

# Who Has The Best Decorations? Is It You? Or Your Neighbor?

**MOUNTAIN VIEWS NEWS** wants to know. We are reviving our Best Holiday Decorations contest this year in Sierra Madre! So, now is the time to go all out with your holiday decorations. Our Photo Santa will be driving around town looking for the best of the best! PLUS.....we will give you the chance to vote for the People's Choice! Winners will be featured in our special Christmas Edition on December 26, 2020. Decorations must be completed by Saturday, December 19, 2020. Voting will begin on December 19th through December 24th. Stay tuned for more details!



# Mountain Views News

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Duarte

Monrovia

Pasadena

Altadena

South Pasadena

San Marino

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2020

VOLUME 14 NO. 48

## THE WEBB-MARTIN GROUP

*Leaves*  
MAY BE FALLING  
BUT  
*Home Sales*  
ARE NOT!

IT'S A STRONG SELLER'S MARKET!  
We "beleaf" we can get your home sold before the end of the year.  
Call us to prepare a study for your home, no cost, no pressure, no obligation.

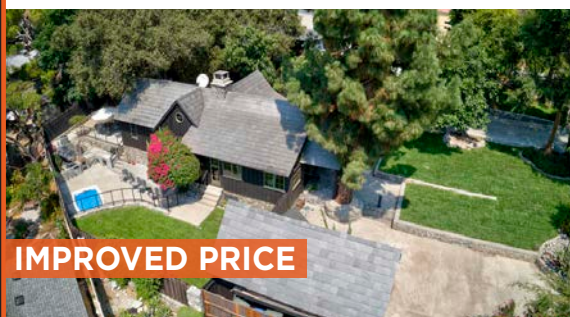
### Sierra Madre Market Report August - October 2020

Single-Family Homes - Averages | August - October 2020

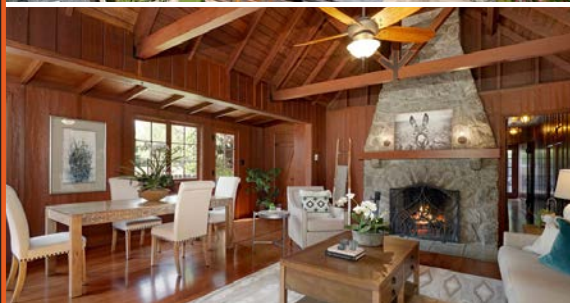
3 BEDROOMS	3 BATHROOMS	2,142 SQFT	\$1,234,000 SOLD PRICE	\$605 \$ PER SQFT

Condominium Homes - Averages | August - October 2020

3 BEDROOMS	3 BATHROOMS	1,449 SQFT	\$698,000 SOLD PRICE	\$492 \$ PER SQFT



IMPROVED PRICE



707 Woodland Drive  
Sierra Madre 91024  
[707WoodlandDrive.com](http://707WoodlandDrive.com)

2 Beds + Den | 1.5 Baths | 1,344 sf  
Listed for: \$1,199,000



Your Story. Your Home. Your Team.  
Together Stronger.

**Jan Greteman** 626.975.4033  
[jan@jangreteman.com](mailto:jan@jangreteman.com)  
[jangreteman.com](http://jangreteman.com) #01943630

**Judy Webb-Martin** 626.688.2273  
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**Katie Orth** 626.688.0418  
[korth@dppre.com](mailto:korth@dppre.com) #00942500

We are **active** and doing business **safely** and **successfully**. Call us today if you are looking to **buy** or **sell**!

We're **still here** for you! We can **show you** homes and meet with you **over video**.

deasypennerpodley

[homeasart.com](http://homeasart.com)

## SMFD BATTLES 2 ALARM STRUCTURAL FIRE



However, due to unpredictable winds that arose in the canyon, the fire rekindled hot embers within an hour and a half.

Firefighters returned to the scene to tackle that flare up and because of further possible wind flares, they remained at the property through the night. In addition, SMFD Captain Rich Snyder remained at the scene until the next afternoon when the danger of another wind event was no longer a threat.

The cause of the fire is still under investigation.



On Thanksgiving Day, at 3:49 pm, the Sierra Madre Fire Department was called to a house fire on Sycamore Place in the city. Within minutes SMFD and neighboring departments were at the scene where flames and smoke was visible for miles.

The building had three apartments that were destroyed along with radiant heat damage to a neighboring home and the destruction of one automobile.

The fire was extinguished within minutes and the scene was totally secured by approximately 4:24 pm. There were no injuries to inhabitants or to first responders.



In true Sierra Madre fashion, neighbors assisted the displaced residents immediately, eliminating the need to call in the Red Cross or Salvation Army.

SMFD Chief Brent Bartlett expressed his gratitude for the assistance that arrived from neighboring departments in Arcadia, Monrovia, Pasadena, South Pasadena, San Gabriel and LA County Fire, all part of the automatic aid agreement that Sierra Madre now participates in as previously reported in the Mountain Views News (<http://mtnviewsnews.com/v14/htm/n27/index.htm>).

Bartlett also thanked the Sierra Madre Police Department, including Chief Armalin who were also on hand to assist the firefighters.

While SMFD was engaged in fighting the fire, the Pasadena Fire Department provided coverage at the Fire Station in the event another emergency arose.

This was the largest fire of a structure in Sierra Madre this year.

S. Henderson/MV News  
Photos by Dirk Bolle

### INSIDE MOUNTAIN VIEWS NEWS THIS WEEK

**COVID 19 UPDATES.....PAGE 7**  
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**BEST FRIENDS.....Page 10**  
**THE GOOD LIFE.....Page 11**  
**OPINION.....Page 12**  
**LEGALNOTICES.....PAGE 14**

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140 E. Montecito | Sierra Madre  
State Contractor Lic. #111308

FREE ESTIMATES

## VIRTUAL COMMUNITY WORKSHOP HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE

**Notice of a Virtual Community Workshop Hosted by the City of Sierra Madre to discuss the 2014-2021 Housing Element Update and Potential Sites**

The Sierra Madre Planning & Community Preservation Department will be hosting a Community Workshop regarding the 2021-2029 Housing Element Update to be conducted online via Zoom. Community members are invited to participate and learn more about the Housing Element Update, including Sierra Madre's existing and projected housing needs, identification of sites for new housing, and potential housing strategies.

There will be opportunities to ask questions, share ideas, and provide input on Tuesday, December 1st, 2020 at 6:00 pm.

This community workshop will be held online as the City balances the health risks associated with COVID-19 during the current State of Emergency and in the interest of public health and safety.

If you like to RSVP for the workshop, or if have any questions concerning the workshop, or wish to submit comments, please visit [www.cityofsierramadre.com/HousingElement](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com/HousingElement) for more information.

SIERRA MADRE CHAMBER'S WINTER VILLAGE PRESENTS:

## SHOP SIERRA MADRE

All Day  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2020

Come to Sierra Madre and support our local businesses!  
Find Hidden Shopping Rewards!

Enjoy fine outdoor dining in more than 12 locations!

Walk Through Our Holiday Decorations throughout the town.

And don't blink.....Santa might be looking at you!





## Wistaria Thrift Shop

INVITES YOU  
TO THEIR 2020 ANNUAL

## Holiday Shopping Extravaganza

Holiday Decorations, Gifts, Toys, Jewelry & Surprises  
Clothes, Shoes & Accessories; Kitchen, Linens & Housewares  
Books, DVDs, CD's, Stationary, Pictures - & More

**December 3, 4 & 5**  
**Thurs. / Fri. / Sat. 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

In Both Essick House / Shop  
550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.

Req'd: Masks, Temp Chks & Social Distancing  
Max: 14 Shoppers In House; 4 in Shop @ a time

626 355-7739

Proceeds Benefit our 2020-2021 28 Community Charities & Scholarships

~ STOP BY, BROWSE & Buy ~

Clean Usable Donations Accepted Saturdays Only: 8 - 11 am

GFWCSierraMadreWomansClub.org



SierraMadreWomansClub

## Virtual Drag BINGO

with

## Peachy



DATE: **Saturday Dec 5**

TIME: **6pm - 8pm**

via ZOOM

from your own home

PRICE: **\$15** per card

**purchase cards here**

SPONSOR:



Drag Queen Bingo is sponsored by the Friends of Sierra Madre Public Library. All proceeds will be used to support programs, services and acquisitions of the Library. For more information, please visit us at our website [www.sierramadrelibraryfriends.org](http://www.sierramadrelibraryfriends.org), our Facebook Page, or call 626-355-7186

## SPECIAL PROGRAM

THE COMMUNITY IS URGED TO PARTICIPATE  
IN OUR VIRTUAL PRESENTATION

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> AT 8:00AM**



MEET OUR GUEST SPEAKER  
**WEN CHEN, PH.D.**  
BIOLOGIST/SCIENTIST, CALTECH

Dr. Chen was born in China during the Great Cultural Revolution. In 1994, Wen came to the U.S. for graduate school and received a doctorate degree in Biology from Caltech in 2000. Because of her personal experience of being brainwashed in China, she has become a voice for the voiceless. Wen works for Caltech as a biologist and information scientist in genomics and biological research. She lives in Pasadena with her husband and two teenage daughters.

The topic of Dr. Chen's presentation is "Coronavirus and China's Censorship". More and more evidence emerged that the Chinese authorities deliberately hid the contagious fact of the coronavirus by punishing medical doctors who disclosed the information on social media. The censorship led to the worldwide outbreak. Understanding the deep reason behind the Communist Party's disaster response is important for us to expect its consequence and how to shape future U.S.-China policies.

To participate in our meeting send an email requesting the ZOOM link to [sierra.swish@gmail.com](mailto:sierra.swish@gmail.com)

Rotary  
Club of Sierra Madre

## Your Holidays begin at Clearman's!

HUGE PORTIONS • STEAKS • SEAFOOD • SANDWICHES  
SIGNATURE SALADS & CHEESE BREAD



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AVAILABLE  
FOR TAKEOUT

Sun-Thurs 11:30am - 9:00pm  
Fri-Sat 11:30am - 10:00pm  
Closed on Christmas Day

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## We lost our lease

The **SALE** is on till everything's gone



**40% off all  
silver earrings  
only on Small  
Business Saturday  
November 28  
11a.m. to 3p.m.**

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CHECK THE WEB SITE FOR STORE HOURS AND UPDATES:

**[www.ghwilkejewelry.com](http://www.ghwilkejewelry.com)**  
**(626) 284 -9444**

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# SIERRA MADRE

SIERRA MADRE

ARCADIA

PASADENA

ALTADENA

MONROVIA

## Small Business Saturday Bingo

Grab a friend and support our local businesses! Share where you shop on the Chamber facebook page or on instagram using hashtag #shopsmallsierra!

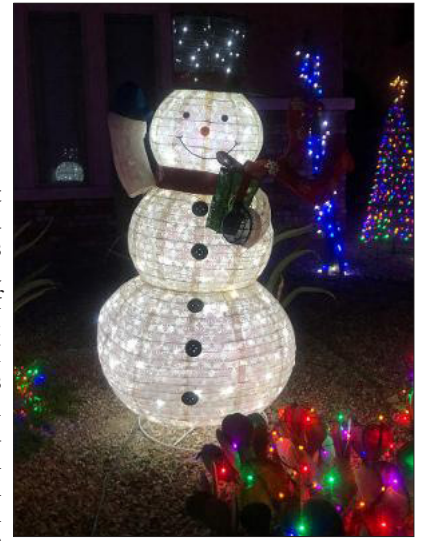
Chantry 1975 E Montecito	This is us Collective E Montecito	Shop Vivian Blythe E Montecito	Casa Del Rey Baldwin	Lenora Moss Kersting Ct.
RT Rogers Brewery E Montecito	Lucky Baldwins Kersting Ct.	Fit Bar Superfood Cafe Kersting Ct.	Savor the Flavor Kersting Ct.	The Buccaneer Sierra Madre Blvd
Corfu Sierra Madre Blvd	Caton's Place E Montecito	FREE SPACE brought you by Chamber of Commerce	Big Daddy's Garage E Montecito	Lemon Zest Sierra Madre Blvd
Advisory Goods E Montecito	Madre Made Bake Co. E Montecito	Skin Care Body Work Baldwin	Syndicate Sierra Madre Blvd	Little Flower Truck Co E Montecito
Saucy Glosses E Montecito	Bottle Shop Sierra Madre Blvd	Mountain Views News	Arnolds Sierra Madre Blvd	Attitude Sierra Madre Blvd

Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce  
Mountain View Newspaper  
Sierra Madre Helping Hand

## WALKING SIERRA MADRE - The Social Side

by Deanne Davis

"Have yourself a merry little Christmas, let your heart be light.  
From now on, our troubles will be out of sight." Ralph Blane & Hugh Martin



Remember that? Judy Garland singing to Margaret O'Brien in the 1944 movie, "Meet Me in St. Louis." You probably do as this is a perennial favorite Christmas movie, along with "Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street," "It's a Wonderful Life," and about 17 different versions of Dickens' "A Christmas Carol." My least favorite version: Bill Murray in "Scrooged." I am admitting publicly that I like "Home Alone" from 1990 with Macauley Culkin as the little kid who gets left behind when his family goes on vacation, but he takes on New York, various villains, and wins! "The Polar Express" with Tom Hanks is wonderful - of course, anything Tom Hanks does is pretty much great. I liked the first "The Santa Clause" with Tim Allen (1994) but #2 and #3 were pretty lame. My all-time favorite is "A Christmas Story" from 1983 where the kid gets his tongue stuck on the flagpole as he was double-dog dared to do it. You remember - Ralphie wants a Red Ryder Air Rifle and everybody keeps saying, "You'll shoot your eye out, kid!"

