a free program and all levels are welcome, ages 14 and up!

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Rotary of Sierra Madre

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Sierra Madre, CA 91024



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Call 626-355-2737 to reserve your seat!

March 27, 2018

MEASURE D - YES OR NO?

This Forum will be moderated by the League of Women Voters

Save The Date: Saturday May 12, 2018

Our Annual Dance The Night Away & Chili Cookoff

SIERRA MADRE

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

MEASURE D WRECKS SIERRA MADRE

Don't be fooled, Measure D is:

FINANCIAL SABOTAGE



*(Measure D is a crackpot scheme
by the Pasadena Tea Party)*

Measure D completely
repeals our UUT,*
causing Sierra Madre to lose 24%
of its revenue which will lead to
devastating cuts to our police and fire.

*Utility User Tax

Every member of the Sierra Madre City Council urges you to vote:



Council Member
John Harabedian



Council Member
John Capoccia



Mayor
Rachelle
Arizmendi



Mayor Pro-Tem
Denise Delmar



Council Member
Gene Goss



NO on MEASURE D

MEASURE D... continued from page 1

three-minute response time that our paramedics provide today. (C We'll get the "obligatory" level of service - the County shoots for an eight-minute ambulance response time, and you may not even get that. And the irony is, if we disincorporate, we will pay the County 4.5% Utility Users' Tax! I'll bet the proponents of Measure D didn't even know that.

In the Rebuttal to Argument in Favor of Measure D on your sample ballot, Mayor Arizmendi and I opined that Measure D is "a misleading and misguided stunt." It certainly sounds like Mr. Alexander agreed when he said: "UUT repeals are designed not to take money away from government, but to highlight the fact that we're not managing well." He then said: "UUT repeals are an opportunity to point out various problems - a failure to come to grips with spending on pensions." Really? Not meant to take money away from government?? And he said this with a straight face... you can watch it on the website. It's actually comical.

Mr. Alexander also bragged that in Glendale, the UUT repeal measure got 10,000 votes. That's out of a city with a population of 200,000. The 10,000 represented 28.5% of the total votes. Batting .285 is mediocre in baseball but it's absolutely horrible in a municipal election. Remember, Sierra Madre batted .723 in passing Measure UUT in 2016. For the record, Mr. Alexander attempted a repeal in Arcadia in 2016 and failed there too.

Really Mr. Alexander, if you are sincere and hope to do a public service by advocating for pension reform, you should learn from your failures and try something new. I could get behind you on a march to Sacramento to fix the pension problem, but not until you abandon these foolish tactics. Utility Tax stunts won't get it done, and you have no credibility when you preach that such stunts are the answer.

So the question boils down to whether Sierra Madreans think it's a good idea to punish ourselves by decimating our Police, Fire, Paramedic, Library, Parks, Sidewalks, etc., just to make a statement to the California Legislature.

Maybe Measure D doesn't spell Disaster, it spells Dokey and Dumb.

Sierra Madreans: Once more, circle the wagons and ignore outsiders with ulterior motives - they are NOT advocating for your interests. They're using you.

On April 10th, you know what needs to be done. Please do it.

SIERRA MADRE LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE

Capping National Library Week is the gala Library Open House on Saturday, April 14, 2018 at the Sierra Madre Public Library.

Special open house programs include: The Science of Magic with California Joe for children at 10:00 am and an author panel and book signing at 11:00 am.

Authors on the panel are: Ira Baumgarten, Maricelle Brandler, Lisa Di Vita, Dianne Dixon, Jonathan Hennessey, Linda La Roche, Susan Lendroth, Susanna Lo, and Beth Navarro. Following the panel, authors will be available sign books.

Throughout the event, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, enjoy demonstrations of 3D Printing, Virtual Reality (for 13 and older), Hands-on Robotics, Strawberry DNA Lab, Digital Storytelling Demos, Friends of the Library Mini Used Book Sale, Historical Preservation Society table, and light refreshments.

Read, Discover, Connect @ Sierra Madre Public Library, 440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Sierra Madre, CA 91024, (626) 355-7186, Text (626) 662-1254, www.cityofsierramadre.com/services/library

SIERRA MADRE POLICE BLOTTER

March 18 to March 25, 2018

During this period, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 317 day and night time calls for service.

Monday, March 19

Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 200 block of N. Lima St. where unknown suspect(s) shot out the glass on the victim's floodlights that are attached to the second story of his home.

Case to Detectives

Wednesday, March 21

At about 12:01 p.m. officers were dispatched to a call of a subject consuming alcohol while parked in his vehicle. Officers attempted to contact the subject who fled in his vehicle upon seeing the officers. A short vehicle pursuit ensued before the subject came to a stop. Officers attempted to place the subject in handcuffs, but the subject resisted. Officers deployed a Taser and were able to handcuff the subject. The subject was transported by Sierra Madre Fire Paramedics to a local hospital where he was medically cleared to be booked. Officers then transported the subject to the Pasadena Police Jail for booking.

Case to Detectives

Thursday, March 23

At about 7:30 a.m. an injury traffic collision involving a vehicle and a female pedestrian occurred at Lima St and W. Grandview Ave. The pedestrian was treated by the Sierra Madre Paramedics at the scene and later transported to a local hospital for further treatment.

Thursday, March 23

While following up on a call of a wrong way driver, officers located a vehicle nearby with front end damage at about 10:32 p.m. During the investigation officers determined that the female passenger was intoxicated. The female was arrested for public intoxication and for possession of marijuana in the area of Santa Anita Ave and Oakwood Ave. The woman was transported to the Pasadena Police Jail for booking.

Case to the DA's office for filing

WALKING SIERRA MADRE



Easter is tomorrow! A time of celebration that has a lot to do with bunnies; chocolate ones – yes, most of us eat the ears first. The stores are filled with Peeps candies, now in all sorts of flavors and I've been trying to find a Cadbury caramel egg with no success at all. There are exhaustive hunts in various parks for tie-dyed eggs and, if you're lucky and get invited somewhere good for lunch, there might be honey-baked ham. Easter might have something to do with new outfits, but extensive biblical research has not proven that, one way or the other. What Easter is really about is the fact that the stone was rolled away and there was an empty tomb. As the angel said, "He is not here, He is risen!" An amazing concept upon which many of us base our lives. It really is more exciting than chocolate bunnies and Easter eggs....unless, of course, they were dyed for you by some small person you absolutely love and adore.

Another dawn,
Another day,
What did it matter, anyway?
The One who loved her as she was,
Who changed her life, was gone.

She raised her eyes to see the sky,
Streaks of pink and gold.
And then they saw,
The guards were gone,
The stone was rolled away!

The grief she'd felt since Friday,
Like the stone, was rolled away!
She grabbed that jar of spices,
And running like a child,
Climbed the hill,
To tend her Lord before dawn, Sunday.

They looked inside that borrowed tomb,
Petrified with fright,
An angel sat there on the stone,
Clothed in brilliant white.
"I know the one you seek," he said,
"Jesus, crucified."

"He is not here, he's risen!
He's risen, as he said
He's risen! He's risen!
He's risen, as he said!"

"Now go! And tell the others,
He's risen, as he said!
Look not for the living,
Here among the dead!
He is not here, he's risen!
He's risen, as he said!"

And joy broke free...
Before dawn,
That first Easter Sunday.

Much thanks to Susan Blakeslee for the Easter lilies she puts out each year.

My book page: Amazon.com: Deanne Davis
Check out "The Crown" now that we are heading for Easter...

If you've ever wondered what happened to that crown of thorns,
"The Crown" is perfect for you!
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>

City of Sierra Madre

SUMMARY NOTICE

From: The City of Sierra Madre

Subject: NONCONFORMING USES ORDINANCE 1396

Applicant: City of Sierra Madre

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

On March 27, 2018 the City Council of the City of Sierra Madre introduced for second reading Ordinance No. 1396 recommending adoption of Municipal Code Text Amendment 17-07 (MCTA 17-07).

This summary is published pursuant to Government Code Section 36933(c)(1) and a full and complete certified copy of the text of Ordinance 1396 is available at the Sierra Madre City Manager's Office located at City of Sierra Madre City Hall, 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA. Ordinance 1396 becomes effective on April 29, 2018. For further information on this subject, please contact the Planning and Community Preservation Department at (626) 355-7138.

The purpose of MCTA 17-07 is to amend Chapter 17.56 – Nonconforming Uses in its entirety, to update regulations for uses and structures that have become non-conforming over time due to changes in the City's Zoning Code. The amended ordinance includes restrictions on nonconforming uses and structures, continuation and abatement of uses and structures, reconstruction after involuntary damage, limitations on alterations and/or additions to nonconforming uses and structures, exemptions from nonconforming determination, nonconformance with respect to conditional use permit requirements, and regulations regarding unlawful uses and structures as well as nuisance abatement, and exemptions for nonprofit organization/places of worship.

In addition to addressing nonconforming uses, amendments to Chapter 17.82 are included in MCTA 17-07 with a revision to the definition of "Bed and breakfast inn" which expands the "Adaptive reuse of historic structures" to allow "Bed and breakfast inns" with up to six units in single-family zones and up to 12 units in multi-family zones subject to a conditional use permit.

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on December 14, 2017 recommending approval of the proposed text amendment to the City Council for their consideration.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The subject ordinance amendments qualify for an exemption from California Environmental Quality Act review pursuant to Title 14, Section 15061(b)(3) of the California Code of Regulations as it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the adoption of this ordinance may have a significant effect on the environment because it will provide regulations to help retain existing structures and uses in place, and impose certain limitations on their expansion; the amendments also apply to conversion of historic residential structures and are exempt for numerous reasons: all historic landmarks in the city that are single- or multi-family residences are located in residentially zoned areas; given the limited number of such structures, the number of conversions should be extremely limited; such conversions should include few, if any, modifications to the exterior of such structures, and only if such changes would not be detrimental to the historic or architectural character of the historical landmark.

APPEAL: If in the future anyone wishes to challenge the decision of the City Council in court, one may be limited to raising the issues that were raised or presented in written correspondence delivered to the City Council at, or before, the scheduled public hearing. For further information on this subject, please contact the Planning and Community Preservation Department at (626) 355-7138.

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Parkinson's
Support Group

Join us at The Kensington Sierra
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every month and be part of this
informative group.

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

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



Facilitator: Amy Carlson
People with Parkinson's Pursuing Wellness

EVENT DETAILS

MEETS 3RD THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH
From: 6:30pm - 8:00pm

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SUSPECTS ARRESTED FOR ATTEMPTED MURDER

Pasadena police arrested, last week, two men wanted in connection with a shooting in Northwest Pasadena earlier in March.

According to the Pasadena Police Department, officers responded to the 1200 block of North Los Robles Avenue regarding multiple calls of shots being fired, March 03, at approximately 9:53 p.m.. Officers arrived on scene and located a female adult suffering from a gunshot wound. Officers summoned the paramedics, who transported the victim to a local area hospital.

The on-going investigation culminated in the serving of multiple search warrants in the area as well as the identification and arrest of both suspects on March 23. Interim Chief John Perez stated, “We continue to use our resources, expertise and partnerships, in collaboration with the public, to safeguard our local community. These Detectives worked with the commitment to ensure justice is served and that Pasadena remains the safe city it has always been.”

The suspects are identified as Khy Charles, male adult, 21 years old, Pasadena resident, and Davian Thomas, male adult, 23 years old, Pasadena resident. The case was presented to the Los Angeles County District Attorney’s office on Tuesday.

One count of attempt murder with gun allegations was filed on Charles.

One count of attempt murder with gun allegations was filed on Thomas.

Both had bail set at \$2,040,000.

Anyone with information about can call Pasadena Police at (626)744-4241, or anonymously by calling “Crime Stoppers” by dialing (800) 222-TIPS (8477)

Pet of the Week



Clemson (A452150) is an adoptable adult male guinea pig. Clemson and his brother Syracuse were abandoned in a box in front of our adoptions office. They appear to be in good health and ready for a new home. As you might have guessed from his name, Clemson is part of our March Madness “Sweet 16” adoption tournament. His adoption fee is waived thanks to generous sponsors.

The normal adoption fee for guinea pigs is \$10. Stop by our Shelter Shop on the way home to get your guinea pig pellets, treats and timothy hay.

View photos of adoptable pets at pasadenahumane.org. 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.

