



DON'T FORGET TO VOTE! TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2020

ALEGRIA AVE. IN SIERRA MADRE CLOSED FOR HALLOWEEN....Pg. 15

Where Your Community News Come First

Mountain Views News

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2020

VOLUME 14 NO. 44

THE WEBB-MARTIN GROUP



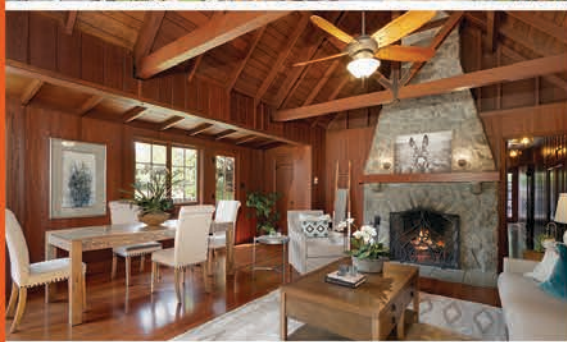
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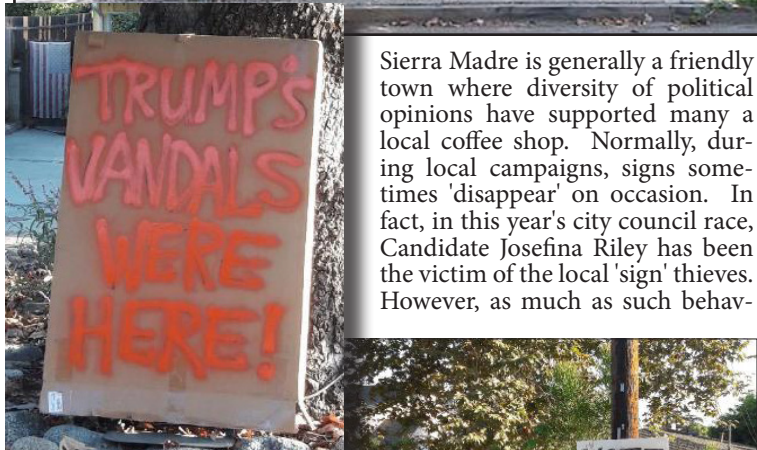
Brokers Lic. #01943630 | Source: CoreLogic, Freddie Mac, Bankrate

LOOKING FOR THINGS TO DO IN SIERRA MADRE ON HALLOWEEN?

How about strolling through town and viewing the fabulous Halloween Poster Art in downtown merchants' windows, on Sierra Madre Blvd. from Lima St. to Baldwin Ave. Oct. 24 - Nov. 2. All work was done in local households. (Sponsored by Sierra Madre Civic Club)



POLITICAL HARASSMENT STRIKES A NEW LOW IN SIERRA MADRE



Sierra Madre is generally a friendly town where diversity of political opinions have supported many a local coffee shop. Normally, during local campaigns, signs sometimes 'disappear' on occasion. In fact, in this year's city council race, Candidate Josefina Riley has been the victim of the local 'sign' thieves. However, as much as such behavior

is annoying, to have vandals enter and deface private property as indicated above, and leave an arrogant calling card is another story. People have the right to post whatever they choose on their property. Vandals who violate those rights, trespass and break the law, should be punished. Perhaps their DNA will come to light one day. *MVNews*

PLANNING COMMISSION TURNS UP HEAT ON CITY COUNCIL DURING OUTDOOR EVENT

By Kevin McGuire

The expectation was to hold a pleasant outdoor meeting under the stars in beautiful Memorial Park, but, in the cool night air, things heated up a bit as community attendees and Planning Commission members scolded the City Council on a number of hot topics during the last assembly before Election Day. Though, there have always been civil discussions and disagreements between the Planning Commission and the City Council as a normal part of any government, tensions seemed to flare up starting back in July 2020, when Council moved forward with a plan to reduce commission seats from seven to five members due to difficulty filling open positions. At the time, the Planning Commission had six seats filled and one unfilled vacancy.

But, that changed on October 22, 2020 when Planning Commission Vice Chair and architect, Joe Catalano resigned from his position at the request of Mayor John Capoccia for an undisclosed incident.

Now, with a 42-unit project approved on the Monastery grounds and several other projects within the city, the Planning Commission is officially down to five members.

During the public comment portion of the meeting, several spoke on Catalano's behalf.

"One of the most respected Planning Commission members was asked to resign. If he didn't resign, and it had to go to Council vote, 'it was going to get ugly.' This is an architect who cared about the community and was passionate about helping people with their historic homes," said resident Gary Hood. The quote 'it was going to get ugly,' references what the Mayor said to Catalano according to Catalano's conversation with Hood.

"What you have done is unconscionable," said resident Deb Sheridan. "Mayor Capoccia, for no real reason...demanded the resignation of one of our fine commissioners, Joe Catalano. Mayor Capoccia, I remind you that YOU were the one who recommended him to the Council...WHAT IS GOING ON HERE?!", Sheridan exclaimed.

Mayor Capoccia defended his actions while not disclosing the exact reason for his call for a resignation by Catalano. "Anybody who knows me knows that I wouldn't do anything like this without good reason. I thought through it very carefully and made a decision on what I thought was in the best interest of Sierra Madre," Capoccia stated.

The Fault is in the Design

The next round came later in the night with the public hearing discussing amendments to the municipal code to streamline the design review process. The objective back in April 2020 aimed for a design review process that

"reduced regulation and increased objectivity" as City Council stated that the current design review process was "inherently subjective and difficult to interpret and apply consistently."

Back in 2017, City Council designed new review thresholds with the goal in mind to "preserve the small-town character, protect mountain views and promote architectural diversity." Many of the subjective rules applied at the time caused confusion among homeowners and more frustration for both City Council and the Planning Commission.

By 2020 there was concern over the impact of legislative housing bills, so a subcommittee was formed to recommend amendments to current design review process. Of the 10 alternative recommendations presented to City Council, option 8 was agreed upon. The approval of Resolution 20-16 amends design review authority subject to administrative design review by staff with appeal to the Planning Commission and City Council. But the vote did not come until members of the Planning Commission voiced displeasure of the process.

"I want to point out to the Council that the Planning Commission is very, very frustrated," said Bob Spears, Planning Commission member. We try very hard to do our job. There is no communication between the three entities [City Council, Staff and Planning Commission]. We are like blind people trying to figure out what you want us to do. You cut us down from seven to five. We use to have three architects, now we have one. You need to step up. You need to sit down with us and have a conversation, because right now, City Staff, City Council and the Planning Commission are not together and the city is going to pay dearly for the process," Spears said to applause from the audience.

Mayor Capoccia pointed out several points of communication with the Planning Commission through joint meetings and acknowledged that he himself had attended all Planning Commission meetings and was available for questions. "I really, really disagree with that characterization that there is no communication," Capoccia said.

Resolution 20-16 will give City Staff the authority on reviews of projects as an Administrative Design Review Permit, which would appeal to the Planning Commission. This will reduce the cost and processing time to applicants in most cases.

Two members of City Council, Mayor Capoccia and Council Member John Harabedian are not seeking another term and will be replaced, along with the seat vacated early by Council Member Denise Del Mar. City Council did not want to pass design review matters to the new Council for 2021.

The Resolution passed unanimously.

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November 1, 2020 at 2am

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Mountain Views News

Sierra Madre Arcadia Duarte Monrovia Pasadena Altadena South Pasadena San Marino



~John Capoccia
Sierra Madre Mayor

"I wholeheartedly endorse Andy Bencosme for the Sierra Madre City Council. Andy is well-informed on current issues and is committed to public safety, rebuilding infrastructure and sound fiscal management. As a long-time volunteer and downtown businessman, he'll provide leadership toward a thriving downtown and maintaining Sierra Madre's unique village charm."

"I proudly endorse Andy Bencosme for Sierra Madre City Council. As a manager for a local small business for many years, and a long time community volunteer on the Sierra Madre Community Services Commission, Andy has shown that he deeply cares about his city. His commitment, leadership and volunteerism in Sierra Madre and the greater San Gabriel Valley make him an excellent choice for the residents of Sierra Madre."



~Judy Chu
U.S. Congresswoman



"I am pleased to endorse Andy Bencosme for Sierra Madre City Council. Andy's leadership experience in business and community affairs makes him an ideal Council Candidate."

~Gene Goss
Council Member and
Former Mayor



"I am happy to endorse my friend Andy for Sierra Madre City Council. I have known Andy for years and have found him to be a dedicated person who deeply cares about his community."

~Anthony Portantino
California State Senator



"I am excited to endorse Andy Bencosme for the Sierra Madre City Council. I have known him as a volunteer and advocate for the Community. He is a good man with a lot of integrity and I am certain he will do a great job for Sierra Madre if elected."

~Jeffrey Prang
Los Angeles County Assessor

www.Andy4SierraMadre.com | Paid for by Andy Bencosme for Council 2020 | FPPC# 1431784

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Tina Wu Fredericks

Policy and Education Advocate

PUSD Mom for 8 Years

Math Teacher

Five-Term PTA Board Member

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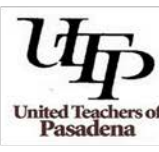
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EDWARD GARCIA FOR CITY COUNCIL

EDWARD GARCIA for SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL

Ed will bring his experience in working on legal issues concerning Economics and Statistics as a Forensic Economist to the Sierra Madre City Council. He will work hard, on your behalf, to make certain the City is making responsible decisions with the budget.

As a father of three children, Ed is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life here in Sierra Madre. He sees the importance of public safety, improving infrastructure, supporting local businesses, and community services to reach that goal.

Ed's community involvement includes:

- Sierra Madre Community Foundation, President (Previously Treasurer and Secretary)
- City of Sierra Madre UUT Oversight Committee, Member, 2015
- City of Sierra Madre Special Revenue Committee, Chair, 2015
- Yes on Measure UUT Committee Chair, 2016
- No on Measure D Committee Chair, 2018
- St. Rita, Cub Scout Pack 110 Cubmaster, Fall 2017 through Spring 2019
- St. Rita, BSA Troop 100, Troop Committee Member, 2020 (current)
- Sierra Madre Little League, Managed or Coached the past seven seasons



Proven Commitment to the Community!

Ed is the only candidate who is unanimously endorsed by the current Sierra Madre City Council and by the Sierra Madre Professional Firefighters Association



JOHN CAPOCCIA
Mayor



RACHELLE ARIZMENDI
Mayor Pro-Tem



GENE GOSS
Council Member and
Former Mayor



JOHN HARABEDIAN
Council Member and
Former Mayor



Paid for by Edward T. Garcia for Council, 2020

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EdwardGarciaForCityCouncil.com

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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

From: The City of Sierra Madre
Subject: Public Hearing: Fiscal Year 2019-2020 AB 1600 Annual Development Impact Fee Activity Report

Notice is hereby given that on November 10, 2019, at 6:30 PM, or soon thereafter, the Sierra Madre City Council will conduct a Public Hearing, to hear testimony on the 2019-2020 Use of Facilities Fees for eligible Capital Projects:

The projects were as follows:

General Government
City Hall ADA Restrooms
City Council Chamber Upgrade (partial)

Transportation
State Mandated Traffic Study (partial)

Water & Sewer
City Yard Office Expansion
Automated Meter Project Replacement Project

DATE AND TIME OF HEARING

City of Sierra Madre City Council meeting; Tuesday, November 10, 2020 (Hearing begins at 6:30 p.m. or shortly thereafter). All interested persons may attend this meeting and the City Council will hear them with respect thereto.

PLACE OF HEARING

This meeting will be conducted utilizing teleconference communications and will be recorded for live streaming. In accordance with the State of California Executive Order N-29-20 dated March 17, 2020, all City of Sierra Madre public meetings will be solely available via live streaming and made available on the City's official website.

Watch the meeting on Channel 3 (Government Access Channel) or live on the City's website at www.cityofsierramadre.com Email public comments to: publiccomment@cityofsierramadre.com by 6:00 PM on the day of the meeting.

Requests for verbal public comment must include name, phone number, and agenda item number and must be e-mailed to above email address by 6 PM on the day of the meeting.

To participate in public comment please call: (669) 900-9128; Meeting I.D: 626-232-0232; Password: 232242

WALKING SIERRA MADRE - The Social Side

by Deanne Davis

"Anyone could see that the wind was a special wind this night, and the darkness took on a special feel because it was All Hallows Eve."
Ray Bradbury

"Believe nothing you hear, and only one half of what you see." Edgar Allan Poe

"I would like, if I may, to take you on a strange journey." The Criminologist, Rocky Horror Show

Halloween is upon us, in fact, this very night, witches may fly past the moon, zombies may be hiding behind a fence, beneath a tree, outside your door. Dare to walk alone on Halloween night and you may never be seen again. Those pumpkins that decorate porches and walls, with their happy faces, grotesque faces, scary faces are not always what they seem



Come with me to the Pumpkin Patch. An acre dotted with corn stalks and scarecrows and pumpkins, more pumpkins than you were expecting. Enormous pumpkins, flat ones, round ones, tall skinny ones; some misshapen, some with strange lumps and bumps, some with scars and some so little they are passed over again and again. "Not that one, Daddy! It's too small. I want a really big one! I want that one...or that one...not that one, that one's ugly!" For a pumpkin, whose entire life has been dedicated to growing into a carve-worthy orange globe, this is hurtful, degrading, and can bring a pumpkin to thoughts of revenge.

The packet of Atlantic Giant Pumpkin Seeds from Burpee arrived at the Pumpkin Patch in a somewhat damaged condition. There were heavy, dark tire tracks over the face of it and minute holes where it had been ground into the ground. It had been rained on, left out in the sun and, in short, was not a beautiful thing. The owner of the Pumpkin Patch, however, having paid \$2.99 for it wasn't about to toss it out. Upon further inspection of the actual seeds, he discovered some were cracked, tiny pieces missing. "What the heck," he thought, "I might as well go ahead and plant them, they'll probably grow...maybe."

And plant them, he did. But in a far corner of the Patch, not out in the rows where he put the rest of his seeds. It was late May and an unexpected rain thoroughly drenched the Pumpkin Patch. "This is great," the farmer thought, "water these seeds in and give them a good start. These babies will be enormous by September." The rains came, the owner fertilized and the pumpkin seeds sprouted and put out miles of bright green runners. Blossoms formed and turned into small orange balls.

Everywhere except there in the corner of the Pumpkin Patch where the broken, cracked seeds had been planted. There the vines were thicker, stronger and stretched out in every direction, seething with dark green life. Quite frankly, that corner area made the owner just a little uneasy. There seemed something unpleasantly unusual about those vines. The word, "sinister" came to mind. Ridiculous! He thought. They're pumpkins. That's all, just plain old pumpkins. But were they?

July came and went, and the pumpkins out in the middle of the field grew fat, bursting with orange life. August arrived and the pumpkins grew to such gigantic sizes that the owner visualized pictures of himself in the newspaper standing next to a pumpkin - his pumpkin - that weighed more than the heaviest pumpkin in North America "Tiger King" grown by Travis Gienger and weighing in at 2,350 pounds.