I've been decorating and you probably have, too. That thing about waiting till after Thanksgiving to get out the decorations just doesn't seem to apply this year. Like I said last week, "We need a little Christmas...right this very minute! So, the lighted houses are up on top of the bookcases and the two reindeer are brightly shining and slowly nodding their heads up and down out in front. John wouldn't let me have those while we lived on Alegria but now that he's celebrating Christmas in heaven, they're out there lookin' good. The neighbors across the street have a gorgeous display of lighted trees, deer and this snowman and we're the most festive folks on the block. The star shower goes out today to light the front of the house and there's another one shining on my tree. Real trees aren't possible anymore for me, but the one I got from Michael's Crafts a couple of years ago does a good job and all the ornaments we collected over the years look great on it. I miss that great Christmas tree smell, though.

I'm about to put my CD of Star of Wonder - A Christmas Musical in my CD player, put the tree skirt around the bottom of the tree and open the ornament box. Hope yours is being 'a merry little Christmas' this year, in spite of the pandemic, and that your heart is indeed light.

Walking Sierra Madre a few years ago, John and I, found a piece of paper on the sidewalk and this is what it said:

### A Child's Prayer of Thanks

Dear God,  
I'm thankful for all You give,  
For food,  
For love,  
A place to live,  
I thank You for my family too,  
And I want You to know  
That I love You.  
Amen.

I have kept this in the kitchen ever since and think it expresses pretty much everything for which we can be thankful. Sierra Madre is such a beautiful place, with our own personal mountains available for good long 'look' moments. Friendly people who smile and say Hello! when you pass them in front of Beantown or Starbucks socially distanced, of course. There are lovely homes on every street, trees galore, and the Christmas tree, crèche, menorah and dreidel in Kersting Court are more beautiful than ever this year.

"Our hearts grow tender with childhood memories and love of family, and we are better throughout the year for having, in spirit, become a child again at Christmastime."  
Laura Ingalls Wilder

One of my favorite Christmas songs...written by me and my writing partner, David Wheatley, is "Think Joy!" from Star of Wonder - A Christmas Musical. The first and last verses are below here.

"Christmas! It's finally here! My favorite...favorite time of year!  
Think mistletoe and holly...children's faces jolly!  
Carols on the radio...happy smiles each place you go,  
Presents piled beneath the tree...some for you and some for me!

Best of all...the Christmas story,  
Jesus left behind His glory!  
A bright new star up in the sky,  
Shepherds see and wonder why.  
Angels sing of peace on earth,  
It's time, at last, Messiah's birth!  
A stable filled with heaven's light,  
The world will change this Christmas night.

Christmas! It's almost here!  
My favorite...favorite time of year.  
Think....Joy!  
Think....Peace!  
Think....Christ!"

"May the simple joys of Christmas warm your heart, fill your home and last a lifetime."

My book page: Amazon.com: Deanne Davis  
Blog: [www.authordeanne.com](http://www.authordeanne.com)  
Christmas is just a few short weeks away and my books:  
"A Tablespoon of Love, A Tablespoon of Laughter" and  
"Sunrises and Sunflowers Speak Hope"  
Would be really nice gifts for everyone you know.  
You can find them on Amazon.com

"Star of Wonder" a delightful Christmas Kindle story is there, too.  
If you'd like a little preview, take a look at: <https://youtu.be/Ka1KYrONrd0>

**Sierra Madre Honors Dinner**

**VIRTUAL HONOR'S NIGHT**  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10TH  
6PM - 7:30PM

RSVP BY 11/30 AT 5:30PM:  
CALL (626) 999 - 3614 OR EMAIL  
HONORSDINNER@CITYOFSIERRAMADRE.COM

**Nominations**  
Wistaria Award  
Employee of the Year  
Exemplary Employee  
Sierra Madre Citizen of the Year  
Sierra Madre Business of the Year  
The George Maurer Lifetime Achievement Award

Vouchers for dinner will be offered from participating local restaurants for the first 100 reservations. Limit 2 per household. Details on how to order will be sent via email on December 1, 2020

Sponsored by the City of Sierra Madre and the Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce

## Don't Miss Sierra Madre's Version of The Academy Awards!

Winners will be announced at the Virtual Event.  
Deadline for **NOMINATIONS AND/ OR RESERVATIONS** is  
**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2020!**



## December 5th Best Used Book Sale

The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library are gathering books and DVDs for the December Drive-Thru Book Sale. It will be held on Saturday, December 5 from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. in the parking lot at the library, 440 West Sierra Madre Blvd. in Sierra Madre. Featured will be large grocery bags filled with books from the genres of History, Biography, Fiction, Non-Fiction, Home and Garden, Mystery/Thrillers, Kids and Young Adults for only \$5.00. In addition, there will be some DVD bags with 8 films of Romance, Action, Drama, Comedy or Kids, also for \$5.00 each.

Enter the library parking lot from 440 West Sierra Madre Blvd. and give your order to the friendly Girl Scouts under the canopy. Drive on to the large container where masked and gloved volunteers will fill your order and load it. No need to leave your car! Exit the lot on Montecito Ave. It's that easy.

This sale is sponsored by the Friends of the Sierra Madre Public Library. All proceeds will be used to support programs, services and acquisitions for the library. For more information, please visit us at our web site [www.sierramadrelibraryfriends.org](http://www.sierramadrelibraryfriends.org), our Facebook page; or call 626-355-7186. See you at the sale and thank you for helping the Friends support our wonderful library.

## SIERRA MADRE POLICE BLOTTER



November 15, to November 21, 2020 During this period the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to 164 calls for service.

### Attempted Burglary

On 11-17-20 Officers responded to the 00 block of S. Baldwin Ave regarding an attempted burglary. An employee discovered suspect(s) attempted to force open the doors of the building leading into the annex room. Case to Detectives

### Phone Scam

A resident in the 100 block of Mariposa Ave. filed a report at the station that she believed she had been scammed out of a large amount of cash by a person she meet on an online dating service. Case to Detectives

### Thefts from Vehicles

Sometime between 11-17-20 at 6:00PM and 11-18-20 at 8:40AM, unknown suspect(s) entered an unlocked vehicle in the 200 block of E. Sierra Madre Blvd. ransacked and took several personal items. Case to Detectives

On 11-18-20, officers responded to the 00 block of Esperanza Ave. regarding a vehicle burglary. The vehicle was parked inside an enclosed parking structure. The suspect(s) shattered the passenger side back window to gain access and took two suitcases. Case to Detectives

A woman called to report a theft from her unlocked vehicle in the 100 block of E. Highland Ave. Between 11-19-20 at 5:50PM and 11-20-20 at 6:50AM. Unknown suspect(s) stole cash along with several bank cards and attempted to use the cards at multiple locations. Case to Detectives

### Grand Theft

On 11-18-20 a resident in the 300 block of Old Ranch Road received a fake email from suspect(s) pretending to be from Amazon. Suspect(s) convinced the victim to send them gift cards worth several thousand dollars. The victim also gave out personal information. This investigation is ongoing



## Bethany Church of Sierra Madre

Looking for hope and inspiration during lockdown?  
Come join us on YouTube!  
Sundays at 10 a.m.

(Search on YouTube for  
*Bethany Church of Sierra Madre*)

626-355-1403

[www.bethanychurchsm.org](http://www.bethanychurchsm.org)<https://www.facebook.com/BethanyCSM>



## Weather Wise

6-Day Forecast Sierra Madre, Ca.

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

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

### 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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:LAguilar@cityofsierramadre.com) or by telephone at (626) 355-7135.

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

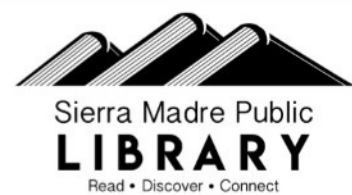
Sierra Madre's EMERGENCY radio station is now accepting scripts for Public Service Announcements (PSAs) about community events. PSAs will be broadcast on the air at no charge. The station operates 24/7 and can be heard at 1630 on the AM dial.

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](mailto:radio@cityofsierramadre.com).



This week at the  
Sierra Madre  
Public Library

November 30—December 5

#### 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

**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

Read, Discover, Connect  
@ Sierra Madre Public Library



9 Kersting Court, Sierra Madre, CA 91024  
626-355-1180 [www.leonoramoss.com](http://www.leonoramoss.com)

Shop small.  
Shop local.



### Crystal Cleaners Cleaning Services

626-355-6022

53 n Baldwin Ave  
Sierra Madre CA 91024

Monday-Friday.....9am-6pm  
Saturday.....9am-5pm  
Sunday.....Closed



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Sunday.....Closed



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### 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

Wed, 12/16: 11 am - 12 Noon : Zoom



'Out On A Limb' Book Club

"As Bright As Heaven"  
by Susan Meissner

Borrow from SM Library, Buy via Vroman's

Call 355-6225 by Tues, 5 pm 11/2/15 for Zoom Info

Join the [GFWCSierraMadreWomansClub.org](https://www.facebook.com/SierraMadreWomansClub)  
SierraMadreWomansClub



### 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

**Wistaria Thrift Shop  
Holiday Extravaganza**



**Dec 3, 4, 5  
9 am - 2 pm**



Masks, Temp Checks, Social Distancing  
14 max in House; 4 max in Shop at one time.

Join the [GFWCSierraMadreWomansClub.org](https://www.facebook.com/SierraMadreWomansClub)  
SierraMadreWomansClub



KIWANIS CLUB OF  
SIERRA MADRE  
Since 1927

WALK THROUGH  
HISTORY WITH  
SIERRA MADRE VETERANS

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

TAKE A FEW MOMENTS OUT FOR A WALK  
THROUGH THE PARK AND LEARN ABOUT  
SOME OF SIERRA MADRE'S MOST NOTABLE  
VETERANS. EXHIBIT OPEN ALL DAY.  
FREE

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## Today is Small Business Saturday

City officials are encouraging people to shop local starting today with Small Business Saturday as part of a new campaign “Shop Pasadena” aimed at helping hundreds of independent businesses located throughout the city. “Shopping local helps to keep dollars in our local economy to support our schools, parks and vital community services,” they said.

Along with the Shop Pasadena campaign, a new graphic has the look and feel of a vintage shop sign and will be available for businesses to use on their own social media accounts, reproduced as window clings for storefront businesses, and in advertisements pursued by the City and Visit Pasadena.

The idea is “We’re Open, Keep Us Open.”

According to city officials this year, more than ever, Pasadena’s local and independent retailers need the support of the community. Many brick and mortar businesses have been hit especially hard by the pandemic. With many retailers and restaurants having to pivot to online orders and takeout during most of 2020, the holiday shopping season has become an even more critical time for these businesses to survive closures related to safer-at-home orders.

Businesses are encouraged to: Download branded campaign graphics for use on social media.

Add their businesses contact information, specials and promotions to the Shop & Dine Pasadena directories.

Encourage customers to tag #shoppasadena in social media posts to spread awareness about the importance of shopping and dining local.

All of the downloads and other resources can be found at: [visitpasadena.com/businessresources](http://visitpasadena.com/businessresources).

To help flatten the curve and protect the health of our community, the public is reminded to follow the “Three Ws” when venturing out to support our local businesses: (1) wear a face covering, (2) wash your hands, and (3) watch your distance from others.

The Pasadena Convention & Visitors Bureau is a non-profit marketing organization dedicated to promoting Pasadena as a leading meeting, convention and leisure travel destination.