ALTADENA LIBRARY BOARD PRESIDENT RESIGNS

By Dean Lee

Newly appointed Altadena Library Board President John McDonald suddenly resigned Friday morning, a day after numerous legal allegations were made against three sitting Altadena Library board members --during a special meeting-- including violations of open meeting laws and the intent to destroy government documents related to the violations. McDonald is also accused of conspiring against this newspaper for reporting related to the violations.

McDonald was absent from Thursday night’s meeting.

In emails dated January 24 obtained by this newspaper, Boardmember Armando Zambrano wrote, “John [McDonald] can we please prepare a draft news release about her [Altadena Library Executive Director Mindy Kittay] contract term, because the public is still being misinformed. I think you also need to prepare a response to allegations in this news article,” he said.

Board members Ira Bershatsky and Gwendolyn McMullins were part of the email discussion, in violation of The Ralph M. Brown Act. The act guarantees the public’s right to open and fair public meetings.

Brown Act violations were the topic, Zambrano referenced, of the article in this paper, Jan. 20.

Eagle Rock based attorney, Dale Gronemeier, said other emails between board members suggest that they are referring to Kittay’s contract being up for renewal this summer. Not renewing her contract would be a way to remove Kittay as director. Numerous other board emails refer to Kittay as being a problem.

“We really need to start letting the public know about all the behind the scene problems at the library and



John McDonald

all the pending lawsuits that have occurred as a result of Mindy’s management style and how the taxpayers may be on the hook for \$\$\$,” Zambrano wrote.

Gronemeier said he was only aware of one lawsuit Melloney Collier vs. Altadena Library District, Case No. BC682812. The issue was on the agenda Thursday night and discussed in closed session. The board reported no action was taken.

At that meeting, Gronemeier and attorney Elbie Hickambottom Jr. made public other emails related to rewriting the board’s own bylaws in secret.

“I agree with both Ira and Armando that we do not need input from the director [Kittay] or staff on this subcommittee. The By-Laws are the rules governing the Board and neither of them are Trustees so this is really a task for us to address collectively,” McDonald wrote in an email Jan. 9.

Hickambottom said the emails reflect a criminal mind that understands what is illegal.

At Thursday night’s meeting, McMullins said the ongoing

process was transparent and that the by-law’s were posted on the website. She welcomed anyone that would like to help update them.

Gronemeier said other emails showed that acting director Ryan Roy was appointed outside of a regular meeting in violation of the Brown Act.

“I am okay with Ryan being named acting director immediately,” Bershatsky wrote in an email Jan. 23. “Can we pass along that she is on leave and say medical or not?”

Bershatsky lashed out at Gronemeier saying he and Kittay, made Kittay’s, medical leave public, a private personal issue.

Gronemeier said McDonald tried to delete the emails.

“He first deleted the January 23 email from his library inbox,” Gronemeier said. “Then he deleted it from his trash folder by clicking ‘delete’ and clicking ‘yes’ to the inquiry.”

Emails were found in a backup folder on the library’s computers hard drives and obtained through a Public Records Act request by Gronemeier.

Missing Juvenile



At press time the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department’s Altadena Station detectives are seeking the public’s assistance in locating Lorena Alejandra Milian-Ramos. She is a 12 year-old female Hispanic who was last seen at her residence located in the 100 block of East Woodbury Road, Altadena on Thursday, March 29, 2018 at 7:15 a.m.

Ms. Milian-Ramos is described as 5’6” tall, 120 lbs., brown hair, and brown eyes. She was last seen wearing black shorts, a burgundy sweater, black shoes and a light colored backpack. Possibly wearing glasses.

She suffers from a medical condition. Her family is very concerned and asking for the public’s assistance in located her.

Anyone with information about this incident is encouraged to contact the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department’s Altadena Station (626) 798-1131. If you prefer to provide information anonymously, you may call “Crime Stoppers” by dialing (800) 222-TIPS (8477), use your smartphone by downloading the “P3 Tips” Mobile APP on Google play or the Apple App Store or by using the website <http://lacrimestoppers.org>

PASADENA MAN SENTENCED FOR FRAUD AND IDENTITY THEFT

A Pasadena man was sentenced Monday as part of sophisticated identity-theft ring that defrauded several victim financial institutions out of millions of dollars. Posing as shoppers’ they purchased Rolex watches, iPhones, Van Cleef & Arpels jewelry, and Chanel purses totaling millions of dollars.

Lei Chen, 51, was sentenced by United States District Judge Michael W. Fitzgerald. Chen was further ordered to pay restitution to eight victim financial institutions – American Express, Bank of America, Barclays, Capital One, Chase Bank, Citigroup, Discovery, and U.S. Bank – in the amount of \$2,725,451.96. He was also sentenced to over six years in prison followed by five years of supervised release.

Chen pled guilty in 2016 to conspiracy to commit wire fraud and bank fraud and aggravated identity theft. The conviction for aggravated identity theft required the Court to impose a mandatory, consecutive term of 24 months’ imprisonment in addition to the custodial sentence for the fraud conspiracy.

Chen, known by the moniker

“Uncle Chen,” was the leader of a large criminal organization that engaged in extensive credit card fraud and identity theft in Los Angeles and Orange Counties. According to court records, as part of their fraud scheme, defendant and his co-conspirators obtained personal identifying information (such as names, dates of birth, and social security numbers) of the victims for the purpose of obtaining credit cards in those identity theft victims’ names. Chen’s subordinates contacted credit agencies and financial institutions to change the victims’ addresses to “drop addresses,” that is, locations controlled by the organization. Co-conspirators working for Chen then applied for credit cards in the names of the victims and picked up the cards once they were delivered to the drop addresses.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Terrence P. Mann of the Santa Ana branch office.

For more information go to justice.gov/usao-cdca.

Altadena to Celebrate National Library Week

From April 8 - April 14, the Altadena Library honors National Library Week, a time we use to celebrate the contributions of our nation’s libraries and librarians! Throughout the week, we invite you to stop by the Main Library to personalize a button to show your love of your library and

reading! You can also meet us at the Altadena Farmers Market on Wednesday, April 11, as we celebrate National BookMobile Day with the launch of our Market Story Times and a visit from the Library’s BookMobile Bike!

For more information visit altadenalibrary.org.

Free Monthly Events at Pasadena Senior Center

There is something for everyone 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.

A Toast to the Joys of Music – Tuesdays, April 3 to 24, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Tom Campbell returns to play his guitar and sing covers of traditional country, country rock, blues, folk, gospel and classic rock music made famous by The Grateful Dead, Vince Gill, Merle Haggard, B.B. King, Willie Nelson, Elvis Presley, The Rolling Stones and others.

Scenic Walkers Club – Wednesdays, April 4 to 25, at 10 a.m. Join members of the Pasadena Senior Center’s Scenic Walkers Club for walks to scenic local places to enjoy the great outdoors and get some exercise. For more information, including where to meet up each week, contact Scenic Walkers Club coordinator Alan Colville at alancolville@charter.net.

Rental Scams – Thursday, April 5, at 10 a.m. The stress of finding an apartment or granny flat to rent is almost inevitable due to the search, competition, upfront money. Sometimes the rental process goes from aggravating to illegal. While the majority of rental listings are legitimate, rental scams are widespread. Come learn about the most recent scams and how to avoid them. Presented by Coldwell Banker.

Domino Club – Thursdays, April 5 to 26, at 1 p.m. If you’ve never played Chicken Foot dominoes before, or even if you have, come join the fun as Vicki Leigh leads participants in a rollicking version of the game that is easy enough for beginners yet challenging enough for seasoned players. The accompanying laughter is contagious! For more information call Vicki Leigh at 928-478-4654.

Friday Movie Matinees – Fridays at 1 p.m. Everyone enjoys the experience of watching movies and the pleasures they bring. April 6: “Murder on the Orient Express” (2017, PG-13)

starring Kenneth Branagh and Penélope Cruz. Thirteen strangers are stranded on a lavish European train where everyone is a suspect as the celebrated detective Hercule Poirot races against time to solve the mystery before the murderer strikes again. April 20: “Ladybird” (2017, R) starring Saoirse Ronan and Laurie Metcalf. A young woman comes of age in Sacramento while her strong-willed mother works to keep her family afloat after Lady Bird’s father loses his job.

Understanding Parkinson’s Disease – Thursday, April 12, at 10 a.m. Nearly 1 million Americans live with Parkinson’s disease, a chronic and progressive movement disorder with symptoms that worsen over time. The cause is unknown and there currently is no cure, although treatment options such as medication and surgery can help manage symptoms. Presented by Huntington Hospital.

HUMAN/ INSTRUMENT – Friday, April 6, at 3:30 p.m. Guest artists will explore the human body – the original musical instrument, harnessing heart rhythms through listening and seeing harmonies, body percussion and movement. RSVP at the Welcome Desk or by calling 626-795-4331. All class participants will receive complimentary tickets to the HUMAN/ INSTRUMENT concert led by MUSE/IQUE artistic director Rachael Worby Sunday, April 8, at 5 p.m.

LA Opera Talk: “Rigoletto” – Monday, April 16, at 1 p.m. An LA Opera community educator will lead participants through Giuseppe Verdi’s tragic masterpiece “Rigoletto,” the story of a lustful and immoral duke who ravishes the court jester’s daughter, only to have the jester’s revenge goes heartbreakingly awry.

The Pasadena Senior Center is an independent, nonprofit organization that offers recreational, educational, wellness and social services to people 50 and older.

ARCADIA

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Monrovia

SPRING FLING – AN EVENING IN PARIS

Bonjour! Grab your passport and spend an evening in “Paris” dining on French themed food, dancing to live music by Linda Herman, enjoying the photo booth, dessert bar, raffle and more! The Spring Fling will be held on Friday, April 20, 2018 from 4:30-7pm at the Arcadia Community Center – 365 Campus Drive. Tickets are \$13 and are for sale now both online at arcadiaca.gov/recreation and in person at the Arcadia Community Center. Don't wait to purchase your ticket for an unforgettable evening in Paris.

About the City of Arcadia
Nestled in the foothills of the San Gabriel

ARCADIA SALUTES NATIONAL VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY

Arcadia Mayor Issues Vietnam War Vet Proclamation

Arcadia Mayor Peter Amundson recognized March 29 as National Vietnam War Veterans Day at a meeting of the Arcadia City Council. He presented a Certificate of Proclamation to Arcadia City Clerk Gene Glasco who is the Founder of the Arcadia Vietnam War Memorial Monument in the Arcadia County Park.

National Vietnam Veterans Day commemorates the sacrifices of Vietnam veterans and their families and is part of a national effort to recognize the men and women who were denied a proper welcome upon returning home more than forty years ago.

The Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act, signed into law on Tuesday, March 28th, 2017, designates March 29th of each year as National Vietnam War Veterans Day.

If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Gene Glasco at 626.456.4366 or email at gene@arcadiavietnammonument.org.



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

ARCADIA POLICE BLOTTER

For the period of Sunday, March 18th, through Saturday, March 24th, the Police Department responded to 935 calls for service, of which 117 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

Sunday, March 18:

Just after 2:00 a.m., an officer conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle in the area of El Monte Avenue and Camino Real Avenue for an equipment violation. Upon contacting the driver, the officer detected a strong odor of alcohol emitting from the driver. Through a series of tests, the officer determined the 29-year-old male from El Monte was driving under the influence of an alcoholic beverage. He was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Just before 6:00 p.m., an officer was dispatched to a residence in the 300 block of East Forest Avenue regarding the report of a burglary. An investigation revealed unidentified suspect(s) entered the residence by damaging the lock of a rear door. The suspect(s) ransacked the residence and fled the scene. No suspects were seen and no witnesses were located.

Monday, March 19:

At approximately 7:00 a.m., officers responded to Dave and Buster's, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding the report of a commercial burglary. An investigation revealed the suspect entered an office inside the business and stole a large sum of money from the vault. The investigation is ongoing.

Just after 11:00 p.m., an officer responded to the parking lot of Burlington Coat Factory, 1201 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding the report of a stolen vehicle. The victim parked her car in the underground parking lot just before 7:00 p.m. and returned just before 11:00 p.m. to find her vehicle missing. No suspects were seen and no witnesses were located.