September sauntered in and several of the pumpkins would need super forklifts to move them. The owner was delighted. Meanwhile, over in the damaged seed corner, the pumpkins were strangely dark, oddly shaped and not nearly as large as the beautiful orange ones. A really good pumpkin should look exactly like Cinderella's fairy-tale carriage, perfectly round and bright orange. The damaged seed pumpkins were more Amber, Spice, Clay, Rust and Bronze than orange and tended to be anything but round.

October at last! The owner put ads in the newspaper and banners at the entrance to the Pumpkin Patch. The Pumpkin Patch would open on Saturday, October 3rd! Come one! Come All! Friday night, October 2nd, the owner walked through his beautiful Patch one last time to be sure all was in readiness for the hordes of pumpkin seekers who would arrive in the morning. And then he went to bed and dreamt hectic dreams of large bank deposits.

Saturday dawned. The owner arose early, enjoyed a cup of Pumpkin Spice coffee with a pumpkin bagel and went out to survey his pumpkin kingdom. He was agast! All his beautiful, enormous orange pumpkins were smashed, squashed, squished...their innards spilled out on the ground. Strangely, the damaged seed pumpkins had migrated to the center of the field, squatting triumphantly amidst the carnage, many of them marked with traces of pumpkin innards and seeds. These pumpkins were sated, stuffed with the flesh of all the highly favored orange pumpkins. They had grown huge, their dark green leaves and vines coiled about their carnivorous, cannibalistic nutmeg and cinnamon colored - dare I say it? Bodies?

"Pumpkins may seem benign, with their smiling jack-o-lantern faces, but what horror may lie inside their hollow shells."

Wherever you celebrate Halloween I hope you have fun, laugh a lot, and do everything you can to stay well. Most of all, I hope you end up with a few little boxes of Dots. Happy Halloween! Watch out for pumpkins and don't forget to vote!

My book page: [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/s?ref=hp_dpt_bk_pn_rd): Deanne Davis
Where you'll find "Sunrises and Sunflowers Speak Hope"
And "A Tablespoon of Love, A Tablespoon of Laughter"
Both of these books are stuffed with hope and a good recipe or two.
All five of the Emma Gainsworth adventures are available on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)
They're guaranteed to make you laugh and want to see what Emma does next.
You can follow me on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/@playwrightdd>



SIERRA MADRE HONORS NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

The Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce and The City of Sierra Madre will once again honor those who have worked tirelessly during the year to improve the quality of life in Sierra Madre.



2020 has been and continues to be a challenge because of COVID-19. However, true to the spirit of Sierra Madre, the city has continued to survive and those who helped make that possible deserve to be recognized.

The Awards Ceremony details will be announced at a later date. However, right we need your help in choosing this year's honorees. Please review the list of Awards and submit recommendations on who you believe we should honor.

NOMINATION CRITERIA

Sierra Madre Citizen of the Year for residents who have benefited the city during 2020 as a volunteer.

Sierra Madre Business of the Year for an outstanding business existing in Sierra Madre for more than 5 years that has been an active supporter of the community.

The George Maurer Lifetime Achievement Award for a person/entity whose lifetime of service embodies the spirit of volunteerism.

The Wistaria Award recognizing a City/Community Partnership that assists with providing community wide programs and services

The Public Safety Award for an employee/individual for protecting and maintaining safety in Sierra Madre.

The Community Youth Service Award presented to youth under 18 for outstanding service and dedication to the community.

To nominate, simply email to smadrecc@gmail.com or HonorsDinner@cityofsierramadre.com.

You can also mail your nominations to:

Honors Dinner Nomination
c/o Sierra Madre City Hall 232 W Sierra Madre Blvd. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY NOVEMBER 30, 2020



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Tues	Sunny	Hi	70s	Lows 50s
Wed	Sunny	Hi	70s	Lows 50s
Thur	Sunny	Hi	70s	Lows 50s
Fri	Sunny	Hi	70s	Lows 50s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

SIERRA MADRE CITY MEETINGS

As part of the City of Sierra Madre's COVID-19 transmission mitigation efforts, all City Council, Commission and Board meetings will be conducted virtually until further notice. The Brown Act provides the public with an opportunity to make public comments at any public meeting.

Public comment may be made by e-mail to PublicComment@cityofsierramadre.com by 6:00PM, on the day of the meeting. Emails will be acknowledged at the Council meeting and filed into public record.

Any member of the public may also call into the meeting to provide their comments. To provide public comment by telephone, please call in when your topic of interest is being discussed by the City Council and provide your name and the agenda item number. You will be placed in the cue until the Mayor opens up the topic for public comment.

To participate in public comment, please call:
Phone Number: (669) 900-9128
Meeting ID: 626-232-0232
Password: 232242

The meeting will be streamed live on the City's website at www.cityofsierramadre.com and broadcasted on Government Access Channel 3 (Spectrum).

For more information, please contact Assistant City Clerk, Laura Aguilar in the City Clerk's Office via email at LAguilar@cityofsierramadre.com or by telephone at (626) 355-7135.

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. 2020: 113 Years

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

SMWC is A Non-Partisan Organization

As a 501(c)3 non-profit, SMWC is by design Apolitical, non-partisan and non-discriminatory.

While it fully supports electoral processes, educational forums and debates, the Club itself holds no opinions and makes no endorsements.

Members of the club who choose to endorse a candidate, or campaign for one side or another of an issue, do so as private individuals only.

They are not spokespersons for the Club itself, regardless of their position within the framework of the club.

GFWCSierraMadreWomansClub.org

[SierraMadreWomansClub](https://www.facebook.com/SierraMadreWomansClub)



Sierra Madre Woman's Club



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Regular Shop Schedule

Mon, Thurs, Fri & 1st & 3rd Saturdays
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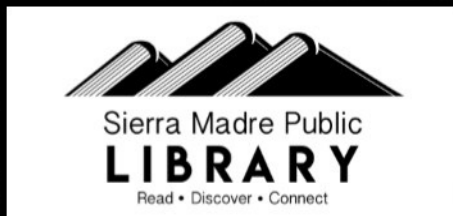
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November 2-7

Monday

Storytime to Go—View online; kits available outside the Library after 9:00am

Story Adventure at Memorial Park—A new story will be available all week!

Tuesday

Paper Prodigy—View online

Try It Tuesday Craft—View online; kits available outside the Library after 4:00pm

Wednesday

Grab & Go Activity Kit—Available outside the Library after 10:00am

Snackchat: 4th & 5th Grades—Online at 4:00pm; pick up a snack pack at the Library before the meeting

Friday

Aloha Friday—View online after 10:00am

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Wednesday, November 11, 2020
9:00 am - 5:00 pm
MEMORIAL PARK - SIERRA MADRE

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THROUGH THE PARK AND LEARN ABOUT
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Pasadena Altadena

News From Your Community For Your Community

Local Area News Brief

Officials Do Not Expect Election Disruptions

City officials, including Pasadena Police Chief John Perez said Wednesday they expect Tuesday's election to be uneventful although in other nearby cities businesses were boarding up in case of violence and looting.

"There is no indication of any activity that would disrupt our business districts or our neighborhoods; however, we are monitoring the situation constantly, city officials said in a statement. "The Pasadena Police Department is in contact with federal, state, county and regional law enforcement representatives to stay up to date with any local concerns. We look forward to locals participating in the voting process on Tuesday."

For more information visit: cityofpasadena.net.

Pasadena Transit to Increase Service Through Election Day

Pasadena Transit is adding service and extend service hours, beginning today, on Routes 20, 31/32 and 40. Anticipating additional ridership and large voter turnout, these service changes are important to maintaining your health and safety and are intended to help facilitate physical distancing while on Pasadena Transit vehicles. Pasadena Transit and Dial-A-Ride are currently free to ride. Details of the service are:

Today: Added frequency on Routes 20, 31/32 and 40 during regular service hours of 10:30 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Sunday, Nov. 1: Added frequency on Routes 20, 31/32 and 40 and extension of service until approximately 8 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 2: Added frequency on Routes 20, 31/32 and 40 during regular service hours of approximately 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 3: Added frequency on Routes 20, 31/32 and 40 and extension of service until approximately 9:30 p.m.

The following routes serve the listed vote centers:

Route 20: Robinson Park Recreation Center, Pasadena Convention Center, Blair High School, Trinity Lutheran Church, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Washington Middle School, and Jackie Robinson Community Center (drop box)

Route 31/32: Victory Park Community Center, Washington Park (drop box), and Hastings Branch Library (drop box)

Route 40: Victory Park Community Center, Villa-Parke Community Center, Hastings Branch Library (drop box), and Pasadena City Hall (drop box)

Route 10: Creveling Lounge at Pasadena City College, First United Methodist Church, Pasadena Convention Center, Grant Park (drop box), and Pasadena City Hall (drop box)

Route 51: Rosemont Pavilion, and Rose Bowl Stadium Lot I (drop box)

Pasadena Transit and Dial-A-Ride have implemented other operational procedures to provide the safest environment possible for customers and bus operators including blocked off seating for physical distancing and requiring facial coverings.

Route and schedule information is available at: pasadenatransit.net or by calling (626) 744-7311.

Rose Parade Replaced with TV Special

Reimagined celebration of the New Year to feature musical entertainment, celebrity guests, memorable past floats, marching band performances and more.

The Pasadena Tournament of Roses is set to give those who usually expect a Rose Parade down Colorado Blvd. January 1, some partial good news, in that, they have announced a two-hour TV entertainment special New Year's morning –complete with floats, equestrians, marching bands and celebrity guests.

The TV special – "The Rose Parade's New Year Celebration" will air starting at 8 a.m. during the time traditionally set for live coverage of the parade.

"Each year, tens of millions across America and around the world invite us into their homes to celebrate the New Year, and this year will be no different," said David Eads, executive director and CEO of the Tournament of Roses. "We may not be able to make our typical 5.5-mile march, but we are hosting a spectacular celebration nonetheless."

The special will feature a reimagined New Year celebration, including live-to-tape musical and marching band performances, heartwarming segments related to the Rose Parade, celebrity guest appearances, special Rose Bowl Game football highlights, equestrians, spectacular floats from years past, a behind-the-scenes look into the making of a float and you will have a chance to be part of the show they said.

"The Rose Parade is a long-



standing and central part of our New Year celebrations – not only here in Pasadena, but also around the world – and we are delighted that tradition will continue this year in a new, reimagined way," said Pasadena Mayor Terry Tornek. "We are excited to see how it comes to life on TV this year."

The special will also showcase seniors in high school and colleges from bands across the country, who will come together for a special, virtual performance of "Everything's Coming up Roses" lead by a surprise conductor. "While we have invited all the bands who were scheduled to perform in this year's parade to instead join us for the 2022 Rose Parade, we realize that there are many seniors who will graduate before that. We didn't want them to miss out on this opportunity, so we're giving them their very own, unique performance spotlight," said president of the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Association, Bob Miller.

Preservation Pasadena Virtual History, Architecture and Cultural Celebration



During Pasadena Heritage's Preservation Pasadena they will explore the history, culture, and architectural contributions of Pasadena's Asian, Hispanic and African American cultures and communities with three presentations. Experience over 15 programs throughout the week of November 6 – 15.

The Asian Roots of Pasadena's Arts & Crafts Architecture

This illustrated lecture explores the history, culture and architectural contributions of one the city's largest minority communities. The influence of Asian architecture on the houses of Greene & Greene, vernacular Craftsman bungalows, and Mid-Century Modern houses of Buff & Hensman highlight why Pasadena has perhaps the best examples of Arts and Crafts architecture in the Western United States. This lecture highlights the connections between traditional Chinese and Japanese wooden architecture and these 20th Century building styles.

Hispanic Influence on Pasadena and California Architecture

This architecture presentation focuses on how the Spanish/Hispanic/Latino architectural design vocabulary evolved over a thousand years, across four continents, and how it has flourished here in Pasadena.

This event examines notable examples, such as the San Gabriel Mission, Castle Green, Caltech campus, Civic Center, and 1920s Spanish Colonial Revival houses designed by George Washington Smith, Wallace Neff, and many others. Also studied are more recent Hispanic-influenced projects, such as the Del Mar Station.

200 Years of Black Pioneers in Pasadena and Los Angeles

This presentation explores the stories -- some little known -- of five pioneering African American individuals and communities. Featured are: The Pobladores, the original, 1781 settlers of the Pueblo of Los Angeles, over half of whom had some African blood; Pio Pico, the last Mexican governor of California, of African and Mestizo ancestry; Biddy Mason, a midwife who, in 20 years, went from newly freed slave to one of the largest commercial landowners in Los Angeles; Paul R. Williams, the first licensed African American architect west of the Mississippi; and Jackie Robinson, who starred in four sports at John Muir High School, PCC, and UCLA, before going on to break the color line in major league baseball.

For a full list of events or more information visit:

pasadenaheritage.org/preservationpasadena.

For this special, the Tournament is partnering with Feeding America, the nation's largest organization dedicated to fighting domestic hunger through a nationwide network of food banks.

"Food banks are feeding an average of 60 percent more people due to the economic fallout of the pandemic," said Claire Babineaux-Fontenot, CEO of Feeding America. "We are deeply grateful to the Tournament of Roses for helping to raise awareness and support for people facing hunger."

The special will air on ABC, Hallmark Channel, KTLA, NBC, RFD-TV and Univision at 8 a.m. January 1. For more information, visit:

County to Provide Funding for Hope Center

The L.A. County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a motion by Supervisor Kathryn Barger Tuesday to provide critical funding for the Pasadena Hope Center, a new permanent supportive housing project that will be developed by The Salvation Army in Pasadena.

The Pasadena Hope Center will feature a modern, four-story building that will provide 65 studio apartments for highly vulnerable single adults who are experiencing homelessness. The first floor will provide space for supportive services on-site, including The Salvation Army's Pasadena social services offices, which serves low-income individuals and families with a large client choice food pantry and supportive service referrals. The Fifth Supervisorial District is allocating \$378,000 in Homeless Services Center (HSC) funds to this much-needed effort.

"We know that housing alone does not solve the complex issue of homelessness," Barger said. "It is essential to include robust supportive programs on-site, such as mental health services and employment support, to provide highly acute individuals with the tools needed to retain their housing long-term."

In the 2020 Homeless Count, there were a total of 527 people experiencing homelessness in Pasadena, a significant decline from the peak count in 2011 which identified 1,216 individuals. This 50 percent reduction in the population of people experiencing homelessness in Pasadena follows a system-wide implementation of Housing First best practices and a strong focus on targeted strategies to increase the availability of permanent housing according to Barger.

PlayhouseLive: Bob Baker's Hallowe'en SpOoKtAcUAr



Pasadena Playhouse Producing Artistic Director Danny Feldman announced this week the continuation of Family Entertainment on PlayhouseLive with the Bob Baker Marionette Theater's production of Bob Baker's Hallowe'en SpOoKtAcUAr.

Filmed in front of a live audience, this wondrous Hallowe'en offering -- an eye-popping and unforgettable musical variety puppet spectacular not to be missed -- online at PlayhouseLive now through Nov. 18, and is part of the Fall line-up of pay-per-view streaming theatrical events.