For more information about planning a trip to Pasadena, contact the Pasadena Convention & Visitors Bureau at (800) 307-7977 or log on to: [VisitPasadena.com](http://VisitPasadena.com). Follow them on Instagram and Facebook at @VisitPasadena.



## Pasadena Continues Outdoor Dining in Spite of LA County Ban

Pasadena officials announced Tuesday that because the city has independent local public health jurisdiction, subject to state orders, separate from Los Angeles County, they will use broader enforcement efforts instead of a complete shutdown of outdoor dining.

“The increase in numbers is not a problem solely generated by the restaurants,” said Pasadena Heath Officer Dr. Ying-Ying Goh.

Officials said the city will undertake broader and more aggressive enforcement efforts to slow the spread of the virus with respect to outdoor dining, but also with respect to other activities with higher risk of disease transmission as identified by their local case investigation, including social gatherings, worksites and unauthorized recreational sports events.

They continued, much smaller in size than LA County, the city is able to pursue a locally-focused enforcement strategy, informed by data, and can exercise more hands-on control with restaurants and businesses with whom we have already worked diligently to gain compliance through education. They will be increasing enforcement team’s visibility and activity,

and will be communicating and coordinating directly with community and businesses in light of the surge in COVID-19 cases.

“Most restaurants operate in compliance with the rules, and those few who openly flaunt them and create a breeding ground for the transmission of the virus stand to ruin the possibility of outdoor dining for all,” Pasadena City Manager Steve Mermell said. “We intend to identify them and either bring them into compliance or cite them, or, in the last resort, close them for the good of all and so that others can continue to operate,”

New restrictions:

- Personal care services that require either the customer or the staff to remove their face covering, such as facials, shaves, and threading are not permitted. All public health protocols must continue to be followed for other personal care services, including a requirement for services to be offered by appointment only, and as many services as possible provided outdoors.
- Personal care services are now limited to 25% maximum capacity (as defined by the Fire Code).
- Gatherings must meet the limitations stated above (outdoor, 2 hours or less, with face coverings worn and physical distancing between households) and may not exceed a total of 15 people from 3 or fewer households.
- Restaurants, breweries and bars must cease service in their on-site, outdoor dining areas as of 10 p.m. and close their on-site dining areas thereafter until 5 a.m.

## Portantino Helps Provide Holiday Meals Needed for Local Families

Senator Anthony Portantino partnered with several local charities and business groups to provide support for families during the holiday season. With the COVID19 pandemic continuing, there are restrictions on charitable efforts that have not existed in the past. Unfortunately, these restrictions have coincided with a holiday season where giving is more necessary than ever. The Senator is proud to collaborate with these civically responsible efforts and to help bring necessary resources to nonprofits that help those in need in our community. “I am excited to help facilitate these wonderful charitable contributions and to thank the businesses and association for reaching out to my office to coordinate this effort. Californians and the nonprofits that serve them have been hit hard this year, making these donations more important than ever. There are so many people in need and it is nice to see so many organizations stepping

and will be communicating and coordinating directly with community and businesses in light of the surge in COVID-19 cases.

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up to help,” commented Senator Portantino. Specifically, the Senator announced the allocation of the following charitable donations in lieu of the traditional Operation Gobble Gobble efforts he has participated in the past. Southern California American Water donated \$1900 divided between Shepherd’s Pantry in Glendora and the Inland Valley Recovery Center in Upland to replace its usual frozen turkeys. The California Grocers Association donated \$1000 in Ralphs gift cards to help Friends in Deed feed homeless over the holidays. Golden State Water in celebration of their 30th Annual Operation Gobble program allocated \$1200 to the Duarte Teen Center. California Dairy Inc. donated \$600 to Union Station Homeless Services for its Annual Dinner in the Park.

For more information visit: [senate.ca.gov](http://senate.ca.gov) or call (818) 409-0400.

For additional information, visit [cityofpasadena.net/public-health](http://cityofpasadena.net/public-health).

## Officials Warn Demonstrations are High Risk

For residents that plan on attending peaceful demonstrations, be aware of the elevated risks that come when people of different households gather during this pandemic, even when they are outdoors. Demonstrations can inadvertently result in transmission of COVID-19, including from people who are asymptomatic and have no idea that they are positive for the virus. If you unknowingly become infected, you may infect other people in your life, including people who are older or who have underlying health conditions that put them at far greater risk of becoming seriously ill and dying from COVID-19.

If you plan to attend a demonstration, please follow these guidelines: Stay home if you are feeling sick. Seek medical attention as needed if you have symptoms for COVID-19, and be tested for the virus – testing is widely available across LA County.

If you are not sick and plan to attend a peaceful demonstration, wear a face covering over both your nose and mouth at all times and keep your physical distance, staying more than 3 steps away from anyone who is not from your household. Consider wearing eye protection. Encourage other attendees to do the same.

Keep your hands clean before, during, and after the demonstrations. Bring hand sanitizer or frequently wash your hands.

If you think you have been exposed to COVID-19 during a demonstration, it is very important that you quarantine for 14 days and stay away from all other people, especially those at greater risk of becoming seriously ill from COVID-19.

More guidance for attending demonstrations is available online at: [publichealth.lacounty.gov](http://publichealth.lacounty.gov)

## 53rd Annual Holiday Look in Home Tour Goes Virtual



The Annual Holiday Look-In Home Tour presented by the Women’s Committee of the Pasadena Symphony goes virtual this year. The 2020 tour showcases the architecture and gardens of four magnificent Pasadena homes decorated for the holidays in festive floral regalia. Embellished with the talent of Pasadena’s finest floral designers these homes are a true holiday delight. The virtual experience will be narrated by the Pasadena Symphony’s Music Director, David Lockington, with music provided by the talented musicians of the Pasadena Symphony Youth Orchestras.

The 2020 Holiday Look In Virtual Home Tour, chaired by Lisa Ashworth and Gail Crotty, will run from December 5-31, 2020. The tour is presented free of charge by registering. Donations to support programs of the Pasadena Symphony Youth Orchestras and the Pasadena Symphony will be graciously accepted. To add to the holiday spirit, the Holiday Look-In Boutique will provide an online opportunity to shop to your heart’s content.

**Magnolia House (pictured)**

This regal Federal style home pays tribute to its history while residing gracefully in the present. The home was built in 1912 by architect Reginald Johnson. The stately two-story residence welcomes visitors with its large colonnaded veranda and is sheltered by a large magnolia tree and a towering pine tree. It is appropriately located on Magnolia Street and artistic embellishments throughout the home pay tribute to the stately Magnolia tree. The present owners have lovingly updated this home, with an appreciation of the richness of the past, but with a desire to have it reflect modern living for their active family. This home represents true Southern California living at its best.

**House of a Thousand Dreams**

This magnificent Basque country villa was designed in 1929 by Edward M. Fowler with exquisite, detailed attention to the beautiful Basque estates in the Pyrenees. The house is located in the Linda Vista neighborhood of the Upper Arroyo in Pasadena with a spectacular view of the Pioneers and the Colorado Street Bridges. This 7500 square foot home features low-pitched red tile roofs, half-timbered walls, heavy wooden beams and stonework, rustic interior striated walls, barrel-vaulted ceilings and large fireplaces. The

home was designed around a central courtyard providing a view of the lovely garden from almost every room of the house and includes the original stone tiles that carry over into the loggia.

**F.W. Griffith House**

This sublime Mediterranean-style home was designed in 1925 by Roland E. Coate, one of the most distinguished designers of Spanish architecture in the 1920’s. Originally built for F.W. Griffith, it is an outstanding example of Spanish Colonial Revival architecture, featuring textured white-washed adobe exteriors, mission-style arches and batten shutters. The house is centrally located in Pasadena’s Landmark Oak Knoll District, adjacent to the celebrated Langham Hotel. The 3800 square foot home faces inward to a beautiful courtyard, arched loggia, Spanish-tiled fountain, refreshing pool, and spa. A magnificent crepe myrtle tree provides shade and beautiful flowers when in bloom. This gorgeous outdoor living space provides a peaceful sanctuary for relaxing and entertaining.

**Villa Verde**

Elegant iron scroll gates open to a winding drive which leads up to this magnificent Mediterranean estate known as “Villa Verde.” Created in 1927 by architect Sylvanus Marston of the firm Marston, Van Pelt & Maybury, the property was built for E. A. Hardy, who was the past chairman of B. F. Goodrich. In 1984 the house was placed in the National Register of Historic Places as the best representative of his Mediterranean architectural style. The 22-room, 8500 sq. foot home sits on beautifully landscaped grounds atop a knoll overlooking the Arroyo Seco and affords 40-mile views over Pasadena, Altadena, Mt. Wilson, and Old Baldy. Many of the original garden plantings remain and are historically significant.

As the volunteer fundraising arm of the Pasadena Symphony and POPS, the Women’s Committee of the Pasadena Symphony Association has been together with the PSA since 1967. For over 50 years, the volunteers of the Women’s Committee have put their talent, organizational know-how and sheer determination to the service of the Pasadena Symphony and POPS by conceiving and producing the annual Holiday Look In Home Tour. For more information and registration visit [PasadenaHolidayLookIn.org](http://PasadenaHolidayLookIn.org).

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## ARCADIA POLICE BLOTTER

For the period of Sunday, November 15th, through Saturday, November 21st, the Police Department responded to 810 calls for service, of which 70 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of some of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

Sunday, November 15:

- At 11:29 a.m., an officer responded to Extended Stay, located at 401 East Santa Clara Street, regarding a grand theft report. Sometime during the previous night, unknown suspect(s) stole the victim's bicycle trailer and two bicycles that were secured to a fence. There is no suspect information at this time.
- At 1:04 p.m., an officer responded to Arcadia 210 Self-Storage, located at 324 North Second Avenue, regarding an altercation between a male and a female. The officer discovered an argument escalated between an ex-boyfriend and ex-girlfriend and resulted in the female throwing a bowl of spaghetti at the victim. The 53-year-old female from Arcadia was arrested for Battery and was transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking. A records check revealed she also had an outstanding misdemeanor warrant.

Monday, November 16:

- At 11:50 a.m., an officer took a telephonic report of a fraud incident that occurred in the 200 block of West Magna Vista Avenue. The victim discovered an unknown suspect used her personal information to fraudulently open an account with CashCenter. The victim does not know the identity of the person or how they obtained her information.

Tuesday, November 17:

- At 12:43 p.m., an officer responded to No. 1 Auto Service, located at 3 East Duarte Road, re-garding a stolen vehicle report. An investigation revealed the victim left his vehicle to be re-paired and when he returned, the business was vacant, and his vehicle had been stolen. The investigation is pending a review of surveillance footage.
- At 1:18 p.m., an officer responded to Ralphs, located at 211 East Foothill Boulevard, re-garding a commercial burglary that had just occurred. The store manager witnessed two suspects steal numerous containers of laundry detergent before fleeing in a silver BMW SUV. Suspect 1 is described as a 25 to 30-year-old black female, approximately 5'4" tall, 150 pounds, with a medium build, long curly hair, and was seen wearing a purple and white Nike shirt, jeans, and a mask. Suspect 2 is described as a 25 to 30-year-old black male, same height, weight, and build, and was seen wearing a black T-shirt, black hat, jeans, red tennis shoes, and a mask. The investigation is ongoing.
- At 1:19 p.m., an officer took a telephonic report of a grand theft incident that occurred in the 1700 block of Rodeo Road. The victim believes her house cleaner stole her ring. The investigation is ongoing.

Wednesday, November 18:

- At 11:41 a.m., an officer responded to U.S. Bank, located at 1400 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding a fraud report. The victim had recently opened a bank account. When she didn't receive her new card in the mail, she checked her account and discovered two fraudulent purchases. The loss

amounted to \$1,003.00. The victim does not know the identity of the suspect(s).

- At 1:49 p.m., an officer responded to the intersection of Huntington Drive and First Avenue regarding a battery report. An investigation revealed the suspect, a bus passenger, punched the bus driver in the face and fled. The 37-year-old male from Arcadia was located, arrested, and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking. Arcadia Fire responded and treated the victim.

Thursday, November 19:

- At 6:35 a.m., an officer responded to the 2600 block of Greenfield Avenue regarding a stolen vehicle report. The victim stated his Chevrolet pickup truck was stolen sometime during the previous night. The victim was in possession of his keys when the vehicle was stolen. There are no investigative leads as of the date of this report.
- At 10:02 a.m., an officer responded to Hampton Inn, located at 211 East Huntington Drive, re-garding a theft from vehicle report. The victim discovered someone entered her vehicle by unknown means and stole cash, a gym bag, and her Apple Air Pods. There is no suspect information at this time.