Tuesday, March 20:

At around 7:30 a.m., officers responded to McDonald's, 143 East Foothill Boulevard, regarding the report of a male lying on the ground bleeding. An investigation revealed a suspect approached an elderly man in the parking lot and punched him several times causing severe injury. The suspect, a 24-year-old male from West Covina, was located and found to be in possession of drug paraphernalia. He was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Just before 10:00 p.m., an officer was dispatched to a residence in the 200 block of West Camino Real Avenue regarding a burglary report. The victims returned to their home to find that it had been ransacked. The unknown suspect(s) entered the home by smashing a master bedroom window. The suspect(s) stole several pieces of jewelry before fleeing the scene in an unknown direction.

Wednesday, March 21:

Just after 1:00 a.m., an officer patrolling the area of Live Oak Avenue and Spruce Court conducted a vehicle stop on a vehicle for blocking a private driveway entrance to a gated community. Upon contacting the driver, the officer detected a strong odor of alcohol emitting from the driver. Through a series of tests, the officer determined the 24-year-old male from Marina was driving under the influence of an alcoholic beverage. He was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

At approximately 2:30 p.m., officers received the report

of a male subject causing a disturbance at Denny's, 7 East Huntington Drive. Officers contacted the subject, a 40-year-old male from Arcadia, and noticed symptoms of alcohol intoxication. Officers determined that the suspect was unable to care for himself. He was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Thursday, March 22:

Just after 4:00 a.m., an officer was dispatched to the 900 block of North Santa Anita Avenue regarding the report of a traffic collision. The reporting party witnessed the driver of a white sedan collide with a parked vehicle. Officers contacted the driver of the white sedan and noticed a strong odor of alcohol emitting from him. Through a series of tests, the officer determined the 41-year-old male from Pasadena was driving under the influence of an alcoholic beverage. He was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

At approximately 6:30 p.m., an officer responded to Westfield Santa Anita, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding a male and female involved in a verbal dispute. An investigation revealed the male grabbed the female by her wrist and pulled her hair. A restraining order was served to the subject, a 28-year-old male from Temple City. He was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Friday, March 23:

Just after 10:00 a.m., an officer was dispatched to 7-Eleven, 102 East Huntington Drive, regarding the report of a theft. A male suspect entered the store, selected a bag of chips and a drink, then fled the scene without paying for the items. Officers located the suspect nearby. The 21-year-old male from El Monte was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Just before 7:00 p.m., an officer responded to the 300 block of West Palm Drive regarding an activation of an Arcadia Police Department GPS tracker. Arcadia PD detectives had previously deployed decoy packages containing bait property and tracking devices to combat the increase in package thefts from residential areas. An investigation revealed a 41-year-old male from Pasadena had the stolen package, property, and tracking device in his vehicle. He was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Saturday, March 24:

At approximately 1:00 p.m., an officer responded to an apartment complex in the 1100 block of West Duarte Road regarding found property. The reporting party located a black BB-gun and wallet in the courtyard of the complex. Further investigation revealed the owner of the wallet was a victim of a robbery that had occurred around 2:30 a.m. The victim and his girlfriend were seated in his car when he was approached by the suspect armed with a black handgun. The suspect opened the unlocked door of the victim's vehicle and demanded cash. The victim handed his wallet to the suspect and the suspect fled into a blue vehicle. The suspect was described as a male Black, approximately 5 feet 9 inches tall and 140 pounds, wearing a black hooded sweatshirt with dark colored pants.

Just before 5:00 p.m., an officer responded to Sephora, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding a female being detained for shoplifting. A loss prevention specialist witnessed the suspect conceal 15 items (over \$400.00 in value) in her purse before exiting the store, failing to make payment. The 22-year-old female from Los Angeles was cited and released in the field.

MONROVIA - DUARTE

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

ARE YOU PREPARED?



Pictured (from left) Cheryl Reynolds, Duarte Kiwanis Past President, Kaye Biggs Duarte Kiwanis Board Member, and Anthony Hadloc, Community Service Officer.

The Duarte Kiwanis Club got quite an education on Emergency Preparedness at a recent meeting. Duarte Kiwanis Board Member, Kaye Biggs reminded everyone how important it is to have a plan in place including:

- Evacuation of your home
- Evacuation of your neighborhood
- Emergency kits - at home, at work and in your car.

It is critical to “know your neighbors” in case of emergency - our neighbors may be the first folks who can help. Capitalizing on a Neighborhood Watch group is a great start.

The County of Los Angeles has been preparing for “the big one” or any other extreme emergency. They have Mobile Medical Assets that include, for example:

- 4 Trailers
- 100 bed capacity
- Mobile surgical suite

These units can be moved to help hospitals that may have been damaged. Their plan includes stored antibiotics located throughout LA County.

In Duarte, a new CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) has been formed under the leadership of Anthony Hadloc, Community Service Officer. The members of the CERT are all volunteers who have completed a 20 hour basic skills course. The purpose of CERT is to augment the Public Safety Staff. These folks are those in bright green vests who go door-to-door prior to an evacuation due to potential flooding, for example.

It was great to learn how much our local agencies are prepared and can work together in case of emergencies. It's also a great reminder for all of us to be prepared!

If you are interested in joining Duarte Kiwanis or being a speaker at a future event, contact Tina Carey at tinac51@aol.com.

CITY RECEIVES CPRS AWARD FOR JULIAN FISHER PARK RENOVATIONS!

The City has received an auspicious California Parks and Recreation Society Award for our efforts renovating Julian Fisher Park! We are one of the CPRS District 13 2018 award recipients for Park Planning and Design. This project is a true example of fulfilling the CPRS mission to advance the park and recreation profession through education, networking, resources and advocacy. The project includes many innovative

elements that are aesthetically pleasing and that enhance environmental stewardship.

The City will be recognized for this prestigious honor at the Annual Awards & Installation Dinner taking place this Thursday, March 29 in the City of Diamond Bar. Great work to our entire Public Services team for making Julian Fisher Park one of the premier parks in our region!

MONROVIA POLICE BLOTTER

During the last seven-day period, the Police Department handled 445 service events, resulting in 85 investigations. To see a complete listing of crimes reported, go to <http://www.crimemapping.com/map/ca/monrovia> for crime mapping. For Police Department news and information, visit our website and follow us on Twitter, Instagram or Nextdoor.

Vandalism

March 22 at 9:02 a.m., employees of a business in the 300 block of W. Huntington arrived to work and discovered someone had broken the building's front glass window sometime during the night. Nothing was taken from inside the store. This investigation is continuing.

Petty Theft

March 22 at 9:57 a.m., a resident in the 100 block of W. Cypress walked outside his home to his car and attempted to drive to work, but his vehicle would not start. He discovered someone had stolen the catalytic converter off of his vehicle sometime during the night. This investigation is continuing.

Petty Theft

March 22 at 3:05 p.m., a resident in the 100 block of Acacia discovered someone had rummaged through his unlocked car, which was parked on the street in front of his house. The suspect stole a laptop and the car stereo. This investigation is continuing.

Shoplifting – Suspect Arrested

March 23 at 12:03 p.m., a store in the 900 block of W. Foothill reported a male subject had removed merchandise from a shelf and left without paying. Officers located the subject near the store and took custody of him after he was placed under private persons arrest by a store employee. The merchandise was returned to the store.

Injury Traffic Collision

March 23 at 1:30 p.m., a driver fell asleep at the wheel and collided into another vehicle at the intersection of Mountain and Huntington. The vehicle that was struck was pushed into two additional cars, causing more damage. One of the passengers was unconscious and was taken to a nearby hospital for medical care.

Warrant – Suspect Arrested

March 23 at 4:06 p.m., a grocery store in the 100 block of W. Foothill reported a female subject in front of their store disrupting business. Officers arrived and located the subject. A computer check revealed she had several warrants for her arrest, so she was arrested and taken into custody.

Warrant – Suspect Arrested

March 23 at 10:09 p.m., an officer was patrolling the 200 block of W. Huntington when he saw a subject he recognized from previous contacts. A computer check revealed the subject had a warrant

for his arrest, so he was arrested and taken into custody.

Grand Theft Auto

March 24 at 10:18 a.m., a resident in the 100 block of El Nido walked outside his home to go to work and discovered someone had stolen his silver Toyota Prius. He had parked it in front of his house the previous night. This investigation is continuing.

Disturbing Subject

March 24 at 11:52 a.m., a male subject was in front of a store in the 900 block of W. Duarte causing a disturbance. Employees of the store called police and reported he was disrupting their business and was refusing to leave the private property. When officers arrived, the subject left the property. He was notified by store employees that if he returned he would be arrested for trespassing.

Weapon Violation / Criminal Threats – Suspect Arrested

March 24 at 4:13 p.m., residents in the 500 block of Los Angeles reported a male subject made criminal threats toward them while brandishing a knife. Officers arrived and located the male. After further investigation, he was arrested for the weapon violation and making criminal threats.

Driving Under the Influence – Suspect Arrested

March 24 at 12:58 a.m., an officer was patrolling the 1200 block of S. Magnolia when he saw a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed. He stopped the vehicle and approached the driver. The driver appeared intoxicated, so field sobriety tests were conducted. The driver was arrested for DUI.

Shoplifting – Suspect Arrested

March 25 at 7:45 p.m., a female subject entered a clothing store in the 500 block of W. Huntington and concealed merchandise inside her purse, then left the store without paying. She was stopped outside the store by employees and the police were called. Officers arrived and after an investigation, arrested the subject.

Traffic Collision / Warrant – Suspect Arrested

March 26 at 2:41 p.m., an officer responded to a non-injury traffic collision that had just occurred at the intersection of Myrtle and Central. The officer completed an investigation to determine who was at fault. During the investigation, a computer check revealed one of the drivers had a warrant for his arrest, so he was arrested and taken into custody.

Domestic Battery / Child Endangerment – Suspect Arrested

March 26 at 9:08 p.m., a resident in the 100 block of El Nido reported her live-in boyfriend pushed her to the ground while he was holding their six-month-old baby. Officers arrived and after an investigation, arrested the male subject.

A RATTLING TALE FROM A LOCAL TRAIL

Happy Tails
by Chris Leclerc



During a hike with one of my four-legged friends, a yellow lab named “Gus”, we were both enjoying the cool breeze and warm sunshine as we ascended up the hill, when we had a rather rattling encounter with a low-lying creature lurking in the grass.

Like most dogs, Gus is quite a curious canine. He notices everything that moves around him. Whether it be a leaf falling from a tree or a squirrel scampering overhead across a power line, he’s all over it. When he gets distracted by sudden peripheral movements, I give Gus a slight tug on his leash and tell him, “leave it”. I reward him when he responds accordingly, with a pat on the head and a “good boy”, just to get him back on track.

Although birds, bugs and lizards are most often what we might encounter during our walks together, deer & coyote also appear now and then in the brush-covered hillsides surrounding the area where we walk. On this particular evening, we came across a creature that took us very much by surprise!

I’m not sure if it was Gus’s nose, ears or eyes that were first captivated by the elusive crawling creature. Perhaps it was a combination of all three. What I do know is that whichever of his keen senses kicked in first, he immediately snapped to attention and within a split second he changed his direction toward the object of interest.

I looked over to see what had suddenly drawn Gus in and I saw what appeared to be a sagebrush lizard, which is a harmless reptilian we often see slithering over the rocks and through the dirt in our yards and on the trails. Some sagebrush lizards get quite large, and as adults they can develop a heavy coat of colorful scales and a broad head with shiny dark piercing eyes.

Lizards are quite agile and they move very fast, which is why dogs and cats love to go after them. It’s all about the challenge of the chase. When Gus got close enough to this creature to scare it away, I was surprised to see that it did not move, rather it just sat still and held it’s ground. It was then that I realized our new-found friend was not a lizard at all.

My canine companion had just come face-to-face with a snake, lying low and lurking in the grass! Fortunately I managed to pull Gus away quickly before the snake made any swift movements, or had the opportunity to strike. When we were far enough away for my comfort level, I stood and observed it for a few moments.

I wanted to get a good look at it’s color and shape, to figure out what kind of snake it was. Per my estimate, the serpent was about 25 inches long and at least an inch and a half at the widest point of it’s belly. Unfortunately, I couldn’t see the end of its tail. All I could think was that Gus could so easily have been bitten, if I had not been paying attention and pulled him away promptly.