Gather your Goblins and Ghoulies and settle in for a haunting night of family fun, streaming exclusively on PlayhouseLive. Bob Baker's Hallowe'en SpOoKtAcUAr will send chills down your spine as you delight in this spectral showcase of sweet, spooky spirits featuring beloved characters Purple People Eater, Dracula, the Invisible Man, and nearly one hundred of their closest puppet pals.

A beloved Los Angeles tradition, more than one million children of all ages have experienced a Bob Baker puppet performance since the Theater's establishment in 1963. In addition to in-house performances, members of the Bob Baker puppet family have appeared in motion pictures, on frequent television shows, and, through a robust traveling company, at the Hollywood Bowl, community centers, backyards, parades, and anywhere there's fun to be had.

For the upcoming holiday

season, PlayhouseLive will exclusively bring Bob Baker's Holiday on Strings directly into homes for the first time.

Bob Baker Marionette Theater has been pulling the strings of family fun since 1963. As a registered 501c3 nonprofit organization, their mission is to educate, celebrate, and rejuvenate puppetry and the allied arts. Follow along on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and at www.BobBakerMarionetteTheater.com.

PlayhouseLive breaks down the physical boundaries of theater walls and opens access to audiences all over the world. It is also integrated into the Pasadena Playhouse's Community at Play program which remove barriers to arts participation and ensures free and low-cost ways to engage with the arts. Distribution channels include a standalone website, iPhone and Android apps, AppleTV, Amazon FireTV, Roku, Chromecast, and AirPlay, among others.

Bob Baker's Hallowe'en SpOoKtAcUAr can be rented through PlayhouseLive for \$14.99 and is available through November 18, 2020. After the initial purchase at PlayhouseLive.org, Bob Baker's Hallowe'en SpOoKtAcUAr can be watched on any of the PlayhouseLive apps including Apple OS, Android OS, Roku, FireTV and more. Closed captioning will be available in both English and Spanish.

More information about PlayhouseLive can be found at: playhouselive.org.

Change Your Clocks, Change Your Batteries

Pasadena Fire Department reminds everyone to change all smoke alarm batteries when changing clocks back on Sunday.

Replace old smoke alarm batteries with fresh, high-quality batteries to keep your smoke alarms ready to protect you all year long. Make sure your emergency flashlights work when you need them by using fresh, high-quality batteries. Make sure the alarm is working by activating the safety test button. Test all of your smoke alarms at least once a month. It is recommended to replace smoke alarm every 10 years.

Smoke alarm should be placed in every bedroom and in the hallway directly adjacent to those rooms. If bedrooms are on an upper level, a smoke alarm should be installed in the center of the ceiling directly above the interior stairway.

Children often become scared and confused when a fire erupts, putting them at increased risk of dying in a home fire. So, the fire department recommends practicing your escape plans with your children.

This is also a good time to update your disaster supplies for your family members—including pets. For more visit: cityofpasadena.net.

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ARCADIA POLICE BLOTTER

For the period of Sunday, October 18th, through Saturday, October 24th, the Police Department responded to 854 calls for service, of which 74 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of some of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

Sunday, October 18:

- At 1:40 a.m., officers responded to Motel 6, located at 225 West Colorado Place, regarding multiple reports of shots fired. Officers located numerous spent shell casings along with a semi-automatic pistol, but they did not find any victims or suspects. The investigation is ongoing.
- At 1:04 p.m., an officer responded to the 00 block of Flower Street regarding an attempted stolen vehicle report. The victim confronted the suspect as the 23-year-old male from Pasadena attempted to steal the vehicle. Officers located the suspect and discovered he was in possession of a glass smoking pipe. A records check revealed the suspect was on probation for burglary. He was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Monday, October 19:

- At 11:44 a.m., an officer responded to a residence in the 1100 block of Fairview Avenue regarding a residential burglary report. An investigation revealed the suspect(s) entered the open garage and stole the victim's handgun. There are no investigative leads as of the date of this report.
- At 3:12 p.m., an officer responded to 88 Beef Noodle, located at 1045 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding a drunken subject. The officer located the subject and determined he was unable to care for himself. The 35-year-old male from Duarte was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Tuesday, October 20:

- At 11:29 a.m., officers responded to a residence in the 600 block of West Camino Real Avenue regarding a possible burglary in progress. An investigation revealed the unknown suspect(s) entered the home by breaking a second-story window. The suspect(s) had ransacked the home but fled emptyhanded as the house did not contain anything of value. The investigation is pending a review of additional surveillance footage.
- At 8:53 p.m., an officer responded to the area of Foothill Boulevard and Santa Anita Avenue regarding a vandalism report. A witness stated she saw the suspect tipping over trash cans and breaking residential mailboxes for no apparent reason. The suspect was located and the 42-year-old male from Fullerton was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Wednesday, October 21:

- At 9:19 a.m., officers responded to Extended Stay, located at 401 East Santa Clara Street, regarding a battery report. An investigation revealed there had been a domestic dispute between the suspect and his ex-fiancée. During the investigation of the dispute, the suspect attempted to flee. The 30-year-old male from Rosemead was ultimately arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.
- At 3:19 p.m., an officer responded to Savers Thrift Store, located at 16 East Live Oak Avenue, regarding a vehicle burglary report. The victim discovered her vehicle's window had been smashed and her lunch bag had been stolen. There is no suspect information at this time.

Wednesday, October 22:

- At 12:47 a.m., officers responded to Rod's Grill, located at 41 West Huntington Drive, regarding a commercial burglary in progress. Officers determined unknown suspect(s) shattered a side window, entered the restaurant, and fled with an unknown amount of property. There are no investigative leads as of the date of this report.
- At 8:54 p.m., an officer responded to the 700 block of Sunset Boulevard regarding a bicycle theft. The victim stated her unsecured bicycle was stolen from the second story balcony. The incident was not captured by surveillance cameras.

Thursday, October 23:

- At 2:17 p.m., an officer took a telephonic report of a fraud incident that occurred at Ralphs, located at 211 East Foothill Boulevard on October 2nd. The victim discovered a fraudulent transaction was made on her debit card in the amount of \$294.15. The victim does not know how the suspect obtained her personal information.

City of Monrovia HALLOWEEN DECORATING CONTEST

HOME ENTRIES

BEST VIEWED DURING THE DAY

1) 135 E. CAMINO REAL	4) 234 MELROSE AVE.
2) 432 N. PRIMROSE AVE.	5) 355 MAY AVE.
3) 516 E. FOOTHILL AVE. Judge's Award	6) 247 N. MAGNOLIA AVE.
	7) 201 W. SCENIC DR.

BEST VIEWED AT NIGHT

8) 502 S. MAYFLOWER AVE.	29) 826 OCEAN VIEW AVE.
9) 523 W. OLIVE AVE.	30) 218 W. CHERRY AVE.
10) 752 VALLEY VIEW AVE.	31) 157 SEYMOUR PLACE
11) 380 NORUMBEGA DR.	32) 802 S. CALIFORNIA AVE. Best Pumpkin Display
12) 268 N. MAYFLOWER AVE.	33) 125 ACACIA AVE. Most Creative Display
13) 205 N. MYRTLE AVE.	34) 274 GRAND AVE.
14) 848 RIDGESIDE DRIVE Best Haunted House	35) 519 CALIFORNIA AVE.
15) 530 W. WALNUT AVE.	36) 132 N. MADISON AVE.
16) 329 MELROSE AVE.	37) 411 LOS ANGELES AVE.
17) 532 S. PRIMROSE AVE.	38) 550 S. PARK ROSE AVE.
18) 453 N. CANYON BLVD.	39) 528 W. PALM AVE.
19) 136 S. FIFTH AVE.	40) 603 MONTEREY AVE.
20) 309 N. MADISON AVE. Best Inflatable Display	41) 105 E. GREYSTONE AVE.
21) 402 W. HILLCREST BLVD.	42) 733 MONTANA ST.
22) 436 N. PRIMROSE AVE.	43) 506 W. OLIVE AVE.
23) 705 VALLEY VIEW AVE.	44) 2445 FAIRGREEN AVE.
24) 746 OCEAN VIEW AVE. Best Light Display	45) 246 VALLE VISTA AVE.
25) 166 N. MYRTLE AVE.	46) 2003 STAGIO DR.
26) 241 E. WALNUT AVE.	47) 208 NORTH IVY AVE.
27) 706 VALLEY VIEW AVE.	48) 528 LOS ANGELES AVE.
28) 519 W. COLORADO BLVD.	49) 160 MAY AVE.

OLD TOWN BUSINESSES

<h3>BEST VIEWED DURING THE DAY</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) 517 S. MYRTLE AVE. Haunted House Display 2) 427 S. MYRTLE AVE. Best Pumpkin Display 3) 162 W. FOOTHILL BLVD. Most Creative Display 4) 150 W. FOOTHILL BLVD. 	<h3>BEST VIEWED AT NIGHT</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5) 405 S. MYRTLE AVE. Spookiest Display 6) 136 E. LEMON AVE. Judge's Award 7) 505 S. MYRTLE AVE. #A
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ALTADENA-SO. PASADENA-SAN MARINO

What is South Pasadena Utility Users Tax Measure U?

The Utility Users Tax (UUT) Measure (Measure U) is on the November 3rd election ballot. South Pasadena voters will be asked to continue the current 7.5 percent rate of the City's Utility Users Tax until otherwise repealed or amended by the voters, in order to generate and stabilize additional municipal revenues. Commonly asked questions about Measure U

WHAT IS THE UTILITY USERS TAX?

Since 1983 South Pasadena residents and businesses have paid a Utility Users Tax (UUT) on certain utility services – telephone, cable, gas, water and electricity. The tax rate is currently 7.5% of the amount charged by the utility company for providing the service. The tax is collected by the utility company with its monthly billing and remitted to the City, which uses the revenue

to provide services such as public safety, library, parks and recreation, and many programs benefiting school aged children, adults, and seniors.

WHY DOES THE TAX NEED TO BE RENEWED?

The UUT is a critical source of revenue for the City, and at 12% of the City's General Fund, it is the second largest revenue source for the City, after property taxes. The UUT generates millions to help pay for integral services that the City provides to its residents on a daily basis. UUT funds help our City maintain public safety staffing levels, street and road maintenance, senior services and recreational programs, all of which make South Pasadena a desirable place to live and do business.

WILL PASSAGE OF MEASURE U INCREASE THE TAX RATE?

No. The current tax rate of 7.5% will remain unchanged.

South Pasadena Virtual Housing Rights Workshop

The Housing Rights Center (HRC) will be hosting a Virtual Housing Rights Workshop for the residents of South Pasadena on Thursday, November 5, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The Workshop will provide information on tenant and landlord rights, Fair Housing Laws, AB 3088, AB 1482, COVID-19 Local Protections, and more.

The virtual workshop is free and will be conducted over Zoom. Registration is required.

The HRC is working to serve tenants and landlords during this health crisis with weekly programming and webinars. Each week, the HRC provides free virtual workshops on COVID-19 resources. The "walk-in clinic" offers virtual housing counseling to both tenants and landlords Wednesday through Friday. The HRC is ready to answer questions on federal and state fair housing laws, common forms of housing discrimination, protected characteristics, unlawful practices, and COVID-19 resources.

The HRC is a nonprofit civil-rights organization that has identified and addressed the challenges of housing discrimination since 1968. The HRC provides assistance to residents with discrimination complaints and landlord-tenant disputes. The HRC also provides training and outreach assistance to landlords and tenants.

For more information on fair housing resources, and Zoom registration visit: southpasadenaca.gov or call (626) 403-7200. For more about HRC visit: housingrightscenter.org.

Vote Centers in South Pas for Nov 3 Election

(1) South Pasadena Public Library, Community Room. Address: 1115 El Centro St, South Pasadena, CA 91030. Days/Hours of Operation: October 24-November 2: 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM; Election Day, November 3: 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM

(2) War Memorial Building. Address: 435 Fair Oaks Ave., South Pasadena, CA 91030. Days/Hours of Operation: October 30-November 2: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Election Day, November 3: 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

(L.A. County: Vote Centers)

VOTE-BY-MAIL BALLOT DROP BOX

(1) South Pasadena City Hall. Address 1414 Mission Street, South Pasadena, CA 91030. Days/Hours of Operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. (L.A. County: VBM Ballot Drop Boxes) Ballots dropped off in the Ballot Drop Box will be collected by L.A. County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk staff members every 72 hours starting October 5. On Election Day, ALL Drop Boxes will be locked at 8 p.m.

Ballot Tracking: Voters may track their VBM Ballot every step of the way. Please visit the following link for more information: wheresmyballot.sos.ca.gov

INTERACTIVE SAMPLE BALLOT

The Interactive Sample Ballot is an optional tool, from the County, that allows voters to access, review and mark their selections prior to going to a Vote Center. The Interactive Sample Ballot is not online voting and does not store any identifiable information, once you access your Sample Ballot all of your selections are saved on your phone, computer or personal device. Please visit the following link for more information: lavote.net/isb

All Star Baseball Reopening

To our South Pasadena Community Members:

All Star Baseball School is now open and better than ever!

Participants can expect upgrades to the cages, and even sign up for private lessons. We are also providing a re-opening special for the month of October, 20% off for all customers! Come join us during our business hours!

Wednesday - Friday 3:00pm - 8:00pm
Saturday 10:00am - 8:00pm
Sunday 12:00pm - 6:00pm
For more information visit, www.allstarbaseballschooll.com

ALL STAR BASEBALL IS NOW OPEN!

Wednesday - Friday: 3:00pm to 8:00pm
Saturday: 10:00am to 8:00pm
Sunday: 12:00pm to 6:00pm

For more information visit:
www.allstarbaseballschooll.com

City of San Marino Election 2020 Voting Information

In Person Voting

For the November 2020 election, there will be one in-person Vote Center in San Marino located at: Huntington Middle School - 1700 Huntington Drive, San Marino. Prior to the election, it will be open daily from 10/30 through 11/2 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. On Election Day, it will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Voters may vote or drop off their Vote by Mail Ballot at any Vote Center in Los Angeles County. In order to have a safe voting experience, please plan to do the following when visiting a Vote Center:

Wear a face covering while at the Vote Center or waiting in line. Face coverings and gloves will be available for voters if requested. Maintain physical distance of at least six feet from people not in your household. This will be enforced while waiting in line and throughout the check-in and voting process.

Use hand sanitizer before approaching the check-in station and after voting. Hand sanitizer will be provided upon entry and exit of the Vote Center. Hand sanitizer will also be available at key stations during the voting process. Bring your Sample Ballot and use the Interactive Sample Ballot to pre-mark selections to assist with check-in and help speed up the process.

Follow any additional guidance provided at your voting location, such as directional signage.

Vote By Mail Drop Box

There is also a Vote by Mail Drop Box located in front of City Hall at 2200 Huntington Drive. The Drop Box offers a secure 24 hour location to drop off your ballots now through Election Day. Ballots are collected every 24 hours by election workers. Voters may submit their ballot at any Drop Box in LA County.