Friday, November 20:

- At 2:54 p.m., officers responded to a residence in the 400 block of Santa Rosa Road regarding a burglary in progress. The victims heard the sounds of someone entering their home. They scared the suspects and watched as they fled to an awaiting white Lexus sedan. The suspects are described as black males in their 20's, both approximately 5'10" with thin builds. They were wearing hooded sweat-shirts. The incident was not captured on CCTV.
- At 3:23 p.m., an officer responded to the 1800 block of Stonehouse Road regarding a traffic collision. Upon contacting the driver, the officer detected a strong odor of alcohol. Through a series of tests, the officer determined the 27-year-old female from South Pasadena was driving under the influence when she stuck a parked vehicle. Arcadia Paramedics responded and transported the suspect to Arcadia Methodist Hospital for treatment. After being cleared from the hospital, she was transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Saturday, November 21:

- At 7:34 a.m., an officer responded to the 2000 block of Holly Avenue regarding a theft from vehicle report. Sometime between 1:15 a.m. and 7:30 a.m. on November 21st, unknown suspect(s) entered the victim's unlocked trunk and fled with an oscilloscope and a storage bag. There are no investigative leads as of the date of this report.

- At 5:25 p.m., an officer responded to a residence in the 200 block of South Third Avenue regarding a burglary report. The victim determined someone entered his open garage, opened his unlocked vehicle, and stole his wallet and garage door opener. The victim saw a suspicious dark-colored sedan exiting the parking area at the time of the crime but is unsure if the vehicle is related to the burglary. There is no additional suspect information at this time.

## DUARTE KIWANIS PARTNERS WITH DCSC FOR CHRISTMAS BASKET GIVEAWAY

The Duarte Kiwanis Club is always open to partnering with others to help the Duarte community. This year, instead of "adopting" one needy family, the club has partnered with the Duarte Community Service Council. Dorothy Smith has been a part of this organization (DCSC) for many years. DCSC started serving the Duarte community in 1947. They provide short term assistance to families in the Duarte area. This year, due to the pandemic, the need is even greater. Dorothy was thrilled to receive a check from the Duarte Kiwanis Club to help in DCSC's Christmas Baskets for Families program this year.



If you are interested in joining the Duarte Kiwanis or presenting at a future meeting, please contact Tina Carey at [tinac51@aol.com](mailto:tinac51@aol.com). The club is currently meeting virtually through Zoom.

## ANNOUNCING THE MONROVIA PARKS, WILDERNESS, AND RECREATION FOUNDATION, INC.

*Help support our beloved parks and recreation programs in Monrovia*

Monrovia, CA, November 25, 2020---- We are pleased to announce the formation of the Monrovia Parks, Wilderness and Recreation Foundation (MPWR). Because of the great need and recent events, the Monrovia Parks, Wilderness, and Recreation Foundation (formerly Monrovia Wilderness Preserve Foundation, Inc.), a 501(c3) independent foundation established in 2000, is revising and expanding its mission. The new mission is to support recreation and community programs, parks, facilities and open spaces in Monrovia.

"Following the recent Bobcat Fire, we now know more than ever how spending time outdoors and in nature can be empowering (MPWRing)," said Edward Belden, MPWR Director. "We are all mourning the loss of some of our beloved natural spaces and access to Canyon Park and the hillsides above Monrovia. We have an opportunity, as we have in the past, to rise from the ashes and support all of the important parks and open spaces in Monrovia by ensuring we have the resources, facilities and programs for the community to be MPWRed to thrive and come back stronger. Our new focus and energy will help us bring our natural resources back."

We are asking the public for their support. You can help by expressing your interest to join the Foundation or donate to support our Mission. Your donations will go to support Canyon Park, the Hillside Wilderness Preserve, park improvements outlined in the adopted Monrovia Parks Master Plan, recreation programs and facilities or other community programs. To learn more or to give a tax-deductible donation, visit [monroviapwr.org](http://monroviapwr.org).

# ALTADENA-SO. PASADENA-SAN MARINO

## South Pasadena Upcoming Dec. Virtual Public Meetings

The City of South Pasadena has transitioned to virtual Council and Commission meetings in response to the COVID-19 crisis.

Agendas and reports for these meetings will be posted to the Commission's webpage, in addition to a link to the live webstream prior to the beginning of the meeting. All meetings will continue to be broadcast live on Spectrum/TWC Channel 19 and AT&T Channel 99 for cable customers who reside in the City.

For more information on upcoming meetings at: [southpasadenaca.gov](http://southpasadenaca.gov).

COMMISSION  
City Council Meeting Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.  
Senior Commission 12/09/20 at 8:30 a.m.  
Public Works Commission 12/09/20 at 6:30 p.m.  
Library Board of Trustees 12/10/20 at 7:00 p.m.  
Public Safety Commission 12/14/20 at 8:30 a.m.  
Parks and Recreation Commission 12/14/20 at 6:30 p.m.  
Mobility & Transportation Infrastructure Commission 12/15/20 at 6:30 p.m.  
City Council Meeting 12/16/20 at 7:30 p.m.  
Finance Commission 12/17/20 at 6:30 p.m.  
Natural Resources & Environmental Commission 12/22/20 at 7:00 p.m.  
Public Art Commission 12/23/20 at 6:30 p.m.  
The virtual meetings will adhere to the updated Brown Act provisions for public meetings set forth by the legislature in response to the COVID-19 crisis. During these meetings, the Commissioners and City staff will participate remotely. City facilities will not be open to the public in order to stop the spread of the virus.

Public Comments are accepted via email. Information on how to submit a public comment is detailed on each Commission page at: [southpasadenaca.gov](http://southpasadenaca.gov).

Public Comments for the meeting must be received 24 hours prior to the meeting, to allow staff time to compile and post comments prior to the meeting. Comments will be distributed to the City Council/Commission for consideration and will be posted on the City's website for public review.

## Traffic Safety Grant used for Bicyclist Safety Program

The city of Pasadena's efforts to enhance safety for bicyclists citywide just got a financial boost with a \$150,000 grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) to the city's Department of Transportation for its pedestrian and bicycle safety program. Officials said it would be used for a year-long bicyclist safety outreach program aimed at reducing severe injuries and fatalities to pedestrians and bicyclists resulting from crashes. Specifically, this program will provide safety equipment and education materials to bicyclists and upgrade the city's traffic camera database to capture and collect pedestrian and bicycle counts for more effective interpretation.

Collision data collected in Pasadena for 2010 through 2019 showed that although the number of collisions involving bicyclists make up approximately 5 percent of collisions citywide, bicyclists account for 15 percent of all severe injuries and fatalities resulting from traffic collisions. Combined with pedestrian collisions, 40 percent of all severe injuries and fatalities resulting from collisions in Pasadena during this ten-year period happen to pedestrians and bicyclists while only being involved in 9% of all collisions.

Education and outreach efforts funded by the OTS grant will promote safe behaviors by motorists and bicyclists, including avoiding distractions and highlighting awareness and visibility of other road users. Bicyclist safety equipment such as bike lights, helmets, and safety pamphlets will be distributed to cyclists in commercial areas and schools, with a focus on students new to cycling or Pasadena around local colleges and K-12 schools. This outreach component will occur once in-person activities are considered safe.

The traffic database upgrade allows the city to better understand pedestrian and bicyclist travel patterns and in turn better optimize the transportation network. Current traffic cameras in Pasadena are only able to capture motor vehicle data. For more information visit: [cityofpasadena.net](http://cityofpasadena.net).

## South Pas Library Granted Funds for New E-audiobooks



In response to the pandemic, the Southern California Library Cooperative, in partnership with the California State Library, presented a funding opportunity to purchase digital resources—such as e-books, e-audiobooks, and databases—which have been in high demand since access to physical library collections has been limited. The South Pasadena Public Library was granted \$3,000 in April and another \$2,000 this fall.

Circulation of e-books and e-audiobooks has dramatically increased due to the pandemic, from 1,961 check-outs in January 2020 to a peak 3,971 in May. With this latest round of funding the library purchased e-audiobooks, which are great for commuters and families on long car rides, but they are also vital for student comprehension of assigned reading, language learners, and people with disabilities and visual impairments.

The collection adds new titles of high interest such as Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents by Isabel Wilkerson as well as classics like Maya Angelou's I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings. The collection includes fiction and non-fiction titles for children, teens, and adults. Customers can find this collection on OverDrive or the OverDrive Libby app. Need help? Contact the Library at [library@southpasadenaca.gov](mailto:library@southpasadenaca.gov) or by phone at 626-403-7350



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## City Starts Lower Arroyo Seco Habitat Restoration

The Pasadena City Council approve Monday a \$484,998 contract with G Team Landscape Construction, Inc. that would move forward Project Plans and Specifications for the Lower Arroyo Seco Habitat Restoration, including the removal of non-native trees and plants and dead trees.

According to city staff, The scope of work for the Lower Arroyo Seco Habitat Restoration contract consists of the following:

- Removal of non-native trees/plants and dead trees;
- Manual removal of herbaceous non-native plants (weeds);
- Importation and placement of numerous natural boulders/rocks to create natural barriers for habitat protection and to provide habitat values for wildlife;
- Placement of coarse woody debris (i.e., prepared logs and branches from removed trees) to provide natural seating, natural barriers along trails, and assemblages within the planting areas to provide beneficial wildlife cover;
- De-compaction of soils (especially staging areas associated with the Bridge Rehabilitation project) to prepare for native plant establishment;
- Installation of environmentally suitable erosion control measures (as needed);
- Installation of a new irrigation system to assist in the establishment of new native trees and plants;
- Installation of native planting materials including southern California black walnut trees, coast live oak trees, western sycamore trees, and approximately 2,000 understory shrubs and herbaceous plants;
- Installation of natural mulch around the newly planted areas;
- 90-day post-installation maintenance period for the irrigation system and planting materials; and
- One-year contractor guarantee on newly planted sycamore trees.

According to the city staff report, "the Lower Arroyo Seco Habitat Restoration project was created and funded as part of the City's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) utilizing Los Angeles County Proposition A grant funds and residential impact fees. The project's intention is to restore the native plant communities and associated wildlife habitat in the Arroyo Seco from the vicinity surrounding John K. Van de Kamp Bridge extending north to the Pasadena Casting Pond (all within Lower Arroyo Park), making up a total project area of less than five acres."

City staff said they reached out to the Arroyo Seco Foundation, West Pasadena Neighborhood Association, La Casita Foundation, Pasadena Casting Club and Pasadena Heritage Foundation.

"I strongly support the Arroyo Seco Foundation's... Habitat Restoration Program with its plan to remove the Canary Island Pine trees and Australian Eucalyptus trees from its nature Preserve." Said Keiko Takioto Miller on behalf of the Arroyo Seco Foundation. "I do so to preserve not only the said area as a critical source of our livelihood, but also the fundamental element of integrity of the Arroyo Seco Foundation that operates in synchronicity with the law of nature, the source of science and wisdom."



# AROUND SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

## PUBLIC HEALTH TO ADD ADDITIONAL SAFETY MODIFICATIONS TO HEALTH OFFICER ORDER TARGETED SAFER AT HOME ORDER COMES AFTER 5-DAY AVERAGE OF NEW CASES IS 4,751

As new COVID-19 cases remain at alarming levels and the number of people hospitalized continue to increase, a temporary Los Angeles County Health Officer Order will be issued to require additional safety measures across sectors. The temporary order will take effect Monday, November 30, 2020 and remain in effect through December 20, 2020.

Today, Public Health has confirmed 24 new deaths and 4,544 new cases of COVID-19. Currently, the five-day average of new cases is 4,751.

On November 17, Los Angeles County established thresholds for additional actions if the five-day average of cases is 4,500 or more or hospitalizations are more than 2,000 per day. A new Health Officer Order would be issued for three weeks that offered additional safety modifications while allowing essential and emergency workers and those securing or providing essential and permitted services to leave their homes.

In the new Order that goes into effect on Monday, residents are advised to stay home as much as possible and always wear a face covering over their nose and mouth when they are outside their household and around others.