Feeling fortunate that we had escaped what might have been a revolting development, we

continued on our way and completed our hike. When I got home, I Googled snakes in the San Gabriel Foothills. Based on my memory of what it looked like, I determined the snake we saw was a Southern Pacific Rattler, one of the most common rattle snakes in our local foothills. Although its venomous bite can be lethal, this snake is not known to be aggressive. It just wants to be left alone to continue its quest for food and overall survival.

While I was on-line, I also did a little research to refresh my memory on emergency procedures to follow, for rattle snake bites in the wilderness. One of the many important things I learned is that dogs that spend any time on the trails or back roads of our local canyons should receive a snake bite vaccine called *Crotalus Atrox Toxoid*. The comparative results of vaccinated dogs versus non-vaccinated dogs bitten speaks for itself. Trust me, if you ever take your dog on the local trails it is worth having him vaccinated.

Another important precaution you can take to help avoid the risks and detrimental results of a canine snake bite is to pay close attention to what your dog is doing while you are out and about. Having had some basic behavioral training and maintaining control during a walk are also very important, as exemplified by my experience with Gus and the snake we met up with.

If I had hesitated to call him back, Gus would probably have been inquisitive enough to aggravate the snake, in which case he would most likely have been bitten. If a dog (vaccinated or not) is bitten by a poisonous snake, immediate veterinary attention is imperative. In the case of a time-lapse between the biting incident and veterinary care, be sure to keep the dog well-hydrated in the meantime.

If the dog is not willing to drink on his own, use a syringe to force fluids down his throat and keep him as calm as possible. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, do not panic! Stay focused and use your energy to handle the situation efficiently. The happy side of this otherwise daunting tale, is the fact that the rattle snake is known to be more passive than aggressive. I often say “Love and let live”, but in this case I say “Love, let live and leave it alone”. A snake will typically hide in lieu of striking, if left to itself, so if you and your dog happen to come across one, give it space and continue on your way.



BENNY, THE PURR-FECT “BOYFRIEND”

Looking for the purr-fect cat? Then here he is: meet BENNY! Benny is age 5, and is a very handsome, all black, shorthair.

Katnip News!



He’s super sweet, super loving, friendly, cuddly, healthy, and gets along with other kitties, too! He does have a very easy to manage condition called FIV+, but he does not need

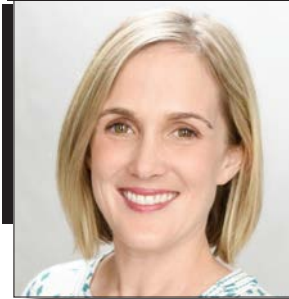
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adoption info & application on our website, www.lifelineforpets.org, and see Benny’s cute “Boyfriend” video at <http://www.lifelineforpets.org/teens--adult-cats.html>. Can’t adopt? Visit our website for our easy Sponsor A Kitty campaign.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES



Yogic Wisdom for Everyday Life SPRING IN YOUR STEP

Happy Spring by the way! I love the sense of hope and freedom of this

time of year.

It’s a chance to shed the heaviness accumulated through Winter and move forward in a new way. Don’t be surprised if you are feeling heavy or have allergies or cold. This is common for Spring. Luckily, yoga and healthy lifestyle can help lighten the load and keep us healthy.

Here are a few guidelines to keep you inspired and light on your feet in Spring:

First, don’t forget exercise. Talk a walk FIRST thing in the morning. Now is the time to take a vigorous yoga class. Maybe sign up for the Mount Wilson Trail Race? More physical action and early waking is going to keep the body healthy and circulation flowing. Doing Sun Salutations at home is a great option to incorporate yoga daily. Try 5, 10 or 15 sun salutes with full breath and movement. This activity is also going wake up the mind and relieve dullness mentally.

Secondly, make a daily meditation part of your routine. In the hustle and bustle of the day, we need this quiet time as calming, centering refuge. This practice will

help to balance out our emotions, provide a place to breathe, and create peace.

Third, make sure your diet is healthy, balanced, and regular. Skipping a meal is so easy to do when we’re working hard, but later on, our mood could suffer as a result. Food choices should be light, refreshing, and warm. Enjoy fresh cooked vegetables such as kale, broccoli or asparagus seasoned with garlic, ginger, and pepper.

And last but not least, clean out those closets and get rid of excess stuff. You might say why is this yoga teacher telling me to get rid of stuff? Accumulating stuff is attachment. By giving stuff away, we lessen attachment and free ourselves energetically for new experiences, thoughts and well-being.

Enjoy your time shedding those extra layers -- literally and figuratively. If you feel weighed down by stuff, people, or responsibilities, ask the question: What can I do differently? Is there something I can give up doing that might shift things? Your answer may lead you into a blossoming, new-found freedom.

Please don’t hesitate to contact me about yoga, meditation and holistic lifestyle: keely@keelytotten.com Namaste, Keely Totten, E-RYT 500, Yoga and Meditation Teacher

BEST FRIEND

Sweet Potato is a lovely 5-year-old American Staffordshire terrier girl with the most adoring facial expressions, a soft caramel and white coat and soulful brown eyes. This lovely girl has quite the tender disposition along with a funny and charming personality to match her darling looks. Sweet Potato was surrendered to the shelter by her previous owners. Although not much is known about her past, her sweet and funny personality is showing everyone what a great pup she is! She walks well on the leash, is learning how to play with toys and is becoming a little more active on her walks. She does, however, have a silly and a tad dramatic side to her. She has been known to stop in the middle of her walks and lay down on the grass or ground and just enjoy the moment! It is quite endearing to see her do this and very tempting to lay down next to her and just stare at the blue skies. If you are that special person or family who can appreciate her tenderness and silliness and would like to give Sweet Potato a second chance at a good life with a forever family, please stop by and meet this charming girl! Her adoption fee is \$145 and includes spay surgery, vaccinations, microchip and a free wellness exam at a participating veterinarian. Feel free to call us at (626) 286-1159 for more information. She currently resides at the San Gabriel Valley Humane Society located at 851 E. Grand Avenue in San Gabriel which is located off San Gabriel Blvd, north of Mission and south of Las Tunas Drive. To arrange a ‘Meet and Greet’, please stop by any time from 10:30am to 4:30pm Tuesday through Sunday. Website: www.sgvhumane.org.



THE MISSING PAGE

Real Life Tips from Life's Instruction Manual

BE OKAY WITH BEING DIFFERENT

Events, conditions, and circumstances happen to everyone, what matters most is how we respond. It is the last week of International Women’s Month, and we honor Michaela De Prince, a world-class ballerina, once known as Orphan Number 27.

She lost both of her parents to the civil war in Sierra Leone. She was born with vitiligo, a skin condition that leaves white patches on her body and people called her “the devil child.” When her parents died, her uncle left her at the orphanage, but no one expected her to be adopted. As Number 27 she received the smallest portion of food and the least desirable clothing. She was tiny and malnourished. It was hard for her to continue to have hope for a brighter future, but one day she found a magazine with a ballerina on the cover, and a dream was born. That photo, Magali Messac, a French prima ballerina, dressed in a tutu and en pointe looked beautiful and represented a possibility of happiness for Ms. De Prince. She folded that cover photo and kept it close to her body.

Eventually, an American couple adopted her and her best friend. The picture was the first thing she shared

with her new mother.

She moved from West Africa to New Jersey and was soon studying ballet.

Her background makes her an unlikely candidate to become a lead ballerina, but she has done just that. She landed a prized scholarship to the Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School at the American Ballet Theatre in New York, and now she’s a principal dancer with the Dutch National Ballet in Amsterdam. She’s different, and she still shines.

Her advice to everyone:

“Don’t be afraid to be a poppy in a field of daffodils.” Ms. De Prince was born Mabinty Bangura, then was Orphan Number 27, and now Michaela De Prince, international dance superstar. What might you accomplish, if you made an effort? What life awaits you, if you dare to dream?

Lori is a lawyer and coach. She offers virtual workshops and personal coaching, learn more at www.Loriaharris.com.



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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF PASADENA SCHOLARSHIP

First Congregational Church of Pasadena, UCC Pasadena Area Women's Scholarship is available annually in the amount of \$1000 or more for persons who identify as female who are currently enrolled or planning to enroll by Fall, 2018 at a college or trade/technical school. Our Church's Core Values are: Nurturing Spirituality, Welcome and Social Justice. Our Vision Statement expands upon that to embody God's love for all by celebrating diversity in: racial, age, gender, sexual orientation and physical ability. We also work to serve the marginalized and educationally under served in the greater Pasadena area. These values and vision will guide our selection process.

Information:

- \$1000 or more awarded annually to women on the basis of need according to the discretion of the Scholarship Committee of the First Congregational Church of Pasadena. Recipients may be awarded the scholarship more than once.
- Members of First Congregational Church of Pasadena are not eligible to receive this scholarship.
- Awards will be given to assist in the education of any female college, university, technical or trade institute student.
- Qualities to be given equal consideration by the Scholarship Committee are: goals; grades; financial need; college and/or community service; and proximity to achieving degree objectives.

Application Deadlines, Requirements and Procedures: INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ONSIDERED

Blank printed applications are available in the church office, on the church website www.uccpasadena.org or via email from Scholarship2018pasadena@gmail.com

- Applicants must be current residents of the city of Pasadena or adjoining communities OR be

enrolled by Fall of 2018 in a Pasadena college, university, technical or trade institute.

- Applications are to be completed and returned to FCC no later than [April 8, 2018](#) by mail, hand-delivery or email.
- Women currently attending a school must include a copy of their transcripts with their completed application (Unofficial copies are permissible.)
- Two (2) references are required. Two reference forms are included with the application. The applicant is responsible to ensure the references are received by the Committee by April 8, 2018.
- • Finalists will be interviewed between April 08 – April 28th. Awards will be announced prior to May 5, 2018 and presented on [May 05, 2018](#) at the Annual Women's Scholarship Tea to be held in the afternoon at FCC of Pasadena. Winners are expected to attend.
- Students are expected to enroll in at least nine [9] units per semester at the undergraduate level and at least six [6] units at the graduate or postgraduate level.
- Scholarship recipients are expected to enroll in the institution stated in the application by the following academic term. Enrollment verification is required.
- Scholarship recipients who are unable to provide the Scholarship Committee a timely verification of enrollment from the institution stated in the application, for whatever reason, will be required to refund the full amount of the scholarship money.

First Congregational Church of Pasadena, United Church of Christ 464 East Walnut Street, Pasadena CA 91101 626-795-0696 Fax: 626-795-0698

www.uccpasadena.org
Scholarship2018pasadena@gmail.com

Read us online at:
www.mtnviewsnews.com

FOOD & DRINK

TABLE FOR TWO by Peter Dills
thechefknows@yahoo.com

NICK'S EXPANDS INTO PASADENA.

I think the most popular local question I get is have you been to Nick's on So Lake yet? Yes, and here is my recent review.

When is a restaurant fair game for a review? With the popularity of Yelp and message boards on the Internet, it seems that the feeding frenzy of reviews begins as soon as a restaurant opens its doors. We can't blame social media, however. Everyone (including yours truly) wants to check out the new kid in town. Did you know that Pasadena has the most restaurants in the United States per capita? It's true!! So, when is a good time to check out the new kid? Merrill Shindler from KABC Radio feels that if a restaurant is charging full fare they are open to a full review. My dear departed dad, Elmer Dills, thought six months was sufficient time to iron out any kinks. He'd say, "the paint isn't dry yet!" and that's actually what led me to this article. I went to the new Nick's Restaurant on South Lake the other night, and I could smell the paint (I really could!). Full disclosure Nick's does have other locations throughout Southern California.

Nick's is located on South Lake at the former Bru and Trattoria Neapolisspace. Jinxed you might say? Well, stand in line, brother - I have heard that comment a few times the last few days. But hold that thought. While this first impression (spoiler alert) is favorable, I must admit that I had a bit of a chip on my shoulder because of the two aforementioned disasters. My style of review is what I call a "vibe" and my first vibe is favorable. It appears that these Nick's people know what they are doing. The menu itself reminds me of Houston's, and there is nothing wrong with that. Sandwiches and burgers feature a prime rib dip (which they serve till they run out so they must know that it is a popular item) and a buttermilk chicken sandwich. My dinner choice was the cheeseburger with ground chuck on a sesame seasoned bun. The three of us all shared shrimp taquitos, and the Grade 1 Ahi Tuna from the appetizer list. The shrimp received a thumbs-up, and the tuna was delightful except that the sliced avocado was under-ripe. From the oven, my friends really enjoyed the Prosciutto and Fog Pizza, and the Fast Fry Broccoli is a 9/10, but who



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doesn't enjoy broccoli? On my return trip, I have my sights on the Cioppino served with a fisherman's loaf of bread. I'm not sure what that means, but I promise to investigate.