Where's My Ballot

Voters can track their ballot's status, including when it has been mailed, received, and counted at California.ballottrax.net

Interactive Sample Ballot

The Interactive Sample Ballot is an optional tool that can expedite your voting experience by allowing voters to access, review and mark their selections prior to going to a Vote Center. It is a digital version of your sample ballot booklet that will allow you to make selections and generate a Poll Pass. The Poll Pass is a QR code containing your selections. You can transfer your selections from your Poll Pass to a Ballot Marking Device at any Vote Center.

More Information

For additional voting information, please visit: lavote.net.



AROUND SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

REPS. SCHIFF, PALLONE, BILIRAKIS, SPEIER AND TITUS ANNOUNCE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS WILL RECOGNIZE THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

Washington, D.C. – Today, Reps. Adam Schiff (D-CA), Frank Pallone (D-NJ), Gus Bilirakis (R-FL), Jackie Speier (D-CA), and Dina Titus (D-NV) announced that the Library of Congress will recognize the Armenian Genocide by amending the catalog entry which previously referred to the Armenian “massacre.”

This decision from Dr. Carla Hayden, the Librarian of Congress was announced after bipartisan letters to the Library and a formal request for a subject heading change initiated by the University of California-Los Angeles library. This change comes after both the House and Senate overwhelmingly passed legislation recognizing the facts of the Armenian Genocide in 2019. Dr. Hayden informed the Members in a phone call.

“It is welcome news that the Library Congress, at our urging, will now use the historically accurate term ‘Armenian Genocide.’ This is one further step in overcoming the decades long campaign of denial that has silenced too many about the murder of 1.5 million Armenians,” said Rep. Schiff. “This recognition is particularly meaningful at a time when the genocide of a century ago seems all too immediate, as Azerbaijan and Turkey are committing atrocities right now in Artsakh.”

“I am glad that the Library of Congress has chosen to honor the Armenian Caucus’s request to change the subject heading to match the historical fact that the Ottoman Turks perpetrated a genocidal campaign in the early 20th century that systemically and ruthlessly targeted Armenians,” said Rep. Pallone. “This change establishes the categorization that the Armenian Genocide deserves to match the historical record and helps set an example for scholars worldwide. The Library’s change follows the important precedent set by Congress last year when both the House of Representatives and the Senate passed resolutions commemorating the Armenian Genocide.”

“I am glad to see the Library of Congress will finally recognize the Armenian Genocide for what it was; a genocide,” said Rep. Bilirakis. “For decades there has been a campaign of denial that silenced any attempt at recognizing the 1.5 million Armenian lives that were lost. While our work is not done, this is an incredible step as we work towards international recognition of the atrocities that were committed by Turkey only a century ago.”

“Last year I was proud to co-lead the historic House resolution to formally recognize the Armenian Genocide, along with the Co-Chairs of the Congressional Armenian Caucus,” Rep. Speier said. “As an institution founded on the principles of scholarship and learning, it is imperative that the Library not shy away from the truth. I am encouraged to see the Library correct its research headings to adhere to historical accuracy – and to properly acknowledge the murder of 1.5 million Armenians at the hand of the Ottoman Empire.”

“The use of the term ‘Armenian Genocide’ is necessary to paint an accurate picture of history and rightly honor the victims of this atrocity,” said Rep. Titus. “I am grateful that the Library of Congress will no longer conceal the truth about these horrific crimes. The Trump Administration should do the same.”

“This long-overdue correction by the Library of Congress – a principled, fact-based stand for the integrity of American institutions against malign foreign influence – comes at a particularly meaningful moment for Americans of Armenian heritage,” said Aram Hamparian, Executive Director of the ANCA. “We see today the painful, real-world results of American leaders having allowed Turkey to bully our country into a century of silence on the Armenian Genocide. As Ankara and Baku openly seek to complete the destruction of the Armenian homeland with the ongoing brutal onslaught on Artsakh and Armenia – our government remains all too fearful of truth-telling to Erdogan and Aliyev. That has to end.”

“We commend the bipartisan and bicameral effort to effectuate this change following the historic and overwhelming passage of the Armenian Genocide resolutions in the House and Senate last year. The decision by the Library of Congress represents another blow to decades-old and well-financed Turkish campaign to deny the Armenian Genocide and whitewash America’s proud record of humanitarian intervention to save countless lives,” said Armenian Assembly Executive Director Bryan Ardouny. “Sadly, we are witness to another attempted genocide today by Turkey and Azerbaijan in their relentless attacks against the Armenian people.”

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS PASADENA AREA LAUNCHES VOTER HOTLINE 626-798-0965

The League of Women Voters Pasadena Area is doing its part to help voters safely navigate voting with a Voter Hotline, 626-798-0965. Everyday from 2-7 pm volunteers from the League will answer questions about voting by mail, drop-box locations, polling information and much more. The hotline will remain open until 9 pm on election day.

Volunteers have been fielding questions such as:

- Am I registered?
- I haven't received my Vote by Mail ballot, what do I do?
- What do I need to include in my Vote by Mail ballot?
- How do I track my ballot?
- Where is my local Official Ballot Drop Box?
- If voting in person, what should I expect at my Vote Center?
- How ill I know if my ballot is counted?

TABLE FOR TWO by Peter Dills
thechefknows@yahoo.com

HAPPY HALLOWEEN AND GET OUT THE VOTE !!

Our trend reviewing California blends continues on for one more week as we go value hunting through the supermarket wine aisle. A blend is usually a combination of up to eight different grapes, most popular grape being cabernet followed by merlot and zinfandel. Add a petite sirah and you have a red blend. Much like the cabernet grape, the cagnane (pronounced “CAR-in-yan”, grape is also high in tannins, and also a very popular grape to be assembled with other grapes to make a blend. All that said, let me introduce you to the 2010 Mysterium from the Trinitas Cellars in Mendocino. My initial opinion was that the fruit might be too young, but how could that be for a four-year-old bottle of wine? My reservations were quickly extinguished as this dark (almost black) wine is very well balanced with rich and supple tannins. The cagnane grape, though not as well known as the cabernet, offers the perfect grape for blending. I will be on the lookout for other wines using this grape from the northern California wine region. It's not a wine I would pick for a glass at the bar, but with a food pair-ing, consider lasagna, Indian food, or even gumbo!

Winemaker Notes:

The grapes are harvested, and then each varietal is separately fermented and barrel-aged for 18 months. Doing this develops more complexity in each varietal and also allows for the very best blend to be assembled. The blend for the 2010 vintage is made up of carignane (53%), zinfandel (33%), petite sirah (7%), mataro (5%), black malvasia (1%), and alicante bouschet (1%). Buy it at Vons

Dills Score: 89

Closure: Corked

Each week I will give you my Dills Score. I have added points for value. I'm starting with a base of 50 points; I added 8 points for color, 8 points for aroma or “nose”, 8 points for taste, 7 points for finish, and 8 points for my overall impression, which includes my value rating.

Join me this Sunday at 8 AM for Dining w/Dills FM 105



LOS ANGELES COUNTY COVID-19 UPDATE 10/30/2020

10/30/2020 3:30pm
(Compared to 10/16/2020)

LOS ANGELES COUNTY*							10/23/20
Total Cases		306,327					296,821

Deaths		7056					6,974
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STATS BY CITY	Population	Cases		Deaths	
		(last week's stats in parenthesis)			
		10/23/20			
Pasadena	14,1371	2819	(2721)	129	(129)
Uninc.- East Pasadena	6,403	89	(87)	2	(2)
City of Arcadia	57,754	595	(580)	39	(39)
Uninc. - Arcadia	7,981	101	(97)	4	(4)
City of Bradbury	1,069	19	(20)	0	(0)
City of Duarte	22,016	626	(620)	31	(31)
Uninc.- Duarte	4,428	169	(169)	4	(4)
City of Monrovia	38,800	848	(832)	42	(41)
Uninc - Monrovia	3,881	89	(88)	0	(0)
City of Sierra Madre	10,989	87	(85)	3	(3)
City of So.Pasadena	26,053	319	(313)	26	(26)
Uninc.- Altadena	43,260	796	(778)	18	(18)

La County Testing as of 10/30/20: 3,086,527 (2,991,042)
Positivity Rate (No. of persons positive out of total persons tested) as 10/30/20: 9.8% Nationally recommended Positivity Level: 5%

L.A. County Sees Highest Number of New Cases Since Late-August; Public Health Reports 19 New Deaths and 1,745 New Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 in Los Angeles County

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) has confirmed 19 new deaths and 1,745 new cases of COVID-19. This is the highest number of new cases reported since late-August not associated with backlog cases.

To date, Public Health identified 305,070 positive cases of COVID-19 across all areas of L.A. County and a total of 7,044 deaths. Upon further investigation, 44 cases and 15 deaths reported earlier were not L.A. County residents.

There are 750 people with COVID-19 currently hospitalized and 31% of these people are in the ICU. The number of COVID-19 hospitalizations has remained stable for most of September and October.

Schools have reopened for specialized services for students with high-needs, waiver programs for students in grades TK-2, childcare, and modified youth sports programs. They are required to follow school re-opening protocols for infection control, distancing, and cohorting to minimize COVID-19 spread. Additionally, Public Health has a dedicated team of specialists providing technical assistance and disease management to all schools that are re-opened or re-opening, and every school that re-opens receives a site visit from Public Health.

Parents play a vital part in the shared responsibility to prevent COVID-19 spread in schools and communities. To date, nearly 30,000 COVID-19 cases have occurred in children under 18 years old in L.A. County. If a child's school has reopened for one of the approved purposes, the decision to send a child back to school rests with each family. It is essential for families to follow the Department of Public Health's safety guidance to reduce the risk of getting and spreading COVID-19. The necessary steps include:

Keeping your child at home if she or he is sick and or has any symptoms of COVID-19, or if your child has been in contact with someone with COVID-19; symptoms to look out for in your child are fever, new onset of cough, diarrhea/vomiting/abdominal pain, and new onset of severe headache;

Instructing your child to always wear a mask while at school and when in public outside of your home;

Developing good hand hygiene habits so that your child frequently washes their hands, particularly before eating and after toileting;

Teaching your child to stay 6 feet apart from others who aren't in your household.

There are also actions that parents can take to increase their child's safety at school:

Find out if your child's school does a symptom screening daily before children and staff enter school; they should be requiring this step for the entire school community. Ask your child about their experience at school regarding distance between students, mask-wearing, and hand washing.

Model the behaviors you wish to see your child demonstrate when they go to school; these behaviors include wearing a face covering when outside the home, physical distancing, and hand washing.

Ask the school to share its safety protocols and other plans for how it will handle cases and exposure that might occur at the school and ask how the school will communicate with parents if that happens.

Be part of school efforts that promote compliance with safety directives.

“To everyone who is facing the sorrow of losing a loved one to COVID-19, our hearts go out to all of you,” said Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd, Director of Public Health. “The high numbers of daily cases are very concerning because, as we have seen in the past, increases in cases lead to increases in hospitalizations and deaths. These increases impede our ability to move forward with re-opening additional sectors and getting more children back to school. As individuals, we get to choose whether to party or help our economy recover; we get to choose whether to protect others from our respiratory droplets or infect others who may go on to need hospital care or even die. What we don't get to do, is sit on the sidelines. We have an awesome opportunity to slow the spread with every decision we make about how we interact with others.”

WILL WE SEE YOU THIS SUNDAY?



We're living in dangerous times. This is a time of fear, but we are listening to Jesus who said, "In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). However dangerous this virus, we take heart in God's promise. That's why each Sunday at 10am, we gather in our parking lot to worship. We invite you to join us as we gather safely to find our hope in Jesus.

You can also join us via livestream at:
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ARCADIA UNIFIED IN THE TOP 1% OF BEST SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN AMERICA



ARCADIA-- Arcadia Unified School District remains a leader in public education in the United States, ranking in the top 1%, of the over 10,700 school districts across the nation, according to Niche.

Niche, an influential school and neighborhood review website, recently released its 2021 Best School Districts rankings, and Arcadia Unified has made the grade, achieving an over-all A+ grade district-wide. Segmenting its rankings into national, state, and local categories, Arcadia Unified commands a top spot on each Niche list.

Arcadia Unified School District Niche Distinctions:

- Top 1% Best School Districts in America
- Top 8 Best School Districts in California
- Top 3 Best School Districts in Los Angeles

“Over the past 14 years of serving the Arcadia Unified School District, it’s never been lost on me how truly special a place Arcadia Unified is,” said Arcadia Unified Superintendent Dr. David Vannasdal. “This prestigious recognition is the direct result of each member of our team going above and beyond in countless ways each day to support our students and families.”

In addition to the recognition above, Niche noted Arcadia Unified as being in the top 1% of the Best Places to Teach in the nation, California, and the Los Angeles area. Arcadia Unified also is in Niche’s top five for Districts with the Best Teachers in Los Angeles.

Each of Arcadia Unified’s schools has also individually secured top Niche nods for being the best schools in Los Angeles. Arcadia Unified elementary schools (Baldwin Stocker, Camino Grove, Highland Oaks, Holly Avenue, Hugo Reid, and Longley Way) landed in the top 2 percent of the over 2,200 public elementary schools in Los Angeles. All three of Arcadia Unified’s middle schools (Dana, Foothills, and First Avenue) rank in the top 2 percent of Los Angeles. The district’s comprehensive high school, Arcadia High School, also remains a leader among its over 400 L.A. public high school peers, making Niche’s top 10 Best Public High Schools in Los Angeles list.

On top of receiving top marks from Niche, Arcadia Unified has continued to build on its commitment to educating the “whole child” by providing support not only for academics but also for social and emotional development and lifelong leadership skills. Since the 2018-19 school year, and though not a mandated requirement for local public school districts, Arcadia Unified has had at least one full-time school counselor at each of its schools in its dedication to student mental health and wellness. Likewise, the district also offers character education programs, such as “The Leader in Me” for students in TK-8 grade, and has adopted “restorative practices,” which are techniques geared towards building strong, trusting relationships and community in classrooms and schools. This school year, Arcadia High has also implemented a virtual Wellness Center, which has a full-time counselor solely dedicated to fostering mental health and wellness needs.

How does Niche arrive at its rankings? According to its website, Niche undergoes a rigorous analysis of key statistics and data from thousands of schools, which includes information from the U.S. Department of Education and millions of reviews from students and parents. Ranking factors also include state test scores, student-teacher ratio, student diversity, teacher quality, grade school ratings, and the overall quality of the school district. For more information on the Niche rankings, visit niche.com, for more information about the Arcadia Unified School District, visit ausd.net.

SM PLAYHOUSE

FREE EVENT! VIRTUAL OFF THE PAGE PRESENTS THE REALISTIC JONESES ON NOVEMBER 16 AND NOVEMBER 24

Virtual Off the Page, the series of virtual staged readings presented online by Sierra Madre Playhouse, next presents streamed performances of The Realistic Joneses by Will Eno. Because of the pandemic, we cannot present this event to a live audience inside the Playhouse, but you will be able to access it online via the streaming service of ShowTix4U on Monday, November 16, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. PST and on Tuesday, November 24 at 4:00 p.m. PST. Running time is approximately 1 hour 50 minutes. This event is FREE, but donations will be gratefully accepted.