The additional safety modifications in the order include the following changes to the existing Health Officer Order:

- Gatherings: All public and private gatherings with individuals not in your household are prohibited, except for church services and protests, which are constitutionally protected rights.
- Occupancy limits at various businesses; all individuals at these sites are required to wear face coverings and keep at least 6 feet of distance:
  - o Essential retail – 35% maximum occupancy
  - o Non-essential retail (includes indoor malls) – 20% maximum occupancy
  - o Personal care services – 20% maximum occupancy
  - o Libraries – 20% maximum occupancy
  - o Fitness centers operating outdoors – 50% maximum occupancy
  - o Museums galleries, zoos, aquariums, botanical gardens operating outdoors – 50% maximum occupancy
  - o Mini-golf, batting cages, go-kart racing operating outdoors – 50% maximum occupancy
- Outdoor recreation activities all which require face coverings (except for swimming) and distancing:
  - o Beaches, trails, and parks remain open; gatherings at these sites with members outside your household are prohibited.
  - o Golf courses, tennis courts, pickleball, archery ranges, skate parks, bike parks, and community gardens remain open for individuals or members of a single household. Pools that serve more than one household may open only for regulated lap swimming with one person per lane.
  - o Drive-in movies/events/car parades are permitted provided occupants in each car are members of one household.
- Schools:
  - o All schools and day camps remain open adhering to re-opening protocols. K-12 Schools and Day Camps with an outbreak (3 cases or more over 14 days) should close for 14 days.
  - o Closed non-essential businesses/activities:
  - o Playgrounds (with the exception of playgrounds at childcare and schools)
  - o Cardrooms

Because of the high rates of transmission in the community, restaurants, bars, breweries and wineries remain closed for in-person dining and drinking, as customers are not wearing face coverings during their visit which results in an increased chance of transmission of the virus. Restaurants, wineries and breweries remain open for pick-up, delivery, and take-out. Breweries and wineries remain open for retail sales at 20% occupancy.

There are 1,893 people with COVID-19 currently hospitalized and 24% of these people are in the ICU. On October 27, one month ago, there were 747 people hospitalized with COVID-19.

Public Health reminds everyone to stay home as much as possible and avoid seeing people you don't live with, even if you don't feel sick. Residents are also reminded to wear a face covering over their nose and mouth whenever they are outside their home and around others, as COVID-19 can be unintentionally spread to other people. We can also reduce transmission by keeping a physical distance of at least 6-feet when outside and around others. Taking these simple safety precautions, in addition to washing your hands frequently, will save lives.

Additionally, it is very important that if you are even mildly sick or think you were exposed to someone with COVID-19 that you stay home and away from other people, especially those at greater risk of becoming seriously ill from COVID-19 and consider being tested for COVID-19.

To date, Public Health identified 387,793 positive cases of COVID-19 across all areas of L.A. County and a total of 7,604 deaths. Testing results are available for more than 3,681,714 individuals with 10% of all people testing positive.

"To those who recently lost loved ones from COVID-19, we send you wishes for healing and peace," said Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd, Director of Public Health. "With the recent surge of COVID-19 across our community, we must take additional safety measures to reduce the risk of illness and death from this terrible virus and protect our healthcare system. These targeted measures are in effect for the next three weeks and still allow for many essential and non-essential activities where residents are always masked and distanced. We know we are asking a lot from so many who have been sacrificing for months on end and we hope that L.A. County residents continue following Public Health safety measures that we know can slow the spread. Acting with collective urgency right now is essential if we want to put a stop to this surge. Please remain home as much as possible and do not gather with others not in your household for the next three weeks."

The Reopening Protocols, COVID-19 Surveillance Interactive Dashboard, Roadmap to Recovery, Recovery Dashboard, and additional things you can do to protect yourself, your family and your community are on the Public Health website, [www.publichealth.lacounty.gov](http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov).

## SPECIAL \$300 TAX DEDUCTION HELPS MOST PEOPLE GIVE TO CHARITY THIS YEAR – EVEN IF THEY DON'T ITEMIZE

WASHINGTON – The Internal Revenue Service today reminded taxpayers of a special new provision that will allow more people to easily deduct up to \$300 in donations to qualifying charities this year.

Following special tax law changes made earlier this year, cash donations of up to \$300 made before Dec. 31, 2020, are now deductible when people file their taxes in 2021.

"Our nation's charities are struggling to help those suffering from COVID-19, and many deserving organizations can use all the help they can get," said IRS Commissioner Chuck Rettig. "The IRS reminds people there's a new provision that allows for up to \$300 in cash donations to qualifying organizations to be deducted from income. We encourage people to explore this option to help deserving tax-exempt organizations – and the people and causes they serve."

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, enacted last spring, includes several temporary tax changes helping charities, including the special \$300 deduction designed especially for people who choose to take the standard deduction, rather than itemizing their deductions.

Nearly nine in 10 taxpayers now take the standard deduction and could potentially qualify for this new tax deduction. In tax-year 2018, the most recent year for which complete figures are available, more than 134 million tax-payers claimed the standard deduction, just over 87% of all filers.

Under this new change, individual taxpayers can claim an "above-the-line" deduction of up to \$300 for cash donations made to charity during 2020. This means the deduction lowers both adjusted gross income and taxable income – translating into tax savings for those making donations to qualifying tax-exempt organizations.

Before making a donation, the IRS reminds people they can check the special Tax Exempt Organization Search tool on [IRS.gov](http://IRS.gov) to make sure the organization is eligible for tax-deductible donations.

Cash donations include those made by check, credit card or debit card. They don't include securities, household items or other property. Though cash contributions to most charitable organizations qualify, some do not. Check Publication 526, Charitable Contributions, and the TEOS for more information.

Though cash contributions to most charitable organizations qualify, those made to supporting organizations and donor-advised funds do not.

The IRS reminds everyone giving to charity to be sure to keep good records. By law, special recordkeeping rules apply to any taxpayer claiming a charitable contribution deduction. Usually, this includes obtaining a receipt or acknowledgement letter from the charity, before filing a return, and retaining a cancelled check or credit card receipt. For details on these recordkeeping rules, see Publication 526, available on [IRS.gov](http://IRS.gov).

In addition, the CARES Act includes other temporary provisions designed to help charities. These include higher charitable contribution limits for corporations, individuals who itemize their deductions and businesses that give food inventory to food banks and other eligible charities. For more information about these and other Coronavirus-related tax relief provisions, visit [IRS.gov/Coronavirus](http://IRS.gov/Coronavirus).

## LOS ANGELES COUNTY COVID-19 UPDATE 11/27/2020

11/26/2020 3:30pm

LOS ANGELES COUNTY*		11/26/20		11/20/20	
Total Cases		387,793		357,451	
Deaths		7,604		7,396	
STATS BY CITY	Population	Cases		Deaths	
(11/20/2020 stats in parenthesis)					
Pasadena	14,1371	3492	(3255)	132	(131)
Uninc- East Pasadena	6,403	104	(104)	2	(2)
City of Arcadia	57,754	752	(676)	45	(44)
Uninc. - Arcadia	7,981	141	(132)	3	(4)
City of Bradbury	1,069	22	(21)	0	(0)
City of Duarte	22,016	756	(722)	35	(32)
Uninc.- Duarte	4,428	214	(196)	4	(4)
City of Monrovia	38,800	1071	(986)	40	(42)
Uninc - Monrovia	3,881	97	(91)	0	(0)
City of Sierra Madre	10,989	129	(113)	4	(4)
City of So.Pasadena	26,053	398	(367)	26	(26)
Uninc.- Altadena	43,260	964	(895)	20	(19)

**La County Testing as of 11/26/20: 3,653,760 (3,473,290)**  
**Positivity Rate (No. of persons positive out of total persons tested) as 11/26/20: 9.8% Nationally recommended Positivity Level: 5%**



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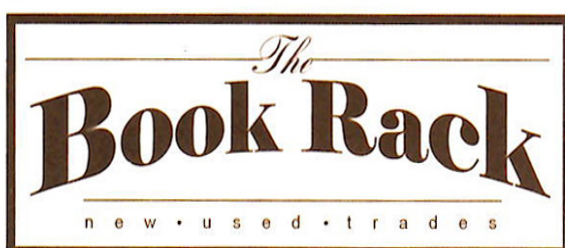
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## MAKENNA DOMINGUEZ SIGNS LETTER OF INTENT



Makenna, born and raised in Sierra Madre signs National Letter of Intent to the University of North Carolina to play soccer!

She is a senior at Flintridge Preparatory High School verbally committed to North Carolina her Freshman year in HS.

On Sunday Nov 15th, she made it official by signing her LOI to continue her soccer ca-reer as a North Carolina Tar Heel.

Makenna attended Elementary and Middle School in Sierra Madre. The last 4 yrs she has been playing soccer for Flintridge Prep under the guidance of Coach Estaban Chavez.

## YWCA PASADENA HOSTS EVENT ON THE FUTURE OF BLOCKCHAIN

On Tuesday, December 8th, 2020, from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm, the YWCA Pasadena-Foothill Valley will be presenting "How Blockchain is changing the world as we know it". This free live streamed event, hosted by YWCA Pasadena Foothill-Valley's Board President Angeline Chen, will feature a panel of experts including Octavio Herrera, COO of Lucid Sight; Leslie Katz, Member of Clark Hill PLC; Jor Law, Blockchain Consultant; and Gary Leland, founder of the BitBlockBoom Bitcoin Conference.

Angeline Chen will serve as the moderator and the panelists will dive into topics such as whether bitcoin will be more valuable than gold, what role videogames play on mass adoption of cryptocurrencies, which industries might be disrupted by blockchain, and what regulations affect Cryptocurrency.

Octavio Herrera is a technology entrepreneur with a successful track record of starting and selling companies. He is a co-founder of Lucid Sight, Inc., a Los Angeles based soft-ware company that develops blockchain games and game technology; a seed investor and Board Member at App Onboard, Inc.; an early investor in Bird; and a cofounder of Jirbo, Inc one of the first iPhone gaming companies.

Leslie R. Katz is a Member in Clark Hill's Government & Regulatory Affairs practice. She focuses on government law and policy and regularly interacts with state agencies. Leslie helps optimize the political, legal, community, and business contexts in which her clients operate. Her ability to provide strategic counsel—for startups to Fortune 500 companies and public entities—comes from her diverse experiences in the public and private sectors. Leslie has served as the regional vice president of regulatory affairs for a Fortune 250 energy-services company and held executive roles with technology companies. She was involved in the Pacific Carbon Exchange's inception and held the role of executive vice president of policy. She regularly speaks on blockchain, regulatory matters, public policy topics, and on infrastructure, economic development, community relations, leadership de-velopment, and technology-related issues.

Jor Law is a pioneer in building out the ecosystem for digitizing and trading securities on the blockchain and other distributed ledger technologies. A finance and securities attorney, he is most well-known for his expertise in secured lending and alternative finance, including EB-5, venture capital, crowdfunding, and tokenized securities, including initial coin offerings (ICOs) or security token offerings (STOs). He co-founded VerifyInvestor.com which was the dominant accredited investor verification service in the world at the time it was acquired. A trusted consultant/adviser to technology companies primarily in regtech, fintech, and crypto, Jor has advised prominent companies such as tZERO, Polymath, and Prime Trust. Within the crypto space, he's most passionate about securities regulations affecting tokens, identity for regulatory purposes vs privacy and anonymity, and cross-ledger or cross-chain technologies.

Gary Leland is a businessman, entrepreneur, and media personality. He produces several shows in the cryptocurrency sphere including the Crypto Cousins Podcast, the 4 Minute Crypto Show, The What Is Bitcoin Podcast, the Railroaded Podcast and the BitBlockBoom Podcast. He also founded the BitBlockBoom Bitcoin Conference in Dallas Texas in 2018. In 2019, Gary became an advisor and part owner of GiveBitcoin.io, and SwanBitcoin.com which allow users to buy and invest bitcoin. In March of 2020 Gary accepted the role of Executive Vice President of podcasting for Biz Talk Radio.

The event is free to join, but donations are welcome and will support TechGYRLS®. The YWCA Glendale and YWCA Pasadena's TechGYRLS® program seeks to empower young girls in the areas of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) and to encourage them to pursue careers within these fields, particularly for underrepresented girls. Tech-GYRLS® is a place to dream, explore new ideas, learn new skills, and be creative through STEAM activities. During COVID-19, our TechGYRLS® programs will be offered virtually through YWCA organized or partner organized events. Find out more information about the program at <https://www.glendaleywc.org/techgyrls/>.

To sponsor or donate visit <http://blockchainfuture.swell.gives> or email Christina Li-sotto at [clisotto@ywca-pasadena.org](mailto:clisotto@ywca-pasadena.org).