The interior layout hasn't changed much with the bar in the middle and dining available throughout including upstairs. This a nice dining alternative to Del Frisco's and Paul Martin's, though they don't offer happy hour and you won't get that afternoon crowd. This a place to go for a well thought out dining experience. Prices on the menu and wine list are reasonable. You may now proceed!!!

Nick's of Pasadena 336 S. Lake Ave Pasadena (626) 787-1444 as always call before going. Visit www.diningwithdills.com

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WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT THE NEW MEDICARE CARDS

Dear Savvy Senior,

What can you tell me about the new Medicare cards? I've heard there are a lot of scams associated with these new cards and I want to make sure I protect myself.

Leery Senior

Dear Leery,

The government will soon be sending out brand new Medicare cards to 59 million Medicare beneficiaries. Here's what you should know about your new card along with some tips to help you guard against potential scams.

New Medicare Cards

Starting this month (April 2018), Medicare will be removing Social Security numbers from their new Medicare cards, and begin mailing them out to everyone who gets Medicare benefits. The reason for this change is to help protect your identity and reduce medical and financial fraud. The new cards will have a randomly generated 11-character Medicare Number. This will happen automatically. You don't need to do anything or pay anyone to get your new card.

Medicare will mail your card, at no cost, to the address you have on file with the Social Security Administration. If you need to update your official mailing address, visit your online Social Security account at SSA.gov/myaccount, or call 800-772-1213. When you get your new card, your Medicare coverage and benefits will stay the same.

If you have a relative or friend who lives in another state and gets their card before you, don't fret. The cards will be mailed in waves, to various parts of the country over a 12-month period starting in April 2018, and ending next April 2019. Medicare beneficiaries in Alaska, California, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia will be the first to receive the mailings, between April and June.

The last wave of states will be Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio and Tennessee, along with Puerto Rico and the



Virgin Islands.

When you get your new Medicare card, don't throw your old one in the trash. Instead, put it through a shredder or cut it up with a pair of scissors and make sure the part showing your Social Security number is destroyed.

If you have a separate Medicare Advantage card, keep it because you'll still need it for treatment.

Watch Out For Scams

As the new Medicare cards start being mailed, be on the lookout for Medicare scams. Here are some tips:

Don't pay for your new card. It's yours for free. If anyone calls and says you need to pay for it, that's a scam.

Don't give personal information to get your card. If someone calls claiming to be from Medicare, asking for your Social Security number or bank information, that's a scam. Hang up. Medicare will never ask you to give personal information to get your new number and card.

Guard your card. When you get your new card, safeguard it like you would any other health insurance or credit card. While removing the Social Security number cuts down on many types of identity theft, you'll still want to protect your new card because identity thieves could use it to get medical services.

For more information about changes to your Medicare card go to Go.medicare.gov/newcard. And if you suspect fraud, report it to the FTC (FTCcomplaintassistant.gov), AARP's fraud help line, 877-908-3360, or your local Senior Medicare Patrol program. Go to SMPresource.org for contact information.

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.

EASTER MESSAGE

Tomorrow is Easter, the celebration of Jesus' resurrection from the dead, the forgiveness of our sins, and the hope that we, too, will live again for eternity in new bodies if we put our faith in Jesus as our Lord and Savior.

But we can't have Easter without the cross. The Bible teaches that the cross is an offense to people who do not acknowledge their own sin and need for a savior. This is because people often measure their own righteousness relative to others, and this method almost always makes them look better by comparison. But it's not about whether or not I think I'm a better person than a murderer, embezzler, or drug addict. The only comparison that matters is how I measure up to a holy God, and by that standard I fall miserably short.

People don't like to talk about sin or Hell. Many sins are glossed over or rationalized. But sin is a serious problem because it separates us from God. We are all sinners by nature. This may not seem fair, but it's the human condition into which we were born. God knew before He created us that we would sin and need a savior. The Bible teaches that sin can only be atoned by the death of an innocent. That is why God had the Israelites practice animal sacrifice as part of their worship of Him. This is hard for us, in modern, Western culture to understand, but the Israelites saw the connection between their sin and the great amount of blood that had to be shed so frequently in order to make them right with God. For centuries, the only way people could approach God was after they had slaughtered animals, and even then, only one person, the high priest, could approach the most holy place of the temple only once a year, on the Day of Atonement. There was a great chasm separating the people from God, the unholy from the holy.

But even these animal sacrifices could not truly remove sin, they pointed toward Jesus' death as the

perfect lamb of God. When Jesus died, the great veil in the temple in Jerusalem was torn in two from top to bottom. This was the heavy curtain that closed off the most holy place where the high priest ministered before God once a year on behalf of the people. By tearing it apart, God was proclaiming that the way to Him had been made through Jesus' sacrifice of Himself in our place. The gap between God and people had been bridged, and now anyone can approach God on the basis of His Son Jesus.

The cross wasn't God's Plan B after Adam and Eve fouled it up for the rest of us. It was God's plan all along. That is truly amazing! Even before time began, God was willing to send His own Son to die to save us. That is love.

But what is He saving us from? It can't be physical death, because we all die. Jesus saves us from Hell. Hell is a real place, which is why Jesus spoke more about it than about Heaven. God is not willing that any should go there, which is why He sent Jesus to take the penalty of our sin. The most important decision any of us will make is what we do with Jesus. There is no middle ground. It is not enough to say that Jesus was a great teacher, because Jesus claimed to be God, so if He's not God then He was either lying or delusional. Life is short and none of us know when we may die. I encourage you today to take hold of the only lifeline God has provided in the person of His Son Jesus.

If you choose to accept Jesus as your Savior you can pray this prayer and He will come into your heart and give you peace with God --today and forever!

"Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. I turn from my sins and invite You to come into my heart and life. I want to trust and follow You as my Lord and Savior. In Your Name. Amen."

SENIOR HAPPENINGS



HAPPY BIRTHDAY! ...March Birthdays*

Clare Marquardt, Karen Blachly, Carla Duplex, Ella Guttman, Viky Tchatlian, Mary Cooper, Sun Liu, Helen Wallis, Joan Crow, Nancy Fox, Martha Cassara, Rita Johnson, Mercedes Campos, Dorothy Webster, Terri Elder, Carol Cerrina, Amy Putnam, Sally Contreras

* 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.

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.

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Looking Up
with Bob Eklund

OUMUAMUA LIKELY CAME FROM A BINARY STAR SYSTEM

New research finds that Oumuamua, the rocky object identified as the first confirmed interstellar asteroid, very likely came from a binary star system.

"It's remarkable that we've now seen for the first time a physical object from outside our solar system," says lead author Dr. Alan Jackson, a postdoc at the Centre for Planetary Sciences at the University of Toronto Scarborough in Ontario, Canada.

A binary star system, unlike our Sun, is one with two stars orbiting a common centre.

For the new study, published in the journal Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society, Jackson and his co-authors set about testing how efficient binary star systems are at ejecting objects. They also looked at how common these star systems are in the galaxy.

They found that rocky objects like Oumuamua are far more likely to come from binary than single star systems. They were also able to determine that rocky objects are ejected from binary systems in comparable numbers to icy objects.

"It's really odd that the first object we would see from outside our system would be an asteroid, because a comet would be a lot easier to spot and the solar system ejects many more comets than asteroids," says Jackson, who specializes in planet and solar system formation.

Once they determined that binary systems are very efficient at ejecting rocky objects, and that a sufficient number of them exist, they were satisfied that Oumuamua very likely came from a binary system. They also concluded that it probably came from a system with a relatively hot, high-mass star since such a system would have a greater number of rocky objects closer in.

The team suggests that the asteroid was very likely to have been ejected from its binary system sometime during the formation of planets.

Oumuamua, which is Hawaiian for 'scout,' was first spotted by the Haleakala Observatory in Hawaii on 19 October 2017. With a radius of 200 metres and traveling at a blistering speed of 30 kilometres per second, at its closest it was about 33,000,000 km from Earth.

When it was first discovered researchers initially assumed the object was a comet, one of countless



Photo: ESO / M. Kornmesser

icy objects that release gas when they warm up on approaching the Sun. But it didn't show any comet-like activity as it neared the Sun, and was quickly reclassified as an asteroid, meaning it was rocky.

Researchers were also fairly sure it was from outside our solar system, based on its trajectory and speed. An eccentricity of 1.2—which classifies its path as an open-ended hyperbolic orbit—and

such a high speed meant it was not bound by the gravity of the Sun.

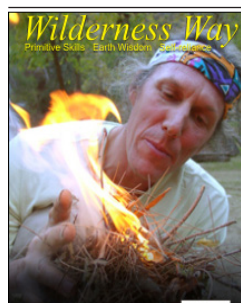
In fact, as Jackson points out, Oumuamua's orbit has the highest eccentricity ever observed in an object passing through our solar system.

Major questions about Oumuamua remain. For planetary scientists like Jackson, being able to observe objects like these may yield important

clues about how planet formation works in other star systems.

Jackson adds, "The same way we use comets to better understand planet formation in our own solar system, maybe this curious object can tell us more about how planets form in other systems."

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



CHRISTOPHER Nyerges

EASTER AND THE MAN BEHIND IT

In Search of the Real Historical Jesus

[Nyerges is an educator, and author of such books as "Extreme Simplicity," "Enter the Forest," and "Self-Sufficient Home." You can learn more about his classes and activities at www.SchoolofSelf-

Reliance.com/

Jesus! What a man he was! Perhaps the most amazing thing about Jesus – a man who is known and worshipped by at least a third of all humanity, and around whom our system of reckoning time revolves – is that there is still so much debate about who he was, what he did, how he lived, and what he believed. Hundreds of differing sects are stark testament to the fact that though Jesus might have had "one message," that message has been widely interpreted over the centuries.

Let's work through some basics. As an historical person, he can be placed in a specific time and location. All historians concede that they do not know the birthday of Jesus, but it's not Christmas day. Most scholars suggest that Jesus was born in either April or September, in 4 B.C. or 6 B.C.

"Jesus" was not his name, just the English rendering of Yeshua. Did he have a full name? Yes, of course, and it was not "Jesus Christ," which is a title, meaning Jesus the Christ, or Jesus the Anointed. Historians say that the actual name was Yeshua ben Josephus, that is, Jesus son of Joseph. Another version says it is Yeshua ben Pandirah, Jesus son of the Panther. In Indian literature, he is referred to as Yuz Asaf, in the Koran he is Isa (or Issa).

WAS JESUS BLACK?

Ethnically, culturally, and religiously, he was Jewish. But occasionally, a writer will suggest that Jesus was actually black, with such evidence as the preponderance of the "Black Madonnas" found throughout Europe. The only Biblical evidence on this are the two lineages of Jesus provided, which uncharacteristically include women.

The key genealogies of Jesus listed in the Bible are Luke 3: 23-31, and Matthew 1:1-17. In these lineages, we are told of at least four of the women in Jesus' genealogical line. These are Rehab, Ruth, Tamar, and Bathsheba. Rehab (also spelled Rahab) was a Canaanite. Tamar was probably a Canaanite. Bathsheba, often referred to as a Hittite, was more likely Japhethic, that is, not a descendant of Ham. (However, this is not clear). Ruth was in the line of Ham. Now, who was Ham? Who were the Canaanites and Hittites?

According to Genesis 9:19, all mankind descended from Noah's three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Ham's descendants became the black people who settled in Africa, and parts of the Arabian peninsula. His sons were Cush, whose descendants settled in Ethiopia, Mizraim, whose descendants settled in Egypt, Put, whose descendants settled in Libya, and Canaan, whose descendants settled in Palestine. The descendants of Cush were the main populace of the Cushite Empire, which extended from western Libya to Ethiopia and Nubia, all of present day Egypt, and the Arabian peninsula into the mountains of Turkey. They spoke several languages and had skin pigmentation ranging from dark black to medium brown.

It takes a bit of study to ascertain who these people were – and there were other possible African women in Jesus' lineage as well – but, in general, when we are speaking of Cushites, Canaanites, descendants of Ham, etc., we are speaking of Africans. It is entirely possible that this wasn't a big deal when the scriptures were written since Jesus' racial background was common knowledge.