HOW TO REGISTER: Use this link: <https://www.showtix4u.com/event-details/42128>
Upon registration, you’ll be sent a link with which to access the show at the appointed time. Reservations are limited, so please reserve early to avoid disappointment.
If you need assistance, contact info@sierramdreplayhouse.org
BONUS! Be sure to join us for a live post-show talkback with director Scott Alan Smith and his cast, actors Leandro Cano, Cherish Monique Duke, Christian Lebano and Elizabeth Sampson. This will be immediately following the second show, on Tuesday, November 24 at 6:00 p.m. PST, as a Zoom webinar. To register for the talkback, go to <https://ci.ovationtix.com/35040/production/1033725>

HOW TO DONATE: You can support Sierra Madre Playhouse, a non-profit arts organization, with your voluntary donation at <https://ci.ovationtix.com/35040/store/donations>

ABOUT THE SHOW:

In The Realistic Joneses, we meet Bob and Jennifer and their new neighbors, John and Pony, two suburban couples who have even more in common than their identical homes and their shared last names. As their relationships begin to irrevocably intertwine, the Joneses must decide between their idyllic fantasies and their imperfect realities. This contemporary comedy explores how our joys and sorrows - and how we choose to face them - can come to define our lives.

"Plays as funny and moving, as wonderful and weird as The Realistic Joneses, by Will Eno, do not appear often on Broadway. Or ever, really." - The New York Times

Playwright Will Eno is the author of twenty produced and published plays. He won the Drama Desk Award for The Realistic Joneses and The Open House. His play Thom Pain (Based on Nothing) was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize. The Realistic Joneses premiered on Broadway in 2014.

Director Scott Alan Smith is the Associate Artistic Director of The Road Theatre. His directing credits include Melissa Arctic, Sovereign Body, That Good Night, Lady, New York Mets, So Nice to See You and The Petoskey Stones. He is also an actor. He received an MFA from the American Conservatory Theatre. For the Off the Page series, he previously directed Dinner with Friends.

Production Stage Manager and Editor: Jeanne Valleroy.

The Virtual Off the Page series is produced by Sierra Madre Playhouse Artistic Director Christian Lebano and Beryl Tsang.

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The Realistic Joneses

By Will Eno



Directed by Scott Alan Smith

CHRISTOPHER Nyerges



The Roots of Hallowe'en
Is it possible to celebrate a pre-commercialized version?

[Nyerges is the author of several books including “How to Survive Anywhere,” “Extreme Sim-licity,” and “Foraging California.” Information about his books and classes is available at www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance.com.]

Recently, I was part of a conversation where our small group wondered, How was this Holy Day commemorated before it was all commercialized into a scary night? Is it possible to observe this Holy Day in a similar fashion today? And how might the Covid-19 restrictions make this even more difficult?

We determined that we'd need to dig up whatever historical facts we could find that show how this day was commemorated before 1700, more or less. Though we couldn't be 100% certain, we at least assumed that “commercialization” didn't really exist in 1700, and all the European and some American commemorations before that year probably retained some semblance of what the day was all about, originally.

So, first, let's begin with the day.

It is believed that the ancient Celts observed something called a “Samhain festival” towards the end of October. Says the World Book Encyclopedia. “The Celts believed that the dead could walk among the living at this time. During Samhain, the living could visit with the dead. Elements of the customs can be traced to a Druid ceremony in pre-Christian times. The Celts had festivals for two major gods—a sun god and a god of the dead (called Samhain), whose festival was held on November 1, the beginning of the Celtic New Year.

This day, or period, was to mark the end of the harvest and the beginning of winter. Samhain (pronounced “sow-in,” which means “summer's end,” or the name of a god, or both) is seen by some Wiccans as a time to celebrate the lives of those who have died, and it often involves paying respect to ancestors, family members, elders of the faith, friends, pets and other loved ones who have died. In some rituals the spirits of the dead are invited to attend the festivities.

Various sorts of activities done on Samhain have been described over the centuries. In Ireland, Samhain was a time to take stock of the herds and food supplies. Cattle were brought to the winter pastures after six months in the higher summer pastures. Then, the people chose which animals to slaughter before the winter. After the slaughter of the animals, there would be feasting. And obviously, if you aren't an animal-raising farmer, how would you celebrate this aspect, except for the feasting?

The Catholic Church was aware of all the so-called “pagan” observances, and had their own day to commemorate the dead, May 13. This began in 609 or 610 A.D., when Pope Boniface the 4th dedicated the Pantheon—the Roman temple of all the gods—to Mary and all the martyrs. Later that date was changed by Pope Gregory III (731-741 A.D.), who dedicated a chapel in Rome to all the saints and ordered that they be honored on November 1. This was done, in part, to overshadow the pre-existing Samhain commemorations.

In the 11th century, November 2nd was assigned as “All Souls' Day” in commemoration of the dead. So this began the use of the term Hallow's Eve, or Hallowe'en for October 31. Hallowe'en customs are similar to the observance of Dia de los Muertos or Day of the Dead, commonly practiced in Mexico and which can be traced to early Aztec times. Apparently, this “day of the dead” was originally commemorated in Mexico in May, and was changed to November 2 sometime after Spanish contact to correspond with the Christian tradition.

FOOD and GIFTING

Trick or treating in modern times goes back to leaving food and wine for roaming dead spirits and ghosts. The custom was referred to as “going a-souling” and was eventually practiced only by the children who would visit the houses in their neighborhoods and be given gifts of ale, food and money. It was believed the spirits of the dead returned to visit their old homes during this time, so in ancient times, people left food out for them and arranged chairs so that the dead would be able to rest.

Treats called “soul cakes” were given out in memory of the departed. The Middle Age practice of souling — going door to door begging for food in return for prayers — became popular and is even referenced by William Shakespeare in 1593. This is obviously the root of the modern “trick or treating” for mini Snickers bars, a practice no doubt loved by every dentist.

Seasonal foods such as apples and nuts were often used in the Samhain rituals. Apples were peeled, the peel tossed over the shoulder, and its shape examined to see if it formed the first letter of the future spouse's name. Nuts were roasted on the hearth and then interpreted — if the nuts stayed together, so would the couple. Egg whites were dropped in water, and the shapes foretold the number of future children. Children would also chase crows and divine some of these things from the number of birds or the direction they flew.

COSTUMES

Celts would wear masks when they left their homes during the night hours during Samhain days, because they hoped they would avoid being recognized by the ghosts and be mistaken merely for fellow ghosts.

“Mumming” and “Guising” were a part of Samhain from at least the 16th century and was recorded in parts of Ireland, Scotland, Mann and Wales. It involved people going from house to house in costume (or in disguise), usually reciting songs or verses in exchange for food. It is suggested that it evolved from a tradition whereby people impersonated the aos si, or the souls of the dead, and received offerings on their behalf. Impersonating these spirits or souls was also believed to protect oneself from them. One researcher suggests that the ancient festival included people in masks or costumes representing these spirits, and that the modern custom came from this.

PARADES

Pagan Celtic priestesses and their followers would roam the countryside, chanting songs in order to frighten away the evil spirits thought to be out on Halloween night. I wonder how that could be practiced in your neighborhood?

FIRES

Bonfires were a big part of the festival in many areas of western Europe. Bonfires were typically lit on hilltops at Samhain where everyone could see them, and there were rituals involving them. Clearly, this would not be a good year for reviving that practice! Bonfires comes from the root, “bone-fires” because the priests sacrificed animals and supposedly even people in an attempt to appease the sun god, while also looking for future omens. The fire was said to be a type of sympathetic magic, where the fire mimicked the sun, which has the power to hold back the darkness of winter. Burning the fires was also believed to be a way of banishing evil, at least symbolically.

DIVINATION

Divination has likely been a part of the festival since ancient times, and it has survived in some rural areas. In part, this meant that the spirits, the aos si, could enter your world. Many of the food offerings and fires were directed to the aos si. Or perhaps, some of the crops might also be left in the ground for them the aos si. The aos si were addressed in various ways, with food offerings, with walks into the ocean, with the idea to hold off any mischief, and perhaps to learn the future. The belief that the souls of the dead return home on one night of the year seems to have ancient origins and is found in many cultures throughout the world.

CONCLUSION

So what do you conclude from all this? Is there an ideal way to commemorate this ancient day, and still avoid the trappings of commercialization? Is it even possible? Can you do this in your own home?

I like the way that the Day of the Dead is commemorated. There are altars with pictures of the dearly departed, and plates of good food. Candles are lit, rather than a big bonfire which the local fire department would frown upon. Families gather, and talk in respectful tones about their departed relatives. Yes, of course, even the Day of the Dead has turned into wild partying in some quarters, but if you seek a return to roots of the ancient commemoration of the dead, perhaps begin here. Begin with family or small neighborhood gatherings. Prepare a good meal, and keep in the mind the foods that your beloved departed enjoyed. This is not necessarily because you think their spirits will come to eat (last I checked, ghosts don't need to eat), but because having, for example, your mother's favorite dish will give you another reason to talk about your mother, and to remember all the good things she did.

This is at least a start, and it elevates our day of ghoulish and pointless fear-mongering into one that reconnects us with our roots.

Katnip News!



BENNY

This is our Benny Boy, sweet, loving, good natured, and who loves all other cats. Benny Boy would just love to be your cuddly partner. He also loves to play with his toys and strings, and will just follow you around spreading his love, and receiving your love. Benny was rescued off the streets but he was social and therefore he was at one time, somebody's pet, lost or abandoned. Being on the streets, he did contract FIV+, but he is a healthy kitty, and FIV+ is not easily transmitted to other cats, only through severe bite wounds. Because Benny loves all cats, and has never been aggressive, always walks away from any cat who is feisty, FIV+ is a NON issue, and we can advise. An FIV+ cat can live as long as any cat who doesn't have FIV. Benny will be shy at first and would best be adopted with one of his pals at the rescue. He has several because he gets along with nearly every cat we have. If you are interested in a sweet cuddly boy kitty, and are ok to adopt and love at least two kitties, please contact us. Benny would love to love you! Born 2012. See more pictures, videos, adoption information and application on our website at the Adult Cats page, www.lifelineforpets.org.



Pet of the Week

If you've been needing something sweet in your life, seven-month-old Gumdrop just might be the kitten for you! Gumdrop and her brother Goody arrived at the shelter as shy kittens, but have been coming out of their shells in their foster home. Gumdrop is the more curious of the two — she loves playing and exploring. She's also the more confident cat, and she's showing her brother that humans are great and can provide lots of nice petting and snacks. Ideally Gumdrop would go to a home with Goody since they're such good friends. And who wouldn't love that? You can have two beautiful house panthers exploring your home - what a treat!

Gumdrop is eligible for a 30-day adoption trial. Take her home for a month, get to know and love her, and we'll provide all the supplies. At the end of 30 days, you can make your adoption official. Email foster@pasadenahumane.org to get your



adoption trial started! The adoption fee for cats is \$90. All cat adoptions include spay or neuter, microchip, and age-appropriate vaccines. New adopters will receive a complimentary health-and-wellness exam from VCA Animal Hospitals, as well as a goody bag filled with information about how to care for your pet. Pets may not be available for adoption and cannot be held for potential adopters by phone calls or email.



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WHAT HAPPENS TO MEDICARE IF OBAMACARE IS OVERTURNED?

Dear Savvy Senior:

Will my Medicare benefits be affected if Obamacare is overturned by the Supreme Court?

Concerned Beneficiary



Dear Concerned:

Unfortunately, yes. If the Affordable Care Act (ACA) – also known as Obamacare – gets repealed by the Supreme Court next year, it will weaken Medicare and increase costs for beneficiaries. Here's what you should know.

Currently, about 60 million people are covered under Medicare, the federal health insurance program for people 65 and older and people of all ages with disabilities. Even though the main aim of the ACA was to overhaul the health insurance markets, most people don't realize that the law also touches virtually every part of Medicare.

Without the ACA, Medicare beneficiaries will have to pay more for preventive care services, which are now free; they'll have to pay more toward their prescription drugs; their premiums and deductibles will rise faster; and Medicare will face insolvency much sooner because of lost funding and cost cutting measures. With the help of Kiplinger's Retirement Report, here is a more detailed breakdown of what happens to Medicare if the court invalidates the law.

Preventive care services will no longer be free: Thanks to the ACA, there's no copayment or deductible for potentially life-saving screenings for cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular disease and other illnesses. Flu shots and annual wellness visits are also free. Before the ACA, beneficiaries had to pay 20 percent of the cost for most preventive care services, after their deductible was met.

The doughnut hole will return: Since 2011 the ACA has been steadily closing the prescription drug coverage gap, also known as the doughnut hole, in Medicare Part D by requiring drug manufacturers and insurers to pick up more of the cost. The hole was finally closed this year with seniors paying 25 percent of the cost for both generic and brand-name medications and manufacturers picking up 70 percent of the tab, while insurers kick in the remaining 5 percent. Before the ACA, seniors paid 100 percent of Part D prescription drug expenses while in the doughnut hole.

Medicare premiums and deductibles will rise faster: The ACA also curbed Medicare payments to providers to help keep Medicare Part A deductibles and copayments in check. Similarly, Part B premiums and deductibles are much lower than projected before the ACA became law. From 2011 to 2020, Part B premiums increased 23 percent. From 2000 to 2009 – the nine years before the law's passage – Part B premiums rose almost five times faster, increasing 112 percent over that period.

Medicare Advantage plans will be more expensive: The ACA requires Medicare Advantage plans to spend 85 percent of premium dollars on health care, not profits or overhead. The plans also can't charge more than traditional Medicare for chemotherapy, renal dialysis, skilled nursing care and other specialized services.

Those restrictions dramatically lowered costs for Medicare Advantage plan enrollees. Since the ACA became law in 2010, the average Medicare Advantage premium has decreased by 43 percent while enrollment has increased 117 percent.

Insolvency accelerates: The ACA extended the solvency of the program's trust fund by eight years to 2026, mostly by finding new sources of revenue and slowing the growth of payments to all providers. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that reversing those changes would cost the program \$700 billion over 10 years, which would make Medicare almost immediately insolvent.

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.

FAMILY MATTERS

By Marc Garlett



DOING THE RIGHT THING FOR THE PEOPLE YOU LOVE DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Right now, huge numbers of people are coming face to face with their own mortality, and realizing they need to plan for the worst. This goes not just for those in the "senior" category, but for all of us, no matter our age. We are facing the reality of our mortality, and many of us are doing it courageously by taking this as an opportunity to learn what we need to do for the people we love.

Recently I heard a tragic story from a colleague whose client lost her fiancé to COVID-19. Because she wasn't listed on her fiancé's health directive and HIPAA waiver, she could not get anyone to update her on his condition once he entered the hospital.

Naturally, she didn't give up trying, and eventually someone told her that he wasn't in the ICU anymore. She was enormously relieved, but when she hadn't heard anything else by the next day, she called again for news. Finally, after being transferred several times, she learned that the reason her fiancé wasn't in the ICU was because he was in the morgue. He'd passed away the day before, and no one had told her. Heartbreaking.

Nobody expects something like this to happen, especially to people who are healthy and making plans for their own futures. But sometimes the worst does happen, and if it does, you want the people you love to be able to grieve properly, without leaving them with a mess of confusion on top of it all.

Now, think about your own situation. What will happen to your loved ones, and the assets you'll leave behind, if you become sick or die?