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Arroyo Pacific Academy  
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(626) 294-0661 Principal: Phil Clarke  
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website: [www.barnhartschool.org](http://www.barnhartschool.org)

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website: [www.goodenschool.org](http://www.goodenschool.org)

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Monrovia High School  
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(626) 471-2800 Principal Darvin Jackson

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website: [www.odysseycharterschool.org](http://www.odysseycharterschool.org)

Pasadena High School  
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St. Rita Catholic School  
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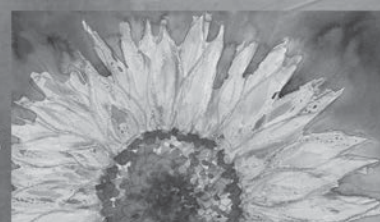
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## FREE EVENT! VIRTUAL CAST REUNION OF SIERRA MADRE PLAYHOUSE'S HIT PRODUCTION OF THE MARVELOUS WONDERETTES ON DECEMBER 6

One of the most popular productions ever in Sierra Madre Playhouse's long history has been The Marvelous Wonderettes, which was a box-office smash for us three years ago. Now, we're having a virtual cast reunion, and you're invited. Catch up with members of our talented cast and ask them questions about the creation of this beloved hit production.

Sierra Madre Playhouse Artistic Director Christian Lebano hosts cast members Kelsey Boze, Kelly Klopocinski, Kate Ponzio and Afton Quast.

This event takes place via Zoom on your computer, tablet or smartphone. It's free, but space is limited, so please reserve early. The virtual cast reunion will happen on Sunday, December 6, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. PST.

Reservations can be made at: <https://ci.ovationtix.com/35040/production/1034637>

Although this event is free, these are challenging times for theatres and non-profit arts organizations, so donations are accepted and appreciated. If you wish to donate, you can do so at: <https://ci.ovationtix.com/35040/store/donations/36015>



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***thechefknows@yahoo.com***

**HOLIDAY WINE BUYING TIPS**

When is a wine sale not really a sale at all? One of our Southern California grocery stores is getting ready for a 30% off sale. I only wanted one bottle, so as I looked at the so-called “regular” price before discount, I found myself shaking my head. There is no way these wines are regularly priced so high. Wines I have never seen in the \$20 range (like Domaine Chandon, Roeder Estate, Kendall Jackson, and even Korbel) were all priced like I was at Spago. A non-grocery beverage center did a 5-cent sale (buy one and get one for 5 cents) which seems like a good deal. Even at the regular price of \$140 a bottle I’ll take a bottle of Dom Perignon if the next one is for 5 cents. But no, the small print specified “selected wines”. Now, my favorite retailer has come up with a buy one get one for 10 cents (why not 8 cents?) sale. Every student of wine or expert sommelier says “no matter the price, if you like it buy it”. My word to the wise is that if you can handle buying six bottles at a time, these “grocery store sales” can yield you a bit of savings, so don’t buy into the “regular” price - I sure don’t!

I had to jump on the bandwagon, so I bought the Clos du Bois Chardonnay at the buy-one-get-one-for-10-cents special. I scanned the bar code with my smart phone for the “true” discount price and here is what I found: the lowest price was \$11.00, but since you have to buy through the internet, once you add the shipping cost it doesn’t make sense. The wine retails for \$14.99, plus ten cents for the second bottle, which makes it \$9.55 for each bottle. Now, if you get six bottles there is another 10% savings. My accounting got me in trouble a few months ago, so let’s call that a guestimate, but the savings are real.

In summary yes, the Clos du Bois is great value at the discounted price, and with the holidays here there will be more sales at supermarkets for sure. Try the scan on your favorite wine, it will give you roughly what you should be paying. If you don’t have a smart phone, ignore the retail price and look at the bottom price and the total discount. There are some real deals out there.



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**Katnip News!**



Meet MARLEY

Marley is a happy-go-lucky boy! He had an early case of mange, but it’s all cleared up now. He’s been hand-raised around dogs and other cats. Marley is very active and enjoys zooming around, jumping, and playing with his toys. He tends to play very aggressively so he may not be good with young children, but he would really like to have a kitten playmate to kitten-wrestle with. Marley is a beautiful lynx point Siamese, about 3.5 mos old. He will be ready for delivery after Dec. 7. See more pix of Marley on our website’s “Babies” page, and see the “Adoption Procedures” page to apply. [www.lifelineforpets.org](http://www.lifelineforpets.org). Thank you.



**Pet of the Week**

Mystique was found as a stray, injured and without use of her back legs. Although she’s permanently paralyzed, this three-month-old kitten is thriving in foster care! Mystique is energetic and playful, chasing after her toys like any other kitten, and using her litter box without any issues. She loves being pet and especially enjoys a good chin rub. Mystique was a little shy with adults at first before warming up to them, but she was immediately comfortable with the two young children in her foster home. This sweet kitten with the permanent smile on her face is ready to bring so many smiles to her future adopter! 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. View photos of adoptable pets and schedule a virtual adoption appointment at [pasadenahumane.org](http://pasadenahumane.org). Adoptions are by appointment only, and new adoption appointments are available every Monday at 10:00 a.m. for the following week. Pets may not be available for adoption and cannot be held for potential adopters by phone calls or email.



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## WHAT YOU'LL PAY FOR MEDICARE IN 2021

Dear Savvy Senior:

I know there will be a small cost-of-living increase in Social Security benefits next year but what about Medicare? What will the Medicare Part B monthly premiums be in 2021, and when do the surcharges kick in for higher income beneficiaries?

Inquiring Senior

Dear Inquiring:

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services recently announced their cost adjustments for 2021 and the increases for premiums and out-of-pocket costs for most beneficiaries will be modest. But if you're a high earner, you'll pay more. Here's what you can expect starting in January.

Medicare Part B

While Medicare Part A, which pays for hospital care, is premium-free for most beneficiaries, Part B, which covers doctor visits and outpatient services does have a monthly premium. Starting in 2021, the standard monthly Part B premium will be \$148.50, up from \$144.60 in 2020. That \$3.90 bump represents a 2.7 percent increase, which is more than double the most recent Social Security cost-of-living adjustment which was 1.3 percent.

But if you're a high earning beneficiary, which makes up about 7 percent of all Medicare recipients, you'll have to pay more. Medicare surcharges for high earners are based on adjusted gross income from two years earlier, which means that 2021 Part B premiums are determined by 2019 annual income.

So, if your 2019 income was above \$88,000 up to \$111,000 (\$176,000 up to \$222,000 for married couples filing jointly), your 2021 Part B monthly premium will be \$207.90, up from \$202.40 in 2020.

Monthly premiums for singles with an income between \$111,000 and \$138,000 (\$222,000 and \$276,000 for joint filers) will rise from \$289.20 to \$297. Individuals earning above \$138,000 up to \$165,000 (\$276,000 to \$330,000 for joint filers) will see their monthly premium increase from \$376 to \$386.10.

Those with incomes above \$165,000 up to \$500,000 (\$320,000 to \$750,000 for joint filers), you'll pay \$475.20 per month in 2021. And single filers with income of \$500,000 or more (\$750,000 or more for joint filers) will pay \$504.90 per month next year.

Medicare Part D

If you have a Medicare (Part D) prescription drug plan, the average premium in 2021 will be about \$30 per month for most beneficiaries. But, again for high earner with annual incomes above \$88,000 (\$176,000 for joint filers) you'll pay a \$12.30 to \$77.10 monthly surcharge on top of your regular Part D premiums.

How to Contest Income

Beneficiaries that fall into any of the high-income categories and have experienced certain life-changing events that have reduced their income since 2019, such as retirement, divorce or the death of a spouse, can contest the surcharge. For more information on how to do this, see "Medicare Premiums: Rules for Higher-Income Beneficiaries" at [SSA.gov/benefits/medicare/medicare-premiums.html](https://ssa.gov/benefits/medicare/medicare-premiums.html).

Other Medicare Increases

In addition to the Part B and Part D premium increases, there are other cost increases you should be aware of. For example, the annual deductible for Medicare Part B will see a bump from \$198 to \$203 in 2021. The deductible for Medicare Part A, which covers hospital services, will increase from \$1,408 in 2020 to \$1,484 in 2021. There are no surcharges on Medicare deductibles for high earners.

For more information on all the Medicare costs for 2021 visit [Medicare.gov](https://medicare.gov) and click on "2021 Medicare Costs," or call 800-633-4227.

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



## SENIOR HAPPENINGS

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY! ...November Birthdays\*



Flo Mankin, Alberta Curran, Carmela Frontino, Kathy Wood, Lena Zate, Joe Pergola, Janice Kacer, Valerie Howard, "Mike" Ruggles, Joan Ruggles, Lois Stueck, Jean Wood, Shirley Yergeau, Pat Krok, Irene Nakagawa, Anna Ross, Mary Steinberg, Mary Bowser, Susan Clifton, Mary Higgins, Kim Buchanan, Leigh Thach and Sue Quinn. \* 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 relaxation. 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 supplies 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](mailto: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](mailto:lhein@cityofsierramadre.com) and Clarissa Lowe [Clowe@cityofsierramadre.com](mailto: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

## IT'S ALL OVER BUT THE LYING



The one thing I don't like is when somebody deliberately lies to me. Trust me; this has happened quite a few times in my life.

Sometimes, by accident, they say something that isn't true; they just got their facts mixed up.

Other times, it's a ploy to deceive me and get something from me.

As I often say, if you can't con me you can't con anyone.

I must say I have become very suspicious when somebody I don't know promises me something "free." If you follow through with these "free" things, it's like my aunt used to say, "Sonny, there ain't nuthin free."

I'm sure my aunt would not lie to me.

Don't let this get around, but my opinion is every time a politician opens his mouth, he's lying. But you didn't hear it from me.

I've had to learn how NOT to lie. It's been challenging, but I have been persistent in this goal of mine. There have been stumbling, but I have gotten up every time and started over again. I don't lie as much as I used to.

Not that I intentionally lie, at least I don't think so. I sometimes get the facts wrong.

Like when I'm talking to the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. I remember once she interrupted me and said, "You're not lying, are you?"

I was stunned. If there's somebody I'm not going to lie to, it is my wife because she will discover the lie somewhere down the line. When she discovers the lie, there are consequences, as you well know.

I try not to lie; that's why I try not to talk too much. When I'm talking, I'm mixing up facts from different situations, which ends in confusion. I'm not lying; I'm just confused.

The only exception is for fishermen. My uncle, for example, was a great fisherman, or so he told us. If he caught all the fish he said he caught, there would be no fish left in the world. Because he was my uncle, I went along with his stories.

Besides that, I don't think there's any reason to lie.

Then there are those situations when you're trying to do something behind your wife's back, and you don't want her to know about it because it's a surprise. Have you ever tried surprising your wife?

Around Christmas time is the worst time in the world for this kind of thing. It's not that I'm lying to her; I just want to surprise her with a Christmas gift. I'm trying to hide something from her.

Coming home the other day, I walked into the living room, and the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage said, "Where have you been?"

That is the question. It's not where have I been, but where in the world am I going? If I tell her where I was, she would get the hint because it's Christmas time and I'm getting her a present. Is it wrong to conceal something like this? Do you think Santa would forgive me?

I have a hard time hiding anything from my wife. She knows what I'm doing three weeks before I do it.

Last year, she asked me where I was, and I fumbled around, trying to cover my tracks. I don't think I was that good at doing it. When we were opening our Christmas presents on Christmas day, she opened hers and said, "Oh, that's where you were when I ask you where you were." Then she laughed. I was relieved.

This year I'm wrestling with a certain situation. I've had some physical problems, nothing serious. But my wife is the kind of person who sees something and is obsessed with trying to fix it. That's a really good quality for her. And I appreciate it. Nobody can get things done quite like the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage.

Often she'll ask me, "How are you doing?"

I take it as a trick question and reply, "I'm fine; thanks for asking." As if that will solve the problem.

Then she sees me go to the basket where we have our medicines. I have a pain so I pick up the Tylenol and take several out and turn around and guess who I see?

"What do you need that for?"

Now, I'm in a pickle. I can't lie, and yet I don't want to tell the whole truth. What in the world do I do?

"What? This Tylenol? Oh, I'm taking it in precaution of a pain in my knee I might get later this afternoon."

Then she said, "Which knee do you have the pain?"

Now I'm in a dill pickle. So, I tell her it's my right knee. I just hope I remember that the next time she asks.

The next morning as I was walking through the kitchen, my wife said, "Do you need some more Tylenol for your knee?"

Then she asked "the" question, "Which knee did you say it was?"