So, although Jesus had some African ancestry, his physical appearance was such that he fit right in with the Jews of that era, based on several passages that indicate that Jesus not only looked like every one else of the day, but was also very average and normal looking Middle-Easterner, not sticking out at all.

THE EARLY YEARS

The Bible speak of the young Jesus talking to the Rabbis in the Temple, sharing his youthful wisdom with the elders to the surprise of his parents. Then there is no Biblical record of what he did as a teenager, and during his 20s. We don't hear from his again in the Bible until his appearance on the scene at about age 30, where he turned water into wine at a wedding feast, and is depicted as a healer, prophet, and fisher of men.

His religious observations would have been the regular observations for Jews of the day, and quite different from

the observations of most Christian sects today. The reasons for this are well-known. The early Christians were known as Judeo-Christians (Jews who followed the Christ), and as the new religion became more and more encompassing, it eventually became Christianity by the 4th Century. In order to attract ever-more followers, Constantine made Christianity the official religion of the Kingdom, and Christianized all the popular Mythraic (so-called Pagan) observations and turned them into Christian Holy Days. Catholicism, after all, means Universalist.

Growing up as a Catholic, I studied Jesus, and wanted to be holy like him. I wanted to be like Jesus -- but what did that really mean? There was so much about this person that was beyond my ability to research. For example, what Holy Days would Jesus have observed? Was he an Essene? Was he a Nazarene? What did these groups believe and practice? Did he have any Buddhist influence? Who were his closest followers, the apostles? What did he actually teach his close followers, beyond what is known from his various public talks? Were his miracles and public healings actual events, or were they symbolic stories? These and other questions have always swirled around this man called Jesus.

As a student of the real and historical Jesus, here are just a few of the many books I have found to be useful.

Garner Ted Armstrong of the Worldwide Church of God in Pasadena, wrote a book about the "Real Jesus," and Jesus was described as a hard-working, athletic, health-food eating powerful man, a sort of health advocate Gypsy Boots of the past. But certainly Jesus was much more than that.

Holger Kersten in his "Jesus Lived in India" book presents a very different Jesus, one who is depicted on the Shroud of Turin, and one who traveled to India and studied from the Buddhists. In fact, in the way in which the holy men of the Bible sought and found the baby Jesus is very much of the pattern of the holy men of Tibet seeking and finding the next Dali Lama, and Kersten puts Jesus in that very same pattern.

Manly Hall, who founded Los Angeles' Philosophical Research Society, writes that the patterns of all historical saviors (he cites at least 16) include more or less the same elements. But Hall is less concerned about historical facts than he is in demonstrating that there is an extant prototype of human spiritual evolution.

According to Harold Percival in his "Thinking and Destiny" book, Jesus succeeded in re-uniting his Doer and Thinker and Knower, his internal trinity, which put him in touch with his divinity, which made him, effectively, a God. Though Percival's terminology is unfamiliar to most Christians, he is less concerned about the historical details of Jesus and more concerned about what Jesus did, and became, that made him a focal point of most societies on earth over the last 2000 years. According to Percival, the virgin birth, the miracles, and the resurrection should all be studied to find the inner meanings for our own individual evolution.

There is also a silly but interesting book that purports to show that Jesus was never a person but actually a hallucinogenic mushroom. Don't bother reading it. Another book suggests that there was no Jesus, that he is just a made-up person as a metaphor of astrological principles. Really?

I believe it is unwise (and incorrect) to suggest that a Jesus never existed because of the way his followers centuries later chose to remember him, and continued to overlay so many symbols onto the historical person.

Jesus lived, and it is not reasonable to assume that the stories of such a great one arose from mere myth or fabrication. Such a person lived, and his influence of what he did and said affected many people.

Regardless of your religious background or belief, you are likely to be richly rewarded by delving deeply into the nuances of who Jesus was. When everyone's mind is upon Jesus and the Mysteries during the Easter season, I have found great value in viewing the "Jesus of Nazareth" series, and I even find value in such depictions as "Jesus Christ Superstar." Unlike so many who purport to follow in his path, I find the real Jesus one who was not dogmatic, but one who knew that only when we recognize each other's humanity do we rise up into our own divinities.

According to Holger Kersten, "Jesus did not supply theories to be ground in the mills of academia, about his path and message – he just lived his teachings! Tolerance, unprejudiced acceptance of others, giving and sharing, the capacity to take upon oneself the burdens of others, in other words, unlimited love in action and service for one's fellow human beings – this is the path which Jesus showed to salvation."



OUT TO PASTOR

A Weekly Religion Column by Rev. James Snyder

THE EASTER BUNNY THAT GOT AWAY

After any holiday the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and myself enjoy taking a day or two off and just relax. We like to sit around and tell stories. My wife usually starts by saying, "Hey, remember the time when..." And she goes on with a story that I had forgotten about. When she's done, we laugh together.

Then it's my turn and I begin, "Hey, do you remember the time when..." And I go on and tell a story that she may have forgotten about, I really don't know. When I'm finished, we laugh together as though it was the funniest thing we've heard all day.

It's just our way of relaxing and unwinding after a holiday. Holidays are very busy times for us, we like them, but they do take a little bit out of us. It seems that the older we get, the more it takes out of us. I'm not exactly sure what that means. Just don't tell me what it means!

We usually go on with our stories until we're too tired to tell a story or to laugh.

This last holiday the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage came up with a story I had long ago forgotten. In fact, I'm not sure the details of her story matched the truth, but who am I to contradict her.

"Remember the time," she said rather soberly, "when the Easter Bunny got away?"

I had to stop and think a little bit because it was not in any of my memory files.

Then she began to unwind the story.

As it goes, according to her recollection, I was going to do a little magic trick for the children before they were dismissed from the morning service. I was going to pull a little bunny out of a hat. I practiced for quite a bit and thought I had everything covered.

I should know by now that the time you know you got everything covered there's one little bit that defies your observation.

I had all of the children come up front so that they could see the wonderful magic trick I had in store for them. I began by telling them the story of the resurrection of Jesus.

According to my wife, I was in the middle of telling them the story when in the back of the congregation Mrs. Steward screamed, "There's a rat in the church." With that, she jumped on top of the pew and did her famous afraid dance. You don't want to see it. All the while she was screaming, "Rat, rat, rat."

It was enough to bring the whole congregation to their feet yelling, "Where's the rat?"

Having a rat in the church is not a good thing. I don't know how a rat could get into the church

unless he is elected to the board.

There was such a rumpus in the church auditorium that we really couldn't go forward with the service. I didn't quite know what to do because we had not taken the offering yet. Whatever happens after the offering is okay.

At this point I couldn't get the attention of the children because they were standing on top of the pew looking backward, wondering where in the world the rat was or where it came from.

I got one of my elders to go back and try to take care of the situation. I never had a rat in the church before.

After a few minutes my elder found the "rat" and caught him. The "rat" turned out to be the little bunny I was supposed to have in the hat that I was going to surprise the children with.

How that Bunny got out of the box where I put him is still something that puzzles me to this day.

The elder held up the little white bunny and told everybody, "It's okay, it's not a rat, it's a little bunny. A little bunny can hurt nobody."

All of the congregation, including Mrs. Steward, sat down in their pew and laughed and laughed while clapping their hands for the elder who saved the day. I was even laughing and clapping myself.

I didn't know what to do now that my magic trick was out the window, it was hard to get the attention of the little ones. I finally dismissed them to their classes and try to bring the congregation back to some level of sanity.

I can't remember what my sermon was that day, but I do remember there was a lot of chuckling throughout my sermon. I'm not sure anybody was even listening to my sermon. I was tempted to preach the sermon the next Sunday, but it wasn't Easter Sunday. I could keep it until next year, which is probably what I did.

Sometimes things are not always what they seem to be. The challenge is in the midst of turmoil to find what is really true.

Perhaps this is what Solomon was thinking of when he said, "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Proverbs 14:12).

There's a big difference between a bunny and a rat. Sometimes we confuse the two and in that confusion, we cause alarm. I want to be able to differentiate between the Bunny element and the rat element in my life so that I can have peace and tranquility.

Dr. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, Ocala, FL 34472. He lives with his wife in Silver Springs Shores. Phone 352-687-4240 or e-mail jamesnsnyder2@att.net. The church web site is www.whatafellowship.com.

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APR 6 | Challah (or Matzoh) & Chili: A Klezmer/TexMex Listening Party

Vroman's Bookstore, PASADENA

6pm - Hosted by the Sierra Madre Playhouse. Test your knowledge of Texas, shtetels & win a prize! vromansbookstore.com

APR 7 | Derby Day 5K

Santa Anita Racetrack, ARCADIA

8am - Run like a thoroughbred! Races for all ages, along with live entertainment in the post-event expo. derbyday5k.com

APR 15 | 2018 Art Of The Garden Tour

4 Private Gardens in PASADENA, ALTADENA & SIERRA MADRE

10:30am-4:30pm - Annual self-guided art & garden tour. Work will also be displayed at Creative Arts Group. creativeartsgroup.org

APR 20-MAY 26 | The Immigrant

SIERRA MADRE Playhouse

Times Vary - Biographical story of a young Jew who fled Russia for the United States in 1909. sierramadreplayhouse.org

APR 21 | Monrovia Wine Walk

Old Town MONROVIA

6-9pm - Stroll through Old Town & sample a variety of wine while exploring local businesses. cityofmonrovia.org

APR 21 | MAP Neighborhood Conference

MONROVIA High School

9:30am-3:30pm - Build community through workshops, food, entertainment & group discussions. cityofmonrovia.org

APR 21 | Glendora Earth Day Festival

GLENDORA Civic Center

9am-1pm - Drought tolerant workshops, eco-tours, bike ride, recycle used motor oil/filters & more activities! cityofglendora.org

APR 22-MAY 20 | Showcase House of Design

PASADENA Showcase House of Design

Times Vary - Enjoy inspiring design, innovative new products & more at this year's showcase house. pasadenashowcase.org

APR 28-29 | Jackalope Artisan Fair

Central Park, PASADENA

10am-5pm - Featuring over 200 local, hand-selected artisans, crafters & DIY enthusiasts. jackalopeartfair.com

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—Kenn Wells, former lead dancer of the English National Ballet

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—Siegfried & Roy, Masters of the Impossible

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truly a touch of heaven.”
—Daniel Herman, Minister of Culture of the Czech Republic

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—Christine Walewska, “goddess of the cello”, watched Shen Yun 5 times

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



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CONGRESSWOMAN GRACE NAPOLITANO AND DR. GENEVIEVE CLAVREUL: TWO TRAILBLAZERS OF THE 21ST CENTURY

By Joan Schmidt

Recently the Los Angeles County Commission for Women held its annual Woman of the Year awards. Fifth District Supervisor Kathryn Barger chose two very special ladies as her honorees.

Her first honoree was our Congresswoman Grace Napolitano who I met a few years ago when she joined Congresswoman Judy Chu in Chu's annual Domestic Violence Victims' Annual Clothing Drive. Immediately I liked Napolitano; she was so warm and down to earth. As time went by, I admired her more: she supported so many of my causes, such as working for Veterans and those with mental illness.

Supervisor Barger began by saying what an honor and privilege it was to recognize Napolitano...that when Barger first met Napolitano, they shared an instant connection...there was so much to like and respect about this dedicated public servant... she is passionate, dedicated, enthusiastic, loyal and kind, but most importantly, a collaborator who makes strides for her community and constituents. Barger went on to say that Napolitano has been an inspiration...to not define issues within party lines and partisan politics...to effectively work across the aisle to reach common ground and find solutions... she brings so much empathy in partnering with others to accomplish great things...has been a remarkable mentor for me and for young women pursuing a career in public service, public policy, healthcare and the military... she continues to stay connected to her roots and served as a member and former chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute. And so Supervisor Barger ended with, “For so many reasons, I am proud to recognize her as the Fifth District Woman of the Year, but even prouder to consider her a friend.”

Supervisor Barger's second Honoree was Dr. Genevieve Clavreul. I am ashamed to say

I didn't know anything about Dr. Clavreul. Just go on line, type in her name and expect to be blown away. I just printed ONE link and found out she was born in France, came to the US in 1959, and became a citizen in 2001. In 1975, she divorced her husband of fifteen years, and with four children and her own mother to care for, she created a new life for her and her family. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and a Masters in Education, while working full-time as a head nurse of a pediatric intensive care unit at a local hospital!