Without a doubt, you'd want to ensure certain people in your life are informed if you have to go to the hospital and kept up to date on your condition while you are there. You'd also probably want to avoid them having to go through a drawn-out court process to handle your estate after your death or save them from the fate of not being able to access your assets if you are hospitalized. This article is all about you having the tools you need to make sure everything is in place to do the right thing for the people you love, just in case something happens to you.

Covering the Basics

First, you need to have a worst-case scenario conversation with your family. A lot of people try to avoid conversations about death, but the fact is, we will all die. It's better to face that with those we love so that when the time comes, we will be as ready as we can be, and so will they.

Create an Asset Inventory

This is something you can get started on right now, by yourself, without the help of a lawyer. It is a great resource to leave for your loved ones so they know where to find everything that is important to you, and will be important to them, if something happens to you.

First, get out your calendar and schedule an appointment with yourself. Set aside an hour or so to put all your asset information in one place (we use a spreadsheet when we do this for clients): real estate, bank accounts, retirement accounts, life insurance, stocks, bonds, business interests, etc.

Update Your Health Care Directive

This is extremely important if you want your loved ones to avoid the tragic situation my colleague's client found herself in. Do NOT delay reviewing and updating these documents.

Your Health Care Directive should have three parts:

- A Living Will/ Medical Directive, which states how you want decisions to be made for you.
- A Medical Power of Attorney, which states who should make these decisions if you can't make them yourself.

A HIPAA Release that allows medical professionals to disclose information to your Medical Power of Attorney/Agent.

Name Legal Guardians for Your Kids

A very important thing for all parents of minor children to do is name legal guardians for your children. Think about what would happen to them right now if something were to happen to you, for both the long term and the immediate future. This is the single most important thing parents of minor children should do because it would have the greatest impact on – or leave the biggest hole for – our minor children if something happens to us.

Going Beyond Just the Basics

The goal in setting up an estate plan is, ultimately, to keep your loved ones out of court and out of conflict. To do that, you must make the right decisions during the planning process, retitle assets so they are protected by your plan, and ensure your plan stays up to date for the rest of your life.

Estate planning is all about merging your family dynamics, assets (both material and non-material), and the law into a cohesive plan which accomplishes all that you really want to do for the people you love.

If you are ready to face your mortality courageously and want to ensure your family is protected and provided for no matter what, don't wait. Get the help of a professional (someone who's providing virtual planning sessions) and get started now.

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 626.355.4000 or visit www.Calilaw.com for more information.

SENIOR HAPPENINGS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! ...October Birthdays*



Janda Ferris, Darlene Traxler, Margit Johnson, Sole Krieg, George Maurer, Dick Anderson, Eva Poet, Mary Jane Baker, Dixie Coutant, Cathleen Cremins, Adie Marshall, Darlene Crook, Susan Gallagher, Maggie Ellis, Gloria Giersbach, Elva Johnson, Ellen O'Leary, Jenny Piagenti, Gail Ann Skiles, Anita Thompson, Linda Boehm and Angela Stella

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

SENIOR ACTIVITIES IN SIERRA MADRE

CHAIR YOGA Every Monday and Wednesday, 10-10:45 am Chair yoga with Paul is coming back! Class will begin on Monday, August 10th and will be held in the Covered Pavilion in Memorial Park in front of the Senior Center. Please join us for some gentle stretching, yoga, balance exercise and overall relaxa-tion. Class size is limited so please call 264-8923 to reserve your spot.

HAWAIIAN AND POLYNESIAN DANCE CLASS Every Friday, 10-10:45 am Class will also meet in the Covered Pavilion in Memorial Park in front of the Senior Center. Join the class with instructor Barbara as she leads you through the art of Hula. Please call 264-8923 with any questions.

Classes will maintain a distance of 6 ft between participants. ALL participants must be wearing masks for the duration of the class. All equipment used will be sanitized after each use before it is stored. Each participant is responsible for providing their own water, masks and needed equipment or sup-plies for each class. Please call the Community Services Department at 355-5278 with any questions or concerns.

OCTOBER CRAFT

Wednesday, October 21, 11:00 am. Please join me as we try our hands at making Wooden Owl Ornaments. This will be a new type of program as we create our masterpieces via Zoom to ensure all of our safety. I will have all the supplies individually packaged and ready for pickup on Monday, October 19th pickup will be between 10:00 am-2:00 pm. I will have enough supplies for 10 participants. Reservations are required so please call 355-5278 x 704 to secure your spot. Please note that this is an ONLINE class that will be held via Zoom. We will not be meeting in the Hart Park House Senior Center.

IDEAS

Do you have any ideas for programming? Is there a class or club you would like to see in our Senior Community? Please call or email Lawren Heinz with ideas or questions. 626-355-5278 x 704 lhein@cityofsierramadre.com

City staff are monitoring email communication daily, and although employees are minimizing direct engagement and interfacing less with the community, please note that voice messages, emails, and social media responses are being addressed in the most efficient and timely manner. If at any time additional information is needed, please contact City Hall Administrative Services at (626) 355-7135, Monday-Thursday from 7:30a – 5:30p, as they are taking messages and e-mailing the appropriate person. For messages that may trickle in otherwise, please note our team is remotely checking voicemail daily at the Community Services Department, (626) 355-5278 x702.

SIERRA MADRE SENIOR COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

The City of Sierra Madre is following these procedures to provide current communication in light of COVID-19 and keep the Senior Community and families informed of essential information and resources. City staff are monitoring email communication daily, and although employees are minimizing direct engagement and practicing social distancing in the community, please note that voice messages, emails, and social media responses are being addressed in the most efficient and timely manner.

If at any moment additional information is needed, please contact City Hall Administrative Services at (626) 355-7135, Monday-Thursday from 7:30a – 5:30p, as they are taking messages and e-mailing the appropriate person.

For messages that may trickle in otherwise, please note our team is remotely checking voicemail daily at the Community Services Department, (626) 355-5278 x702.

Community Services Department will continue email communication with Senior residents and aging community members.

If you know of family members or neighbors who may benefit from accessing information electronically, and to receive the department's Seniors Newsletter via email but may not otherwise have been included on an email group list, please send your request with email address to the following team members: Lawren Heinz lhein@cityofsierramadre.com and Clarissa Lowe Clowe@cityofsierramadre.com.

City Social Media will continue via Facebook as well as Instagram, and information sharing will include updates as details become available.

Mater Dolorosa - Sierra Madre Meal Pick-Up Program provides seal-packaged frozen meals, 5-per person every Thursday, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. at Hart Park House Senior Center 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Donations are accepted. Call (626) 355-5278; x702 or 704. **YWCA Intervale Meal Program** - Effective Wednesday, April 1, 2020

YWCA has transitioned their distribution of take home meals at the Sierra Madre Hart Park House Senior Center to a home-delivery meal program. Participants previously reserved for meal pick-up as of Wednesday, 3/25/20 were informed that they would begin to have their meals delivered to their homes, beginning Wednesday, April 1, 2020 until further notice.



OUT TO PASTOR

A Weekly Religion Column by Rev. James Snyder

THINGS HAVE A WAY OF CATCHING UP WITH ME

I have learned in my life, and probably just one thing: things have a way of catching up with me. I can't get away with anything.

It's not that I don't try. There were a few times when I've come pretty close to getting away with something, but it didn't turn out the way I hoped. One example stands out. Last year someone hacked into the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage's bank account and purchased a case of wine for around \$700. It took her a few days to see this in her bank account. When she saw it, she immediately went to the bank to dispute it.

The interesting thing about this purchase on her account was, it happened while she was playing the piano in church on a Sunday morning here in Florida, and was made at the same time in Southern California. I know my wife is terrific, but I did not believe she could do that. To be in two different places at the same time is magical. Maybe she has more arrows in her quiver than I imagined.

She finally got it squared away with her bank and got the money put back. For a while, she was a little worried and checked her bank account every day.

Every once in a while, being the kind of person I am, I will ask her after the Sunday service, "Did you buy any wine today?"

I found that quite hilarious but, being on the opposite side of the marriage aisle, she did not go along with that evaluation.

Being a country boy, I like to milk every opportunity I get. I remember telling her at the time, "I didn't know you drank wine."

After a while, she quit responding and just gave me one of her infamous scowls, which only sparked further interest in the subject.

For a while, I thought I was getting away with this. Things, however, have a way of catching up, particularly with me, when I least expect it.

Several weeks ago, as I checked my bank account online, I noticed a transaction for \$159.32 for, of all things, cigars. But I don't smoke cigars!

I've delved into it a little bit and discovered that I bought those cigars in New Jersey the same time I was preaching from the pulpit here in Florida. Is it possible that I have now risen to the height of the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage?

Believe me, I was more than aggravated at that kind of thing. \$159.32 is a lot of money for me, and to spend it on ci-gars when I don't smoke cigars is a travesty.

The next day I headed for the bank to dispute this transaction. After some time with my banker, she was able to take care of it. It took several days for that money to get back into my account. Believe me, I checked my account every day until finally,

the transaction was gone.

The fact that that transaction took place in New Jersey at the same time I was preaching here in Florida was rather disturbing. I thought that maybe somebody did this deliberately.

That, however, was not the end of it.

"After all these years you haven't told me everything about yourself," my wife said to me. "Why didn't you tell me you smoke cigars?" Then she laughed. I didn't.

She egged me into an intense conversation about the fact that I did not, in any way, smoke cigars; therefore, why in the world would I buy cigars. Looking at her, I could see she was enjoying this to the hilt.

"Is there anything else," she said rather soberly, "that you haven't told me?"

Well, if there was, I would not remember it at my age. Then, as I stood there with my jaw dropped to the floor, she began laughing hysterically.

"Ha, ha, ha, I got you."

But it wasn't over yet.

The next Sunday after the church service, on our way home, my wife looked at me rather soberly and said, "Honey, did you by any cigars today while you were preaching?" Then she laughed heartily, and I mumbled under my breath as I gritted my teeth.

I didn't understand where she was going with this, and then she said something else, "By the way, I did not buy any wine today while playing the piano." Again she laughed.

When she said that, I understood where all of this was coming from.

Right then and there, we made a pact. I won't ask her about buying wine if she doesn't ask me about buying cigars on a Sunday.

It just showed me that things have a way of coming back on me. I need to learn to let some things go even though I might be tempted to use them for my entertainment.

I'm sure down the road, somewhere, some time, there will be an opportunity for me to indulge in this entertainment. I must keep in mind, what I think I have, my wife also has.

I was reminded of what the apostle Paul said. "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (Galatians 6:7).

I thought about that for a while. Whatever you do, has repercussions. How you treat one person is how, down the road somewhere, you will be treated as well.

Dr. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, Ocala, FL 34472.



At first, Dad and I didn't see eye to eye about moving to The Kensington, but since he did, we're both thrilled

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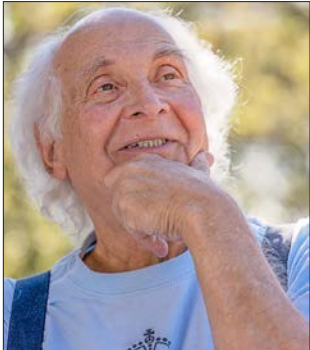
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Mission Statement

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.

STUART TOLCHIN AN END TO ADDICTION



You must know what I am talking about. The addiction had begun gradually enough. There was always something disgusting about he who shall not be named way back when he was simply an annoying reality show host. I recall hearing people say they enjoyed the guy say "You're fired" to losers, or whatever they were, on the show. Perhaps, this approval should have alerted me to potential future American problems. Remember this was before the election of Governor Jesse "the Body" Ventura who also was considered as a Presidential candidate. I wondered then if a large part of the American electorate had completely lost its mind. How could a completely inexperienced, uninformed publicity seeking TV character can actually be considered as a potential Presidential candidate? Today we know the answer. It was only a beginning.

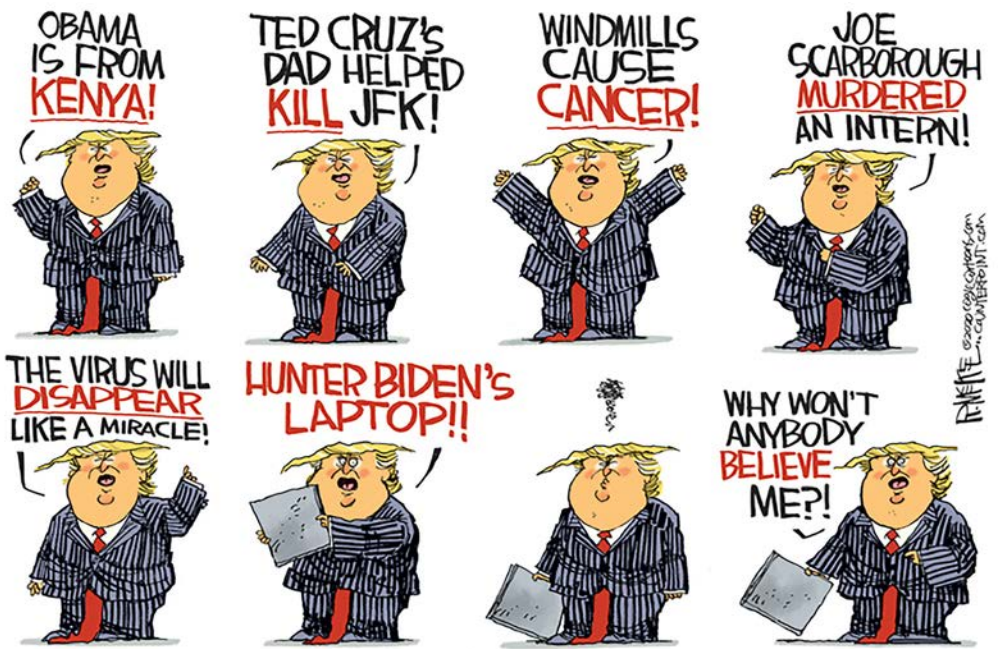
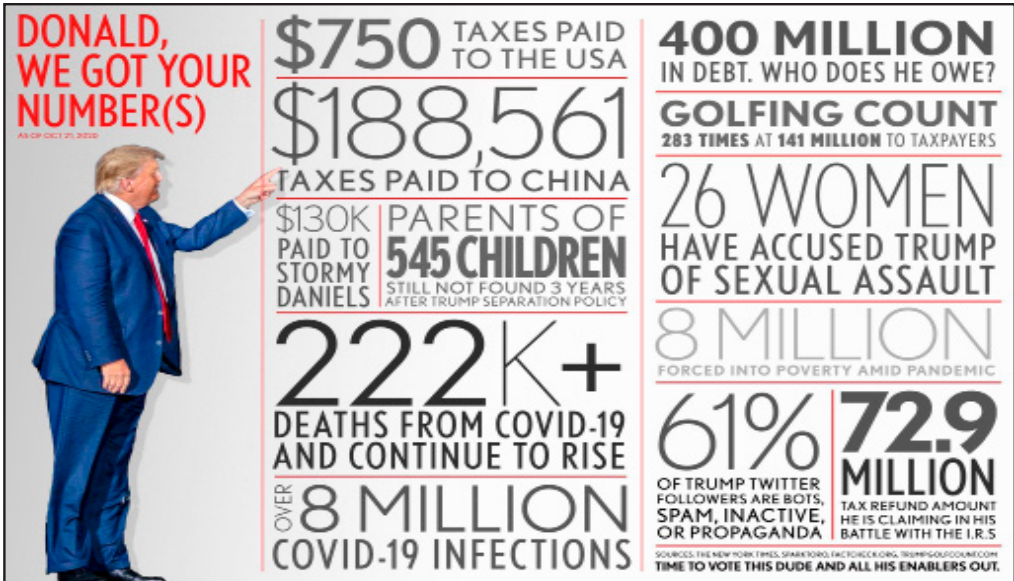
Prior to retirement I would daily appear in Courts from Lancaster to Long Beach and would by necessity spend many hours of every weekday endlessly driving. I would calmly listen to seemingly civilized, liberal, courteous, informative talk radio. I was doing my best to stay sane while working full time, worrying about money and not being late picking the kids up from after school programs. But now those Ronald Reagan, Bill Clinton days in retrospect seem so tranquil. Oh, there were attacks against the President but now it definitely feels like President is trying to attack personally attack me. Does he really want to lessen the amount of Social Security Payments?