I can't remember hardly anything, she can remember everything, and so I had a 50-50 chance of getting it right.

Later that day, I thought of what David said, "Deliver my soul, O Lord, from lying lips, and from a deceitful tongue." (Psalm 120:2).

No good comes from lying. My great challenge is to acknowledge that I'm lying and then do something to correct that.

## FAMILY MATTERS

By Marc Garlett



## 6 THINGS YOU SHOULD NOT INCLUDE IN YOUR WILL

A will is one of the most basic estate planning tools. While relying solely on a will is not a suitable option for most people, just about every estate plan includes this key document in one form or another.

A will is used to designate how you want your assets distributed to your surviving loved ones upon your death. If you die without a will, state law governs how your assets are distributed, which may or may not be in line with your wishes.

That said, not all assets can (or should) be included in your will. For this reason, it's important to understand which assets you should put in your will and which assets you should include in other planning documents like trusts.

While you should always consult with an experienced planning professional when creating your will, here are a few of the different types of assets that should not be included in your will.

1. Assets with a right of survivorship: A will only covers assets solely owned in your name. Therefore, property held in joint tenancy, tenancy by the entirety, and community property with the right of survivorship, bypass your will. These types of assets automatically pass to the surviving co-owner(s) when you die, so leaving your share to someone else in your will would have no effect. If you want someone other than your co-owner to receive your share of the asset upon your death, you will need to change title to the asset as part of your estate planning process.

2. Assets held in a trust: Assets held by a trust automatically pass to the named beneficiary upon your death or incapacity and cannot be passed through your will. This includes assets held by both revocable "living" trusts and irrevocable trusts.

In contrast, assets included in a will must first pass through the court process known as probate before they can be transferred to the intended beneficiaries. To avoid the time, expense, and potential conflict associated with probate, trusts are typically a more effective way to pass assets to your loved ones compared to wills.

However, because it can be difficult to transfer all of your assets into a trust before your death, even if your plan includes a trust, you'll still need to create what's known as a "pour-over" will. With a pour-over will in place, all assets not held by the trust upon your death are transferred, or "poured," into your trust through the probate process.

3. Assets with a designated beneficiary: Several different types of assets allow you to name a beneficiary to inherit the asset upon your death. In these cases, when you die, the asset passes directly to the individual, organization, or institution you designated as beneficiary, without the need for any additional planning.

The following are some of the most common assets with beneficiary designations, and therefore, such assets should not be included in your will:

- Retirement accounts, IRAs, 401(k)s, and pensions
- Life insurance or annuity proceeds
- Payable-on-death bank accounts
- Transfer-on-death property, such as bonds, stocks, vehicles, and real estate

4. Certain types of digital assets: Given the unique nature of digital assets, you'll need to make special plans

for your digital assets outside of your will. Indeed, a will may not be the best option for passing certain digital assets to your heirs. And in some cases—including Kindle e-books and iTunes music files—it may not even be legally possible to transfer the asset via a will, because you never actually owned the asset in the first place—you merely owned a license to use it.

What's more, some types of social media, such as Facebook and Instagram, have special functions that allow you to grant certain individuals access and/or control of your account upon your death, so a will wouldn't be of any use. Always check the terms of service for the company's specific guidelines for managing your account upon your death.

Regardless of the type of digital asset involved, NEVER include the account numbers, logins, or passwords in your will, which becomes public record upon your death and can be easily read by others. Instead, keep this information in a separate, secure location, and provide your fiduciary with instructions about how to access it.

5. Your pet and money for its care: Because animals are considered personal property under the law, you cannot name a pet as a beneficiary in your will. If you do, whatever money you leave it would go to your residuary beneficiary (the individual who gets everything not specifically left to your other named beneficiaries), who would have no obligation to care for your pet.

It's also not a good idea to use your will to leave your pet and money for its care to a future caregiver. That's because the person you name as beneficiary would have no legal obligation to use the funds to care for your pet. In fact, your pet's new owner could legally keep all of the money and drop off your furry friend at the local shelter.

The best way to ensure your pet gets the love and attention it deserves following your death or incapacity is by creating a pet trust. A good estate planning attorney can help you set up, fund, and maintain such a trust, so your furry family member will be properly cared for when you're gone.

6. Money for the care of a person with special needs: There are a number of unique considerations that must be taken into account when planning for the care of an individual with special needs. In fact, you can easily disqualify someone with special needs for much-needed government benefits if you don't use the proper planning strategies. To this end, a will is not a suitable way to pass on money for the care of a person with special needs.

If you want to provide for the care of your child or another loved one with special needs, you must create a special needs trust. Given these are extremely technical, you should always work with an experienced planning lawyer to create a special needs trust.

*Don't take any chances*

Although creating a will may seem fairly simple, it's always best to consult with an experienced planning professional to ensure the document is properly created, executed, and maintained. And as we've seen here, there are also many scenarios in which a will won't be the right planning option, nor would a will keep your family and assets out of court.

Dedicated to empowering your family, building your wealth and defining your legacy, 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](https://www.CaliLaw.com) for more information.

MARC

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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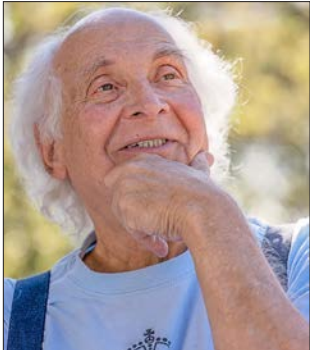
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Mission Statement

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



Covid Tests before getting together for Thanksgiving and the joint birthday on Saturday. My daughter's test was labelled inconclusive while my son and the baby's father were labelled negative which meant things were positive. This freaked everybody out. Until she was sure, one way or the other, my daughter felt she could not send the baby to day-care or allow my wife and I to take care of the baby on Monday as we usually do. My daughter arranged to take another test on Sunday and further requested that my wife and I take a test as soon as possible. We tested on Sunday and received the results on Monday resulting in my conversation with my daughter wherein I stated my wife was completely negative. That's all my wife heard and you can imagine what she thought. Eventually, we figured it out and broke up laughing, friends again, until at least the next misunderstanding. Today, my daughter received her results and HOORAY, she too was negative but is still feeling cautious and we are all still discussing what our weekend plans will be.

Anyway, the whole point of this little story is what kind of crazy world creates use of language wherein the statement "she is negative" is understood to mean something highly positive. Words can have unexpected meanings. On the way to and from being tested I saw four huge yellow billboards that proclaim in huge black letters HYPERWOLF. Do any of you have any idea what is the meaning of that sign? I believe confusion is intended. Those in the know will get the information they need. It's scary.

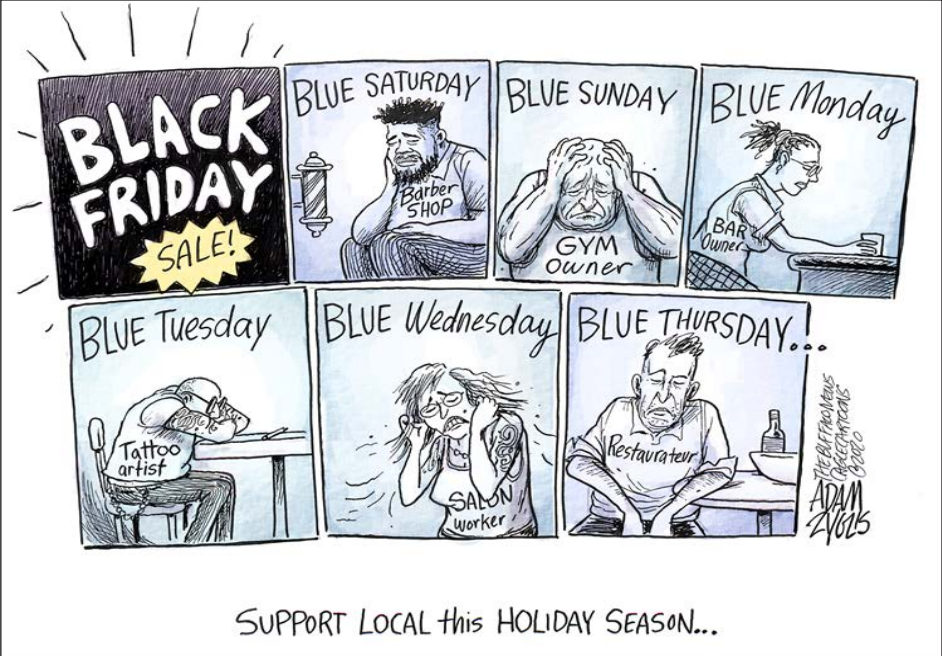
Today, establishment characters like former Republican Speaker of the House John Boehner (he of zippety doo-dah resignation fame) has become the chair of the Cannabis Roundtable, a cannabis lobbying organization. Of course a total reversal of his legislative positions regarding drugs. To me this indicates that language is being used to fool the public and what seems like a benefit to low income people will end up making rich folk richer. For example in 1969 already putting people into jail for simple drug possession seemed ridiculous. A President Nixon policy called the War on Drugs was established. As time has made clear this war on Drugs was really a War on Race intended to put young men of color into jail. White America was scared of the Black Panthers, and the repercussions of the assassinations of Malcolm X and Martin Luther King. Young black men were considered a threat and the War on Drugs was handy way to lock them up and keep them under control. That's what it was all about and it's been that way for a very long time. The decriminalization of drug possession may well mean that States save money, and individual favored people will greatly profit. Sure, let "negative" mean "positive" so as people we can become more confused and easily manipulated. The next four years should give us some test results. I wonder if the results will be called positive or negative but I'm pretty sure we will all remain confused.

What happened to the Wall? What happened to the approaching migrant gangs? Actually, what happened to the Progressives? Have we been fooled again?

WORDS

Everything in combination has left me very confused.

This really happened. My wife was coming downstairs and heard the end of a telephone conversation with my daughter. What she heard was me saying "Irene is so negative". Immediately thereafter I noticed Irene being very harsh and abrupt with me. Finally, I timidly asked, "What is wrong?" She said, why did you say to Stacy that I was so negative?" At first I didn't know what she was talking about, although by now many of you probably have figured it out. Last week my daughter requested that the whole family take



LEFT, RIGHT OR CENTER!

DANNY TYREE



EPA TURNS 50

It may be the sort of birthday where someone shouts, "50 candles blazing on the cake? Are you crazy? Why don't we just fill a pinata with cow methane while we're at it???"

I'm speaking of the 50th anniversary of the Environmental Protection Agency. President Richard Nixon proposed the independent executive agency on July 9, 1970 (fun fact: "EPA" was the only term on that particular Nixon tape with fewer than FOUR letters) and it began operation on December 2, 1970.

(This was mere weeks before Elvis Presley's famous meeting with Nixon in the Oval Office. Nixon would maintain an interest in both Elvis and the environment, as witnessed by a joint operation of the FBI and EPA in investigating the effect of a hunk'a hunk'a burning love on the ozone layer.)

The EPA didn't arrive on the American scene a moment too soon. Bob Hope and Red Skelton were running out of smog jokes, and newcomer Flip Wilson's Geraldine Jones character was in danger of her sassy catch-phrase becoming "What you see is what you get - no, I'm over here - \*cough\* \*cough\* just squint real hard..."

I know some people long for the Good Old Days ("Who needed Jell-O Pudding Pops when you could just draw them right out of the well? Mmmmm..."), but we were some NASTY sons of guns before federal intervention.

We thought an "ecosystem" was a plan for blowing your horn while driving through a tunnel. Tourists seeing the U.S.A. in their Chevrolet frequented tourist sites such as the World's Largest Ball of Particulate Matter.

It was a "buyer's market" for hitchhikers. ("If you ain't haulin' at least three barrels of benzene in the back of your pickup, I'd just as soon walk, mister.") The fuzziness of nostalgia helps us forget that kids couldn't even make a simple paper football in class without calling time-out to add lead paint and asbestos to the project.

Homeowners and factories took shortcuts and were not particularly keen on looking at the big picture. And if they did look at the big picture, afterwards, they let the photographic chemicals run off into navigable waterways.

I know sometimes the EPA is accused of going hog wild with regulations (arguably, little Jimmy's mud pie business probably ISN'T that big a threat to endangered wetlands), but in general we shouldn't take the agency for granted.

They educate us about fuel efficiency, set radiation standards and prepare Environmental Impact Statements for all major government projects. Roughly 1,000 "Superfund" hazardous waste sites have been reused or redeveloped in the 40 years since Congress put a priority on such cleanups.