Supervisor Barger introduced Dr. Clavreul as someone very familiar to the Board of Supervisors. When a tragic accident forced Clavreul to stop working, she attended the weekly Board of Supervisors' meetings... she speaks on health and nursing issues, especially concerned with those living with HIV/AIDS and the barriers they face, and ongoing consideration for the diligent use of public funds. During Dr. Clavreul's long career of nearly forty years in the health field, she has served in a variety of roles. Some of her most notable accomplishments include developing a quality assurance program for Stanford Hospital, and completely overhauling the UC Irvine Medical Center which had a \$3 million deficit at the time. Her most important work began in the mid 1980's when she was at the frontline of the AIDS epidemic while conducting a field study at UCLA. (She contacted Dr. Gallo here and Professor Montagnier in France and as behind the scene negotiator was in the forefront of the HIV/AIDS crisis.) She was an original member of Act UP in Los Angeles and has continued her involvement in grassroots activism. Currently she is working on a book about her experience in the fight against HIV/AIDS. Supervisor Barger ended with, “Congratulations Dr. Clavreul for your tireless-and I mean tireless-work on behalf of those in Los Angeles County.

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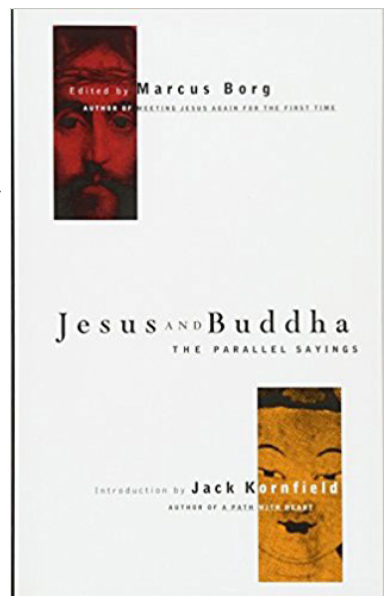
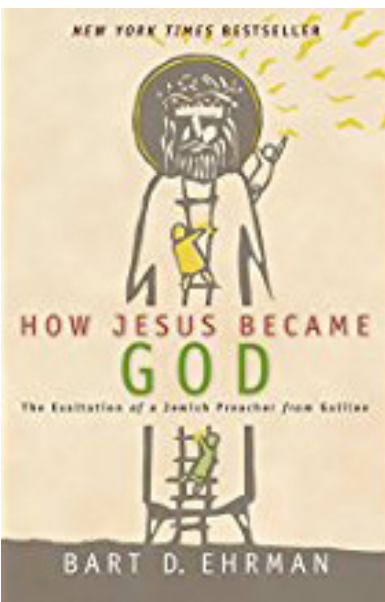
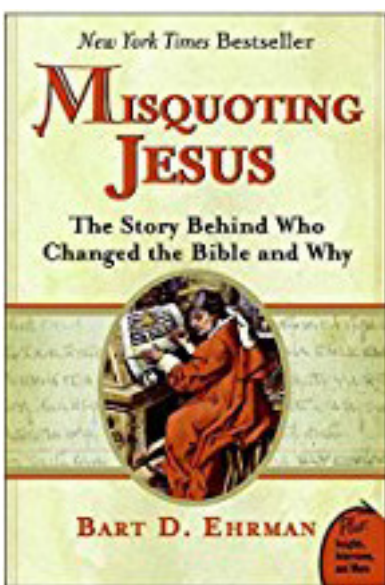
By Jeff Brown

How Jesus Became God : the Exaltation of a Jewish Preacher from Galilee by Bart D. Ehrman

New York Times bestselling author and Bible expert Bart Ehrman reveals how Jesus's divinity became dogma in the first few centuries of the early church. The claim at the heart of the Christian faith is that Jesus of Nazareth was, and is, God. But this is not what the original disciples believed during Jesus's lifetime—and it is not what Jesus claimed about himself. How Jesus Became God tells the story of an idea that shaped Christianity, and of the evolution of a belief that looked very different in the fourth century than it did in the first. A master explainer of Christian history, texts, and traditions, Ehrman reveals how an apocalyptic prophet from the backwaters of rural Galilee crucified for crimes against the state came to be thought of as equal with the one God Almighty, Creator of all things. But how did he move from being a Jewish prophet to being God? In a book that took eight years to research and write, Ehrman sketches Jesus's transformation from a human prophet to the Son of God exalted to divine status at his resurrection. Only when some of Jesus's followers had visions of him after his death—alive again—did anyone come to think that he, the prophet from Galilee, had become God. And what they meant by that was not at all what people mean today. Written for secular historians of religion and believers alike, How Jesus Became God will engage anyone interested in the historical developments that led to the affirmation at the heart of Christianity: Jesus was, and is, God.

Misquoting Jesus: The Story Behind Who Changed the Bible and Why by Bart D. Ehrman

For almost 1,500 years, the New Testament manuscripts were copied by hand—and mistakes and intentional changes abound in the competing manuscript versions. Religious and biblical scholar Bart Ehrman makes the



provocative case that many of our widely held beliefs concerning the divinity of Jesus, the Trinity, and the divine origins of the Bible itself are the results of both intentional and accidental alterations by scribes. In this compelling and fascinating book, Ehrman shows where and why changes were made in our earliest surviving manuscripts, explaining for the first time how the many variations of our cherished biblical stories came to be, and why only certain versions of the stories qualify for publication in the Bibles we read today. Ehrman frames his account with personal reflections on how his study of the Greek manuscripts made him abandon his once ultra-conservative views of the Bible.

Jesus and Buddha: The Parallel Sayings by Marcus Borg (Editor), by Jack Kornfield (Introduction)

This remarkable collection reveals how Jesus and Buddha—whether talking about love, wisdom, or materialism—were guiding along the same path. Jesus & Buddha also delves into the mystery surrounding their strikingly similar teachings and presents over one hundred examples from each. "As a Christian, I grew up with Jesus and have lived with him all my life. I have not lived with the Buddha. Similarly my work on this book was from the vantage point of a Jesus scholar. But my experience has led me to the conclusion that their teachings about 'the way' are virtually identical and that together they are the two most remarkable religious figures who ever lived." Marcus Borg. "You hold in your hand a remarkable and beautiful book. Jesus and Buddha are now meeting in an encounter of the spirit. When we listen deeply to their words we find that in many ways, they speak with one heart. If we could enact even one verse from these teachings, it would have the power to illuminate our hearts, free us from confusion and transform our lives." Jack Kornfield. The previous book reviews are from Amazon.com

FAMILY MATTERS

By Marc Garlett



DON'T MAKE THESE COMMON, EXPENSIVE MISTAKES: HOW TO LEAVE ASSETS TO MINOR CHILDREN

Most parents want to make sure their children are provided for in the event something happens to them while the children are still minors. Grandparents, aunts, uncles, and good friends sometimes want to leave gifts to beloved young children, too. Unfortunately, good intentions and poor planning often have unintended results. Don't make these common, expensive mistakes. Instead, here's how to both protect and provide for the children you love.

Common Mistake: Don't Use a Simple Will to Leave Assets to Minor Children

Many parents think if they name a guardian for their minor children in their wills and something happens to them, the named person will automatically be able to use the inheritance to take care of the children. But that's not what happens:

- When the will is probated, the court will appoint a guardian to raise the child; usually this is the person named by the parents in their wills.
- But the court, not the guardian, will control the inheritance until the child reaches legal age (18 or 21).
- At that time, the child will receive the entire inheritance in one lump sum.

Most parents would prefer that their children inherit at a later age, but with a simple will, you have no choice; once the child reaches the age of majority, the court must distribute the entire inheritance at once.

Common Mistake: Avoid Court Guardianship

A court guardianship for a minor child is very similar to one for an incompetent adult.

- Things move slowly and can become very expensive.

- Every expenditure must be documented, audited, and approved by the court, and an attorney will need to represent the child.

All of these expenses are paid from the inheritance, and because the court must do its best to treat everyone equally under the law, it is difficult to make exceptions for each child's unique situation and needs.

Correct Action: To Protect the Child and the Assets, Use a Trust

Instead of using a simple will, a better option is to set up a children's trust in a will:

- This would let you name someone to manage the inheritance instead of the court.
- You can also decide when the children will inherit.
- But the trust cannot be funded until the will has been probated, and that can take precious time and could reduce the assets.
- If you become incapacitated, this trust does not go into effect...because your will cannot be adjudicated until after you die.
- And, anything that goes through probate, as these assets would, is visible to the public which means predators, unscrupulous family members and nosy neighbors, know what your child inherited.

The best option is a revocable living trust, the preferred option for many parents and grandparents:

- The person(s) you select, not the court, will be able to manage the inheritance for your minor children or grandchildren until they reach the age(s) you want them to inherit—even if you become incapacitated.
- Each child's needs and circumstances - even special needs - can be accommodated, just as you would do yourself.
- And assets that remain in the trust are protected from the courts, irresponsible spending, and creditors (even future divorce proceedings).

For many folks, the absolute best solution is to keep the assets in trust for their lifetime or until assets get spent down. Assets that are protected in this manner are there for your children but can't be taken from them.

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

MARC

A local attorney and father, Marc Garlett is on a mission to help parents protect what they love most. His office is located at 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

WHY 300,000 VOLKSWAGENS ARE BEING STORED IN THESE MASSIVE AUTO BONEYARDS.

As part of the settlement after it got caught cheating on its emissions tests, Volkswagen has bought back about 350,000 of its U.S. diesel vehicles. The automaker so far has spent more than \$7.4 billion on the cars, according to court filings seen by Reuters. Where does VW put all those cars? Wherever it can find the space. The German automaker has 37 remote storage facilities across the U.S., and they're not just parking lots. The sites include a former football stadium in the Detroit suburbs, an old paper mill in Minnesota and a giant patch of land in the California desert. A

court filing seen by Reuters said that through Dec. 31, "Volkswagen had reacquired 335,000 diesel vehicles, resold 13,000 and destroyed about 28,000 vehicles. As of the end of last year, VW was storing 294,000 vehicles around the country." These vehicles are being stored on an interim basis and routinely maintained in a manner to ensure their long-term operability and quality, so that they may be returned to commerce or exported once U.S. regulators approve appropriate emissions modifications," VW spokeswoman Jeannine Ginivan

BUSINESS TODAY

The latest on Business News, Trends and Techniques

By La Quetta M. Shamblee, MBA



ACCOUNTABILITY BEGINS & ENDS AT THE TOP

The phrase "being thrown under the bus" is associated with blame being assigned to someone who bears little to no responsibility for that which they are being accused. In other words, someone is being held responsible for another person's shortcomings or wrong doings. This situation is not uncommon in the work environment, and typically rears its head when someone has failed to make adequate progress or achieve a goal that was expected of them.

In an effort to cover one's butt, a co-worker or supervisor may exhibit signs of selective amnesia when faced with the reality that they have fallen short in performing their job responsibilities. It's bad enough when this dynamic is imposed staff-to-staff employed in the same classification, but it's truly deplorable when it is imposed by a manager, onto the staff they supervise.

Managers who engage in this type of disgraceful practice are usually the first ones to take the spotlight for accomplishments that belong to others. They are eager to take credit when things are favorable, but quick to step back while pointing the finger of blame when things don't go so well. Basically, they only want to lead when they can anticipate accolades so that they can take credit for the success. This type of

behavior is a disservice to the essence of management and leadership.

One of the hallmarks of great leadership is the willingness and ability to accept responsibility for everything and everyone within one's scope of authority, the good and the bad. Individuals with solid management and leadership skills embrace the reality that every comment, action and the demeanor of their delivery will have a direct impact on how well their staff will function as a team. These managers are also willing to take the hit, accept the blame when necessary and to be accountable. This approach builds trust and facilitates loyalty among the team.

Way too many work environments are filled with employees who feel a need to spend more time engaging in activities to cover their butts for fear of being held responsible for someone else's shortcomings. Bosses with big egos and huge doses of insecurity simply can't comprehend that that everyone on the team would do a much better job, which would make them look even better in the process, if they'd learn how to handle the management aspects of their jobs and terminate the practice of throwing staff under the bus.