Really, it's not just Social Security payments. He continually and increasingly threatens my sense of what it is to be an American. Just a few years ago I was so proud to be an American presided over by a young, articulate, intelligent, well-informed, compassionate leader who only occasionally took action with which I did not disagree. Still I was proud of what it meant to be an American. Just a couple of weeks ago I was ashamed by my initial reaction to the news that the whole Presidential family had been infected by the virus. I wonder if you had a similar reaction and I wonder what many formerly proud Americans have become.

Amazingly, as I begin to conclude this article an article popped up on my phone from the New York Times describing an addiction treatment. Strange coincidence or is the phone somehow monitoring what I am writing on the computer? Let's not worry about that now. Anyway, the article describes a sure-fire cure for addiction called contingency management. The approach is to reward drug users with money and prizes for staying abstinent. There are moral objections to the concept but I certainly would have no moral objection to be awarded money or prizes for my writing an article about my addiction without mentioning by name the actual reason for my concern. As you can see I have not mentioned that name in this entire article. But money and prizes are not necessary here.

Let us all vote by November 3 and succeed in being rid of -----you know who I mean.

Yes it's finally going to end! In just a few days it will be November 3 and it is my great hope that November 3 or soon thereafter will be the very last day of my addiction. For at least four years I have been addicted to viewing, listening, and reading news about -I even hate to say the name or even write it. Still the addiction haunts me and as soon as I can open my eyes after a disturbed and almost sleepless night, like any other addict I try to get a quick hit by checking my email to see if there is any new news that speak of you know who.



DON'T FORGET.....YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

DICK POLMAN



6 REASONS TO WAVE BYE BYE TO THE BIDEN FAMILY 'SCANDAL'

No matter what happens in this presidential election, it has been deeply satisfying to watch the Joe and Hunter scandal hooyey explode on the launch pad.

Republicans have long been adept at smearing the opposition with lies. In 1988, they said that Michael Dukakis polluted Boston Harbor and unleashed black rapists in the white suburbs. In 2000, they said that Al Gore boasted of having invented the Internet. In 2004, they said that John Kerry's Vietnam medals were phony. And in 2016, they said that Hillary Clinton was an existential threat to national security because her emails blah blah you know that story.

This time, the gist of the GOP's purported October surprise - concocted by Donald Trump's hacks and hyped by the right-wing echo chamber - was that Hunter Biden ginned up business in Ukraine and cut his father in on 10 percent of the profits. Or something like that. I won't bother to detail the claim lest I risk dignifying it. What interests me is why the smear on Joe never got traction with the general public that lives outside the MAGA bubble.

1. There's no proof that Joe ever took a dime. Two Republican-run Senate committees, Homeland Security and Finance, delved into the claims but found zero evidence that Joe had taken any money, committed any misdeeds, or compromised American policy toward Ukraine while he was vice president. On the contrary, the Republican Senate's investigators spoke with witnesses who said Joe was clean.
2. The story about how Hunter left an incriminating laptop in a Delaware computer repair shop surfaced in the right-wing New York Post, and it was so dubious that reporters wanted their names removed. Not even Fox News was able to verify it. Nor could The Wall Street Journal; in the end, that newspaper declared, in a headline, that "Corporate records reviewed by The Wall Street Journal show no role for Joe Biden."
3. The main characters seeking to flog the Hunter-Joe malarkey were tainted Trumpists Steve Bannon and Rudy Giuliani. "Nuff said.
4. Yeah, Hunter Biden drummed up some business for himself by leveraging his father's famous name - a routine form of legal corruption. That's a legitimate story, as far as it goes. But in the words of sane conservative commentator Matt Lewis, Hunter's deed is the equivalent of "being told there is gambling taking place at Rick's Cafe. Heaven knows, the Trump kids and their spouses do this, and more... In the context of what happens in Washington, (Hunter) is small potatoes. Donald Trump is guilty of much, much worse."
5. Speaking of Donald, the guy wasn't even capable of hyping the faux Hunter-Joe narrative with any semblance of coherence. Maybe the MAGA cultists could decode the gibberish he spouted during the final presidential debate, but the average person could not - and didn't care to.
6. Hunter is not on the ballot, and whatever he did has nothing to do with the lives of voters. Nearly 230,000 Americans are dead and 8 million more are infected while Trump brays about how we've "rounded the turn." That's what voters care about. Even Trump toady Ted Cruz has said of the Hunter narrative, "I don't think it moves a single voter." Erick Erickson, the Trump-leaning conservative pundit laments that the Hunter narrative is "obscure" and "a distraction at this point."

Meanwhile, on Thursday Tucker Carlson was blathering on the air about how he'd possessed damning Hunter materials, but that they'd mysteriously vanished in the mail - but wait, the USPS finally found the materials, so they hadn't mysteriously vanish after all... or something like that. Then he did a 180-degree turn and told viewers: "Probably too strong to say we feel sorry for Hunter Biden, but the point is pounding on a man, jumping on, and piling on when he's already down is something we don't want to be involved in."

Seems about right.

Dick Polman, a veteran national political columnist based in Philadelphia and a Writer in Residence at the University of Pennsylvania, writes at DickPolman.net. Email him at dickpolman7@gmail.com

JOHN MICEK



Esther Wigley just finished paying off her medical bills - from 2017.

Wigley, a Medicare recipient from Scranton, Pa., is now working to pay off bills from 2018 and 2019. And as she looks ahead to her 2020 tab, she fears she might be in for some serious and painful choices.

"It's not an exaggeration to say that my bills keep me up at night," Wigley said last week during a conference call organized by Joe Biden's presidential campaign, as Democrats mount a two-front fight - one in a Capitol Hill hearing room, the other out in the field - to save the Affordable Care Act.

"My health and ability to put food on the table is at stake in this election," Wigley added.

As messengers go, Wigley is a potent one. Current polling shows President Donald Trump losing to Biden among seniors in a trio of critical swing states, including Pennsylvania. Biden has targeted Trump's management of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has exacted a tragic toll among older Americans, as he's made his pitch to the powerful voting bloc.

Hundreds of miles away from the West Scranton senior center where Wigley was speaking, Democrats on the Senate Judiciary Committee trotted out example after example of Americans who'd benefited from the Affordable Care Act, and who might well end up suffering from its future repeal.

While she strenuously avoided taking a position on almost everything, we do know that Judge Amy Coney Barrett, who now appears to be on the fast-track to confirmation to the Supreme Court, is hostile to the former President Barack Obama's signature healthcare law. That fact comes courtesy of her previous legal scholarship, as the Washington Post's Jennifer Rubin pointed out.

A future Justice Barrett could well be called upon to hear, and rule on, California v. Texas, a case backed by congressional Republicans and Trump's Justice Department, that seeks to do what the GOP could not accomplish legislatively: topple the Affordable Care Act.

Never mind the fact that, in the midst of the gravest public health crisis in a century, Republicans do not have a replacement for it, nor have they evinced much interest in formulating one.

And while there's reason to believe the high court may rule against the challenge, that does not mean that Barrett does not pose a long-term threat to the law's future viability.

DEMOCRATS KEEP HEALTH-CARE FRONT AND CENTER

Democrats retook control of the House in 2018 largely on the back of voters' dissatisfaction with Trump, generally, and his attacks on healthcare more specifically.

Recent polling by the Kaiser Family Foundation shows that most Americans have a favorable impression of the healthcare law overall, and broadly support some of the law's specific provisions, including its protections for people with preexisting conditions.

Biden, meanwhile, supports expanding and strengthening the existing statute, while his allies on the progressive left are looking for universal healthcare. And at the moment, it looks like Democrats are on track to expand their House majority, and might even end up flipping the Senate.

"So many Americans are concerned by one issue - and that's healthcare," Sen. Bob Casey (D-Pa.) said during that press call with Wigley. "So much of that healthcare is in mortal danger right now."

Casey has already said he'll vote against Barrett's confirmation, and has declined to meet with her.

Like every other Democrat, Casey is still smarting from the GOP's stymying of Obama's 2016 high court pick, Judge Merrick Garland. And he's made no secret of his disdain for the credulity-straining justifications that Republicans have offered in defense of Barrett's pre-election confirmation.

Casey, who does not sit on the Judiciary Committee, credited his colleagues on the panel for their efforts to keep the healthcare debate front and center during their turns at the microphone.

"They've been resolute and determined about what is at stake," Casey said, speculating that the "majority of Americans did not know there was a case before the Supreme Court on Nov. 10.

"I'm sure that an even a larger number did not know that if Judge Barrett was not Justice Barrett," by Nov. 10 that "she could not make a decision," Casey continued. "Now, more Americans know. And now, armed with that knowledge they are contacting their members of Congress."

They're also voting in such crucial swing states as Pennsylvania, where Trump eked out a narrow, 44,000-vote victory in 2016.

National polls show Biden leading Trump by an average of 9.2 percent. In must-win Pennsylvania, also Biden's childhood stomping ground, the ex-VeeP is up by an average of 7.1 percent, according to RealClear Politics.

Democrats may not win the battle over Barrett's nomination, but they could end up winning the war.



Susan Henderson,
Editor/Publisher

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Mountain Views News Recommendations:

Every election, the Mountain Views News brings together its 'Editorial Advisors' to discuss the candidates and issues that are on the ballot. When done, we have our endorsement list to share with you.

PRESIDENT/VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
JOE BIDEN/KAMALA HARRIS

US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 27TH DISTRICT
CONGRESSWOMAN JUDY CHU

US HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 28TH DISTRICT
CONGRESSMAN ADAM SCHIFF

CALIFORNIA STATE SENATE DISTRICT 25
ANTHONY PORTANTINO, JR.

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 41
ASSEMBLYMAN CHRIS HOLDEN

PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT - 6
CRYSTAL CZUBERNAT

SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL - 2 YEAR SEAT
EDWARD T. GARCIA

SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL - 4 YEAR SEATS
ANDY BENCOSME
ROBERT PARKHURST

LA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY
JACKIE LACEY

California Proposition 14, the Stem Cell Research Institute Bond Initiative

A "yes" vote supports issuing \$5.5 billion general obligation bonds for the state's stem cell research institute and making changes to the institute's governance structure and programs.

California Proposition 15, the Tax on Commercial and Industrial Properties for Education and Local Government Funding Initiative

A "yes" vote supports this constitutional amendment to require commercial and industrial properties, except those zoned as commercial agriculture, to be taxed based on their market value, rather than their purchase price.

California Proposition 16, the Repeal Proposition 209 Affirmative Action Amendment

A "no" vote opposes this constitutional amendment, thereby keeping Proposition 209 (1996), which stated that the government and public institutions cannot discriminate against or grant preferential treatment to persons on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in public employment, public education, and public contracting.

California Proposition 17, the Voting Rights Restoration for Persons on Parole Amendment

A "no" vote opposes this constitutional amendment, thereby continuing to prohibit people who are on parole for felony convictions from voting.

California Proposition 18, the Primary Voting for 17-Year-Olds Amendment

A "no" vote opposes this constitutional amendment, thereby continuing to prohibit 17-year-olds who will be 18 at the time of the next general election to vote in primary elections and special elections.

California Proposition 19, the Property Tax Transfers, Exemptions, and Revenue for Wildfire Agencies and Counties Amendment

A "yes" vote supports this constitutional amendment to:

- * allow eligible homeowners to transfer their tax assessments anywhere within the state and allow tax assessments to be transferred to a more expensive home with an upward adjustment;
- * increase the number of times that persons over 55 years old or with severe disabilities can transfer their tax assessments from one to three;
- * require that inherited homes that are not used as principal residences, such as second homes or rentals, be reassessed at market value when transferred; and
- * allocate additional revenue or net savings resulting from the ballot measure to wildfire agencies and counties.

California Proposition 20, the Criminal Sentencing, Parole, and DNA Collection Initiative

A "yes" vote supports this initiative to add crimes to the list of violent felonies for which early parole is restricted; recategorize certain types of theft and fraud crimes as wobblers (chargeable as misdemeanors or felonies); and require DNA collection for certain misdemeanors.

California Proposition 21, the Local Rent Control Initiative

A "no" vote opposes this ballot initiative, thereby continuing to prohibit rent control on housing that was first occupied after February 1, 1995, and housing units with distinct titles, such as single-family homes.

California Proposition 22, the App-Based Drivers as Contractors and Labor Policies Initiative

A "yes" vote supports this ballot initiative to define app-based transportation (rideshare) and delivery drivers as independent contractors and adopt labor and wage policies specific to app-based drivers and companies.

California Proposition 23, the Dialysis Clinic Requirements Initiative.

A "yes" vote supports this ballot initiative to require chronic dialysis clinics to: have an on-site physician while patients are being treated; report data on dialysis-related infections; obtain consent from the state health department before closing a clinic; and not discriminate against patients based on the source of payment for care.

California Proposition 24, the Consumer Personal Information Law and Agency Initiative

A "yes" vote supports this ballot initiative to expand the state's consumer data privacy laws, including provisions to allow consumers to direct businesses to not share their personal information; remove the time period in which businesses can fix violations before being penalized; and create the Privacy Protection Agency to enforce the state's consumer data privacy laws.

California Proposition 25, the Replace Cash Bail with Risk Assessments Referendum

A "no" vote is to repeal the contested legislation, Senate Bill 10 (SB 10), thus keeping in place the use of cash bail for detained suspects awaiting trials.

PORTRAIT OF OUR NEIGHBORS

by Stuart Tolchin

JOHNNY LAI

Johnny Lai is a very atypical Sierra Madre resident. He was born in Taiwan and spoke no English when he came to the United States. He is a graduate of the UCLA School of Law's Public Interest Section, coincidentally a classmate of my daughter. He has over 18 years of experience as a Criminal Defense Attorney and considers this to be a part of his mission as a Progressive Person. He is a married man who together with his wife are raising their two teenage children in this unprecedented time of school closures and required sheltering in place.