Considering humanity's desire to cut corners, bend rules and kick the can down the road (suddenly the Traveling Wilburys song "The Devil's Been Busy in Your Backyard" is playing in my brain), there will always be a need for the folks at the EPA to serve as our ecological conscience and maintain this great land's natural beauty.

Just don't get me started on the funding of OTHER federal programs, such as the Pony Express Saddle Inspection Agency or the Department of Keeping Betsy Ross Supplied with Needles.

Those can go to the Landfill of History for all I care. Unless there's another cracked landfill liner...

All these complications make me mad enough to whack a pinata!

Hey, there's one now...BOOM!

TOM PURCELL



THANKFUL DESPITE CANCELLATION OF FAMILY FEAST

My family canceled Thanksgiving this year - my favorite holiday since I was a kid.

Usually, 30 to 40 people gather at my parents' house and sit next to each other at three tables. But in this year of COVID-19 - aptly named, because I and everyone I know has put on about 19 pounds since March - the grand event has been canceled.

When I was a kid in the 1970s, my parents lived in a modest house. We packed people in for Thanksgiving nonetheless, with three tables taking up every inch of space in the dining room and living room. The tight circumstances made the event all the more fun and memorable.

When I taste turkey, mashed potatoes and cranberry sauce - the cheap kind in the ribbed can! - I taste the many years of camaraderie and happiness we've enjoyed around those tightly packed tables.

I knew as a boy, as I still do now, that the family members around the table were our primary blessings and sources of happiness. As sad as we are that wonderful aunts and uncles have left us over time, we are thankful for the many new souls whose joy has enriched our continually growing clan.

My parents have 17 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren, and we all look forward to hearing stories about what they've said or done, often laughing out loud. Their joy fills us with joy.

But there will be no Thanksgiving gathering this year - no laughter around the dinner tables, no catch-up as we talk about everything and nothing at all. That's somewhat troubling, because we don't know how many such gatherings we have left at my parents' home.

That's taking a toll on all of us this Thanksgiving, when everyone could use an enjoyable feast to take a respite from all the disruption in our lives and recharge our batteries a little bit.

If 2020 has given us one important lesson, it's that we shouldn't take for granted the blessings we still have in abundance. That lesson makes clear that the people who will NOT sit around the Thanksgiving table this year are what is most valuable to us. This year has reminded us to get back to the basics.

We don't need massive riches to fill ourselves with happiness. To the contrary, material wealth can cause unhappiness - particularly when markets crash and fortunes disappear. Truthfully, Kenny Rogers summarized well the three basic things we need in our lives to pursue happiness: someone to love, something to do and something to look forward to.

And, boy, am I looking forward to picking back up with my extended family's magical Thanksgiving gathering next year - to getting back to normal. Perhaps it takes an especially disruptive year to bring us back to our senses. That's the spirit in which I'm taking 2020.

As far as the economy and our country's future goes, my family is as apprehensive about the coming months as anyone. We have experienced lost work and wage cuts, as millions of Americans have.

Though we won't sit around the Thanksgiving tables enjoying each other's company this year, we still will be thankful for the many blessings we've been given.

Tom Purcell, is a Pittsburgh Tribune-Review humor columnist







## JUPITER AND SATURN WILL FORM A RARE 'DOUBLE PLANET' IN THE SKY BEFORE CHRISTMAS



Tim Childers, Popular Mechanics Photo by Vidmar Fernandes

For the first time since the middle ages, Jupiter and Saturn will become so close to each other in the night sky that they'll appear as a brilliantly bright "double planet." On the winter solstice, December 21, the solar system's two largest planets will be visibly on top of each other in the western sky. If you live in the northern hemisphere, you can observe this planetary conjunction setting in the southwestern sky, shortly after sunset. If you've been waiting to take out your telescope, this may be the perfect opportunity. Even if you have an amateur telescope with the right eyepiece, you may be able to see the Galilean moons, the bands of Jupiter, and Saturn's rings, all in one spectacular view.

- Jupiter and Saturn will appear to align this December, creating a "double planet" in the night sky.
- It's the first time since the middle ages the planets have aligned this close.
- You can see this planetary conjunction on the winter solstice, December 21.

### CALIFORNIA'S LIMITED STAY AT HOME ORDER

- All non-essential activities stop from 10PM-5AM
- Applies to all counties in purple tier
- Effective 11/21/2020 - 12/21/2020
- Activities from 10pm-5AM are often non-essential or gatherings that spread COVID-19.
- Reducing movement & mixing of households protects essential workers and dramatically slows spread, hospitalizations, and deaths.

[covid19.ca.gov](https://covid19.ca.gov)

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### What information are you DRIVING around?

Shows where your child goes to school.

A large family has a lot of appointments, sporting events or just distracted.

Your children have long hours of practice and days of travel. Away for games and competitions on weekends.

You have a lot of expensive gear or equipment in your garage or trailer/RV.

Small dog means it won't be too scary to break in, especially if I know their name.

Tells us your spouse is probably a first responder and gone for long shifts.

Now we know your entire name! And will find you on the internet.

### Be mindful of what information you are putting out there.

We're making gifts for the holidays!

I'm making puzzles for everyone.

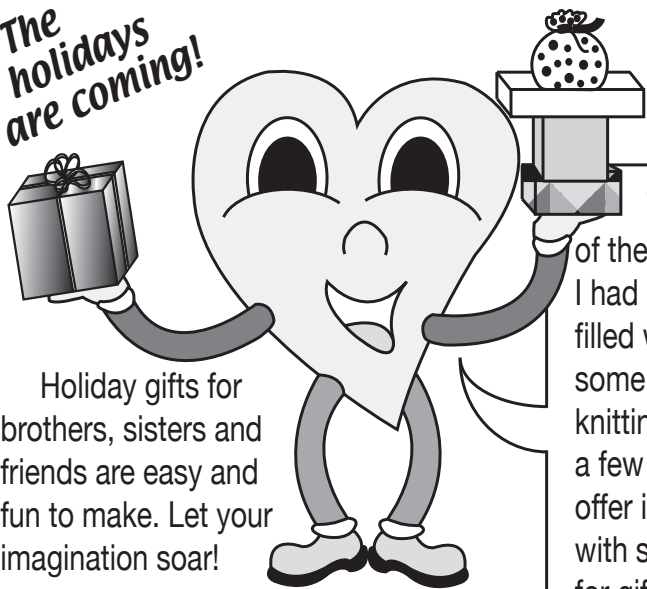
Kids: color stuff in!

# Newspaper Fun!

www.readingclubfun.com

Animills LLC © 2020 V16-45

The holidays are coming!



Holiday gifts for brothers, sisters and friends are easy and fun to make. Let your imagination soar!

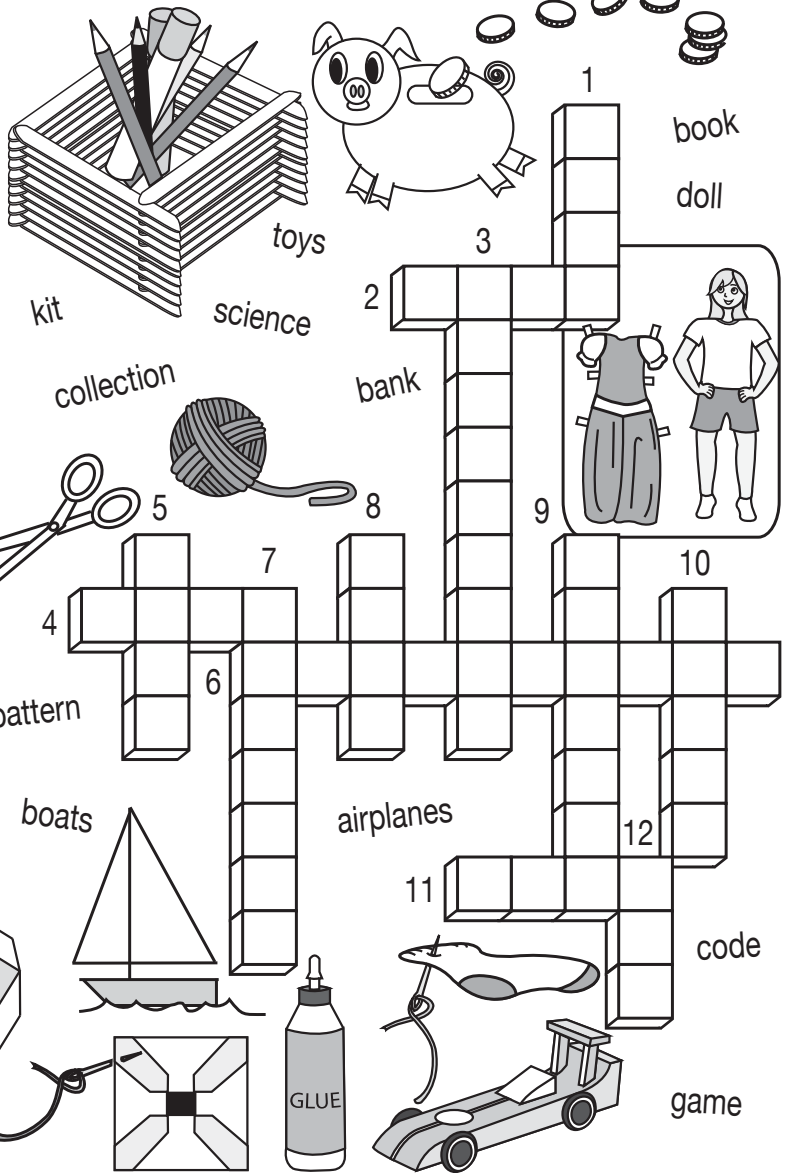
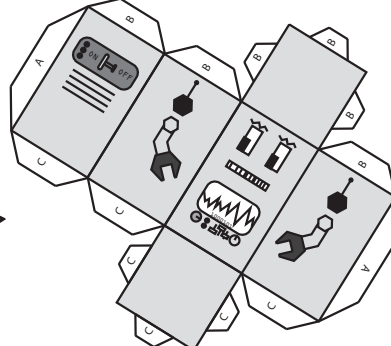
Plan and make your gifts ahead so you won't get crushed in the holiday rush!

**Read the clues to fill in the crossword:**

1. write a mystery and create a secret \_\_\_\_\_ to solve it
2. design and make a board \_\_\_\_\_
3. cut, fold, decorate a set of paper \_\_\_\_\_ to fly
4. put together a box or basket with small \_\_\_\_\_ in it: cars, dinosaurs, or farm animals
5. cut and draw to make a flip \_\_\_\_\_ of "moving images"
6. start a \_\_\_\_\_: baseball cards, miniatures, badges
7. make a \_\_\_\_\_ box: a small magnifying glass, items to study - yarn, leaf, a dust ball, a rock, a flower
8. draw and cut out a paper \_\_\_\_\_, make clothes with tabs to fit
9. use a ruler or computer to create a simple \_\_\_\_\_ that can be folded, made into a toy
10. turn milk cartons into paddle \_\_\_\_\_ that really float
11. make a \_\_\_\_\_ - be a sport and put a few coins in it
12. gather buttons, old jewelry, ribbons, colored string, etc., to put in a "\_\_\_\_\_ to make stuff"

## Gifts From The Heart

Wow! I went to the library and stood in front of the "do it and make it yourself" section of books. I had no idea how many books there are, each filled with ideas for making presents. You need some basic skills for some of the ideas, such as knitting, sewing or woodworking. Some gifts require a few small purchases. But, most of these books offer ideas for plenty of gifts that anyone can make with stuff around the house. So...not much money for gifts this holiday season? No excuses anymore - get to work on these gifts from the hands and heart!





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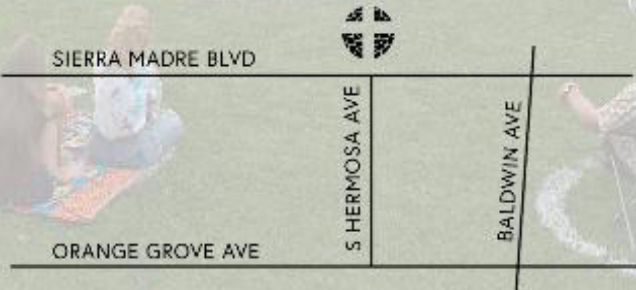
# JOIN US FOR CHURCH OUTDOORS!

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](http://www.christchurchsm.org) for more details and to familiarize yourself with COVID guidelines for our gatherings.

## SERVICE TIMES

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Sat 4:30p & 6p

ONLINE  
Sat 6p | Sun 9a & 10:45a



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