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PUBLISHER/ EDITOR
Susan Henderson

PASADENA CITY
EDITOR
Dean Lee

EAST VALLEY EDITOR
Joan Schmidt

BUSINESS EDITOR
LaQuetta Shamblee

PRODUCTION
Richard Garcia

SALES
Patricia Colonello
626-355-2737
626-818-2698

WEBMASTER
John Avery

DISTRIBUTION
Kevin Barry

CONTRIBUTORS

Chris Leclerc
Bob Eklund
Howard Hays
Paul Carpenter
Kim Clymer-Kelley
Christopher Nyerges
Peter Dills
Rich Johnson
Merri Jill Finstrom
Rev. James Snyder
Dr. Tina Paul
Katie Hopkins
Deanne Davis
Despina Arouzman
Renee Quenell
Marc Garlett
Keely Toten
Dan Golden

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Letters to the editor and correspondence should be sent to:

Mountain Views News
80 W. Sierra Madre Bl.
#327
Sierra Madre, Ca.
91024

Phone: 626-355-2737
Fax: 626-609-3285
email:
mtnviewsnews@aol.com

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.

BLAIR BESS



IS PRESIDENT TRUMP ANTI-TRUSTWORTHY?

It's fascinating to hear the president rail against those who don't pay their fair share of taxes or have grown too powerful. This from a man who thinks he's smarter than everyone else. Because he doesn't pay taxes. And has grown too powerful.

President Trump is whining, yet again, about Jeff Bezos and his brainchild, Amazon. In a recent tweet, he tapped out "Unlike others, they [Amazon] pay littler [sic] or no taxes to state & local governments, use our Postal System as their Delivery Boy (causing tremendous loss to the U.S.), and are putting many thousands of retailers out of business!"

Can you believe it? The president is absolutely livid about rich guys putting ordinary folks out of business. Guess he forgot about all the contractors he stiffed, the investors he screwed, and the legal bills he refused to pay.

Let's get real. The new tax laws favor big corporations like Amazon and the well-to-do like Jeff Bezos. And Donald Trump and his family. And the Trump Organization and the Kushner Companies. The Trumps, Kushners, and their businesses stand to save tens of millions of dollars each year.

Regarding Amazon abusing the U.S. Postal Service, both the company and its customers pay for the privilege of having merchandise delivered door-to-door. The president probably doesn't realize this because he doesn't like to read and has no need for books; or likely anything else Amazon may have to offer. Unless it's gold-plated.

The president has a point about the role Amazon has played in the slow, painful demise of the brick-and-mortar retail sector. It's true. But we, as consumers, have also contributed to the steady decline of Main Street and mall shopping experiences. We're lazy, and like convenience and affordability.

The real reason the president cares about retail contraction, however, is personal. It could potentially hit him in the bank account. The success of commercial real estate is intrinsically tied to the prosperity of the retail industry.

But why hammer away at Jeff Bezos? Because, in addition to being Amazon's largest individual shareholder, Bezos also happens to own The Washington Post. The President would like to shut the lights out at The Washington Post. As The Post's motto says, "Democracy Dies in Darkness."

The president doesn't much like The Post. He doesn't much care for democracy either. And he really doesn't appreciate the coverage given to him by The Post's journalists. They are nothing more than purveyors of "fake news." Even though, despite White House denials to the contrary, their scoops consistently prove to be accurate.

At The Washington Post, The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, and many other "failing" newspapers, news sites and cable news networks have done an excellent job in keeping the most dishonest president in history honest. And there's the rub. The president loathes honesty.

President Trump's tweets are ominous. They suggest he or his proxies will continue their attempts to chisel away at the news media through manipulation of public opinion, the Constitution, the rule of law, tax legislation, and government agencies.

The Department of Justice has been tasked to investigate whether a planned merger of AT&T and Time Warner violates anti-trust laws. Ostensibly, this is because the president doesn't like the idea of a small number of companies dominating the nation's media, thus hurting consumers. Who does?

The truth: Time Warner owns CNN, another of the president's nemeses. Administration threats to kill the proposed merger are a not-so-indirect result of the president's desire to silence CNN. Just as his threats to Amazon are rooted in his desire to darken the doors of The Washington Post.

Too much wealth and power in too few hands negatively impacts all Americans. But before attacking Amazon, AT&T, Time Warner, or Jeff Bezos, the president needs to take a close look in the mirror.

President Trump must cease his ongoing assault on the First Amendment. His misuse of power for personal gain is damaging to those he ostensibly serves; and self-destructive. Ignorance of the law is not an excuse. Deliberate attempts to abuse and obstruct it are inexcusable. And, as may soon be proved by Special Counsel Robert Mueller, a prosecutable offense.

Blair Bess is a Los Angeles-based television writer, producer, and columnist. He edits the online blog Soaggregated.com, and can be reached at BBess.soaggregated@gmail.com.



"THE ONLY THING WORSE THAN BEING FIRED BY PRESIDENT TRUMP IS NOT BEING FIRED BY PRESIDENT TRUMP."



LEFT TURN/RIGHT TURN

TOM PURCELL



NARCISSISM & THE REPUBLIC - 'ME THE PEOPLE?'

Boy, is narcissism getting out of hand with younger generations. San Diego State psychologist Jean Twenge examines the trend in two books: "Generation Me" and "The Narcissism Epidemic: Living in the Age of Entitlement."

Twenge says the self-esteem movement - in which everybody gets a trophy - has produced many "me-centered" young adults, whose opinions of their own skills and talents are often out of sync with reality.

Why is this an issue? Because, says Psychology Today, "true narcissists can only see things from their own perspective." They are incapable of the civility and thoughtful deliberation a representative republic requires to address the many challenges ours is facing.

Lucky for me, I grew up in the 70s when it was impossible to become self-centered. Unlike many modern parents, who often give their children unique names to demonstrate how "special" they are, I was given the biblical name Thomas, after my father. I never took myself too seriously, because thousands of other kids had names - Bill, Bob, Tim, Joe - just as common.

Families were bigger in the 70s. Growing up as the only boy with five sisters was awfully humbling.

When I was 12, Bobby Grebber, the neighborhood bully, began roughing me up. Well, I didn't have older brothers to teach me how to fight; my sisters taught me. I looked Grebber dead in the eyes and said, "You are sooooo immature! Get a life!" Even though I had five sisters, my father, always pinching pennies, made me wear hand-me-downs. It wasn't too bad most of the year, but Easter Sunday was unpleasant. Do you know how hard it is to outrun a bully with your pantyhose bunching up and your bonnet flopping in the wind?

We never experienced a self-esteem movement at St. Germaine Catholic School. The nuns didn't worry about making us feel good about ourselves. They focused on pounding values into us and making sure we mastered math, science, reading and writing. Any narcissistic tendencies were wacked out of us with a hard wooden ruler.

I attended a public high school, where I was finally able to attempt a little narcissism - until my parents saw a slip in my grades. That resulted in a temporary loss of every privilege. No B grade or better meant no car, friends or the freedom to leave the house. I made it to Penn State University, where I gave narcissism a full go. It was there that I was introduced to my first love: Rolling Rock beer. By the time I was a junior, I had attained, to quote comedian Frank Nicotero, a "3.2" (blood-alcohol level).

But my parents intervened and humbled me yet again. No B grade or better meant no more cash.

What's worse, my father, worried that my liberal-arts major would fail to land me a job, persuaded me to sign up for more practical courses. I'm the only person ever to graduate from Penn State with a major in English and a minor in air conditioning and heating.

In any event, unlike older generations which had little choice but to be humbled out of their narcissistic impulses, newer generations are getting too self-centered.

Twenge tells NPR that millennials score higher on the Narcissistic Personality Inventory than prior generations. She says narcissism is evident in pop songs, which focus on the self, as well as in books that frequently use phrases such as "I am special" and "all about me."

And obsessive use of social media, home of the "selfie," certainly nurtures a narcissist's worst tendencies.

Perhaps parents should re-embrace some of the harsh child-rearing techniques of prior generations, so that we may reverse today's Narcissistic Personality Inventory scores.

Because today's growing narcissism is hurting an entire generation of our children, which is not good for our country.

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JOE GUZZARDI

NERVOUS TECH GIANTS RAMP UP LOBBYING



Since Congress created the H-1B in 1990, IT services companies have had things go mostly their way. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services statistics show that the federal government has issued about 1.8 million visas through 2017 to overseas workers that displace or block employment opportunities to experienced, skilled Americans. H-1B visas are valid for three years, are routinely renewed for an additional three years, and routinely lead to citizenship.

But in the Trump White House, the president has ordered tighter H-1B qualifying standards which have put a big league scare into tech giants Tata Consultancy Services, Infosys and Wipro. In February, USCIS announced that it will require "detailed statements of work or work orders" about the job that would be performed by an H-1B visa holder when employed at a third-party site. Employers will need to file more details, known as requests for evidence (RFE), to confirm why a foreign-born applicant should be given preference over American applicants. Previously, adjudicating immigration officers didn't have to review third-party contracts, dates or location of precisely where the H-1B visa holder would be employed.

In anticipation of the April 2 H-1B filing date for fiscal 2019, immigration lawyers have criticized USCIS for overly stringent demands, and India's largest IT service companies have increased their lobbying budgets. A Center for Responsive Politics review showed that Tata increased its lobbying expenses 37 percent to \$110,000; Infosys, up by a multiple of four to \$200,000; and Wipro, up by five-and-one-half times to \$130,000. Indian workers receive 70 percent of the total H-1B visas issued every year - 65,000 go to overseas applicants, and 20,000 are reserved for foreign nationals studying in the U.S. who earn an advanced degree.

The agency defends its more rigorous standards. USCIS noted that it has found "significant employer violations" among H-1B employers which include paying less than the required wage, not paying workers the required wage while they wait for project assignments, and having employees perform non-specialty occupation jobs. In short, IT specialists hire many, but pay little.

Employers cannot point to tangible evidence that they truly need overseas workers. In fact, high-ranking industry officials admit that qualified Americans are readily available. Industry representatives routinely claim that because of a qualified personnel shortage, about 500,000 jobs cannot be filled. But in a moment of rare candor in 2016, then-Infosys Chief Executive Vishal Sikka admitted that if new regulations slowed the flow of Indian cheap labor techs to the U.S., the employers' solution would be to hire "locally," meaning American. Sikka: "There are enough universities, enough ability to hire, enough ability to teach."

At the same time that Sikka confirmed what H-1B critics had been insisting for decades - that no shortage of qualified U.S. tech workers existed - the Business Insider reported that HP cut 55,000 jobs between 2012 and 2016; yet, the company filed more than 2,000 labor condition applications for H-1B visas. And CNBC's story, "Silicon Valley: Much young talent, many fewer jobs," reported that at San Francisco's annual Internapalooza, more than 5,000 college-age students showed up hoping to get a chance at a Silicon Valley job, evidence that an abundant supply of young talent is available.

Understanding why employers love the H-1B visa is easy - it expands the applicant pool which, in turn, allows them to pay less in salaries.

Joe Guzzardi is a Progressives for Immigration Reform writer and researcher. Contact him at jguzzardi@pfirdc.org. Find him on Twitter @joeguzzardi19.

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to the Sierra Madre
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Sierra Madre's unique small town character and charm brought many of us here to stay.

Let's Keep Sierra Madre Great!

"I am committed to maintaining a beautiful, safe place where individuals, seniors and families can flourish." – Rachelle Arizmendi

Rachelle Arizmendi was first elected to the Sierra Madre City Council in 2014 and currently serves as the Mayor of the City of Sierra Madre.

In 2017, Rachelle was appointed by California's Governor to serve on the State's Board of Food and Agriculture. She also serves on several Boards including the California League of Cities and Foothill Workforce Development Policy. Rachelle is a Governor Appointee to the Interagency Council on Early Intervention and is an Advisory Member of the South Coast AQMD Local Government & Small Business Advisory Group.

Rachelle is the Vice President & Chief Operating Officer of PACE (Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment). PACE is a non-profit community development organization that serves over 40,000 people every year in the areas of job training and employment, business development, early education, asset building, energy, and weatherization. She oversees a budget of \$25M and a staff of 300 employees. In her previous capacity, she held the position of Education Project Director for 16 years. She was also the Executive Director for 2-1-1- California (an affiliate of the United Ways of California).

Keep Sierra Madre Great!

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