He recognizes that his decision to practice as a criminal defense lawyer for the oppressed would not be as lucrative as other fields. He feels that this sacrifice is well worth the price. Sometimes, as bills becomes due, he may wonder about his decision but on the whole is very pleased with his decision.

Surprisingly, given his already described professional goals, Johnny was born to a successful family within Taiwan. His paternal grandfather was a dentist and his recently deceased father was a physician here in the United States. On the maternal side his mother's family owned several factories and it was always expected that Johnny too would become a financially successful person. Johnny educated me as to the competitive nature of Taiwan. From the very beginning in the three year program that corresponds to American kindergarten, children are presented with mathematics and spelling and are rigorously tested. Parents with high ambitions for their children stay up until the early mornings reviewing school materials. Johnny explained that in order to gain entry into the most prestigious schools it was necessary to be almost perfect right from the beginning. Parental pressure was extreme and to disappoint one's parents was a terrible calamity.

It was with this sheltered background that Johnny, right after kindergarten, emigrated to the United States. The reason for this emigration was explained to Johnny as resulting from questions about Taiwan's status as an independent country. The political description of Taiwan is still currently ambiguous but Johnny's father determined that immigration to the United States was immediately required. After three years of kindergarten, during which time he excelled, he was brought to the United States unable to speak English. For this reason he was held back in school which was a source of humiliation and resulted in the terrible feeling that he had disappointed his parents. At this time in his life this was the worst thing he could imagine.

Moving ahead now to 1992, Johnny went to school in San Marino living within a privileged upper middle class bubble. His world view radically changed as the comfortable bubble in which he lived was pierced by the L.A. "riots" connected to the acquittal of white policeman who had brutalized an unarmed Blackman. (Sound familiar.) During the six day civil disturbances internationally known as the L.A. riots. Rodney King was interviewed and famously said "Can't we all just get along?" Thirty years later that question which many viewed as simplistic and superficial still has not been answered. As a result of his recognition of existing inequities Johnny rebelled. He told his family that he was going to become a lawyer rather than a doctor. In his family that was rebellion.

Today people like Johnny (and I) believe that Rodney King's question can be answered positively. Yes we can get along provided we first eliminate the racism that has existed in this country since inception. Johnny believes that police reform, better training of police, better wages, and accountability will affect needed change. He has encouraged his children to develop broad skills and interests and to become knowledgeable about the world that exists beyond their comfort zone. Johnny supports Progressive Political candidates and is always interested in finding ways to improve conditions. Overall, not a bad guy to have in our community.



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☒ Electronic Sample Ballot
☒ Voter education Events

☒ LA County Election Resources (lavote.net)
☒ Voting & Elections to get voter vote center locations and
☒ download an interactive sample ballot and much more.
☒ Get both statewide and local election information.

☐ League of Women Voters – California
<https://cavotes.org/>

☐ Official CA Voter Information Guide
www.voterguide.sos.ca.gov

☐ Easy Voter Guide
www.easyvoterguide.org
☒ Get the Pros and Cons about the state ballot measures
☒ to help you decide how you will vote on proposed laws.

☐ Voters Edge
☒ In-depth information and analyses about what's on your statewide ballot
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☐ Where's My Ballot?
<https://california.ballottrax.net/voter/>
☒ Track your ballot from mailing to counting

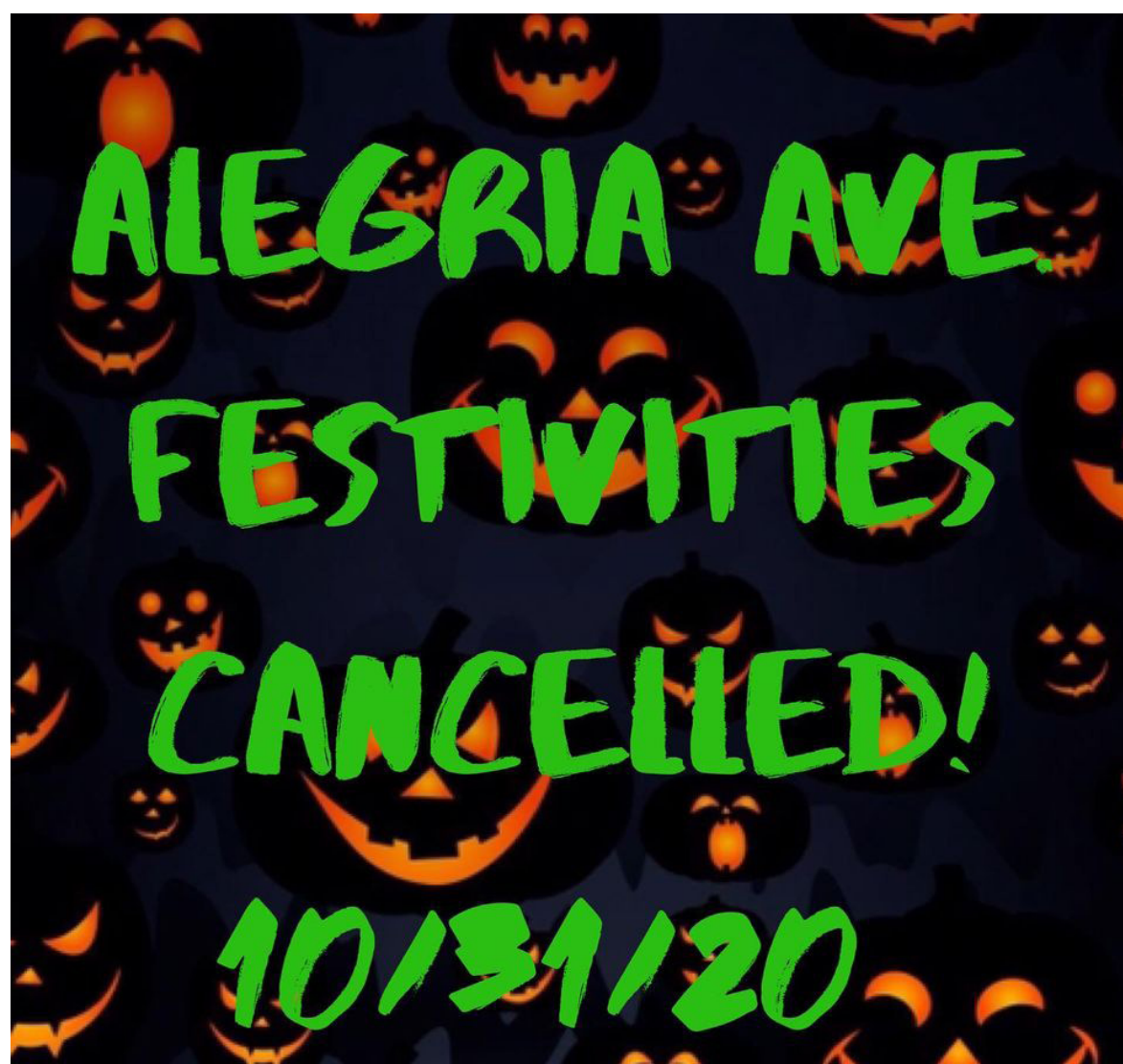
VOTER INFORMATION WEB SITES

HEALTH OFFICER ORDER UPDATE

- ✓ Private gatherings cannot exceed more than 3 households.
- ✓ Private gatherings must be held outdoors.
- ✓ Attendees must wear face coverings when not eating or drinking, and seating allows for physical distancing between households.
- ✓ Keep it short - private gatherings should be two hours or less.
- ✓ People in high-risk groups are strongly urged to not attend any private gatherings.

LA County **Roadmap to Recovery**

County of Los Angeles **Public Health**
covid19.lacounty.gov



SIERRA MADRE HALLOWEEN HAPPENINGS OCTOBER 26TH - 31ST

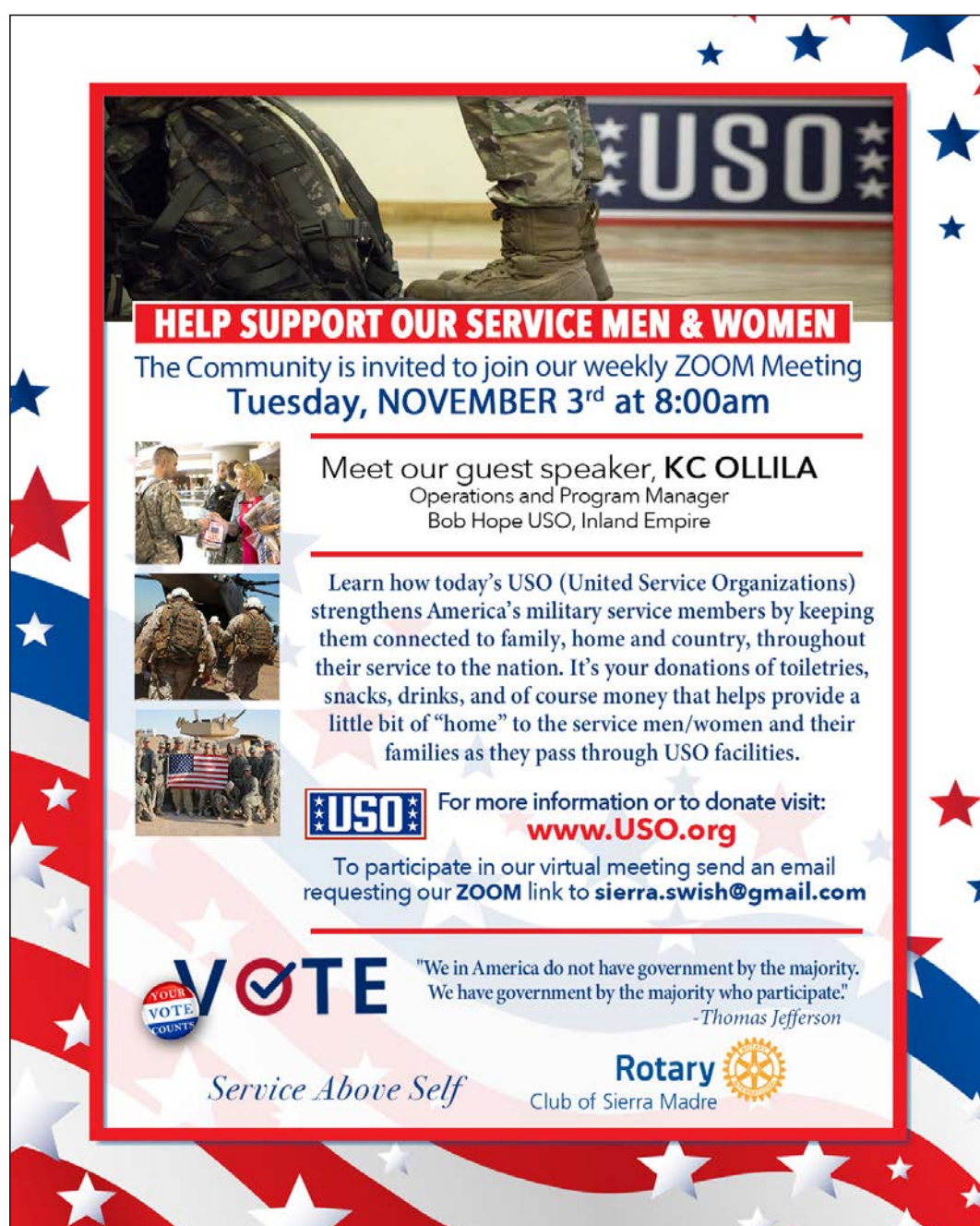
It's FALL, the temperatures are warmer this year and holidays are quickly approaching, we fear! Halloween Happenings will be different in the City of Sierra Madre. The typical "trick or treating" and city street closures on Alegria are not being permitted this Halloween given the pandemic. COVID makes it unsafe for families but NEVER FEAR, the Community Services Team is here! October 31st falls on Saturday and instead of one day, search all week long for treats hidden away!

We can't tell you when or exactly where, but there will be 200-300 eggs hidden daily in the City with fun tricks or treats, so beware. Amongst those eggs will be 5 tickets per day of varying Halloween colors, seek what you may. Hunt, search, run and climb, but dress in your costume and have a great time. Make sure to social distance, wear your masks, and steer 6-feet clear of others; but bring along your pod of fathers, mothers, sisters or brothers!

If you find a ticket, make sure to read the instructions carefully, as this is not the same treat we would give out normally. There is the name of an organization or business in town, it will be provided on your ticket so check all around.

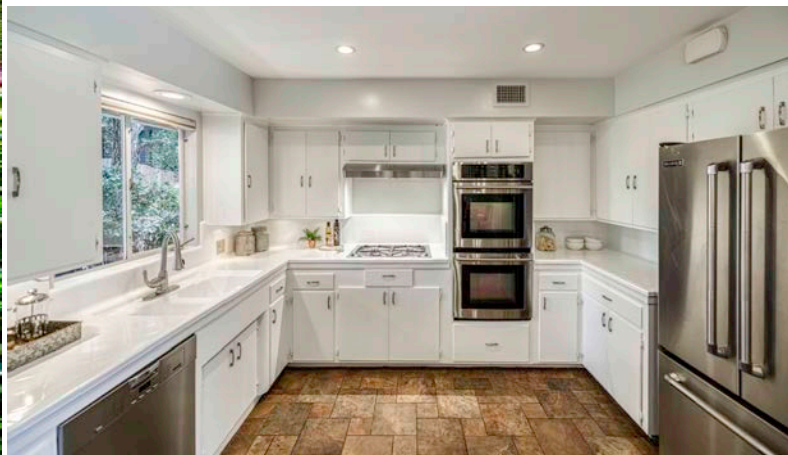
Most importantly, take lots of photos, we would like to see your costume, AND if you are an adult join us for the contest on Zoom. Tag us on Facebook and Instagram, let us know if you have had fun; and by the way, the adult costume must be a pun. The pun can be funny, happy, or spooky just make sure it is family-friendly and kooky! Your submissions are all due online you will see, so look for the flyer, this is all free for our Community.

The details will be shared on Facebook at Sierra Madre Community Services, as well as Instagram at @sm_community_services; or visit the Community Services Department webpage by going to http://www.cityofsierramadre.com/cityhall/departments/community_services_department. For any questions, The Community Services Department contact is 626-355-5278.



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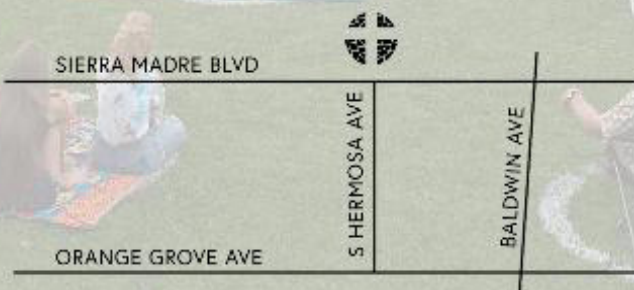
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Christ Church Sierra Madre is a community of people seeking to follow the way of Jesus. 2020 has required flexibility and reinvention from all of us, but we are excited to provide safe, socially distanced outdoor services where we can gather as a community to be encouraged by the word of God, corporate worship, and time to connect with each other. Join us this weekend, we'd love to get to know you! Visit www.christchurchsm.org for more details and to familiarize yourself with COVID guidelines for our gatherings.

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