

Mountain Views News

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Duarte

Monrovia

Pasadena

Altadena

South Pasadena

San Marino

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2020

VOLUME 14 NO. 52

THE WEBB-MARTIN GROUP

Hoping your holidays are filled with love, good health and happiness.

From the Webb-Martin Group

JUST LISTED



21 East Alegria Avenue
Sierra Madre 91024
21EastAlegria.com
4 Beds | 5 Baths | 2,527 sf
Listed for: \$1,189,000

IN ESCROW MULTIPLE OFFERS



707 Woodland Drive
Sierra Madre 91024
707WoodlandDrive.com
2 Beds + Den | 1.5 Baths | 1,344 sf

Congratulations

JUDY-WEBB MARTIN
2020 RECIPIENT OF THE

GEORGE MAURER
LIFETIME SERVICE AWARD



Thank you Judy for all you do for our city! Your decades of devotion, passion, and leadership have inspired and motivated us to be the best neighbor, friend, and partner we can be. Your service and contribution to the Village of Sierra Madre has impacted us all.

-Katie & Jan



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

Jan Greteman 626.975.4033

jan@jangreteman.com
jangreteman.com #01943630

Judy Webb-Martin 626.688.2273

jwmartin@dppre.com #00541631

Katie Orth 626.688.0418

korth@dppre.com #00942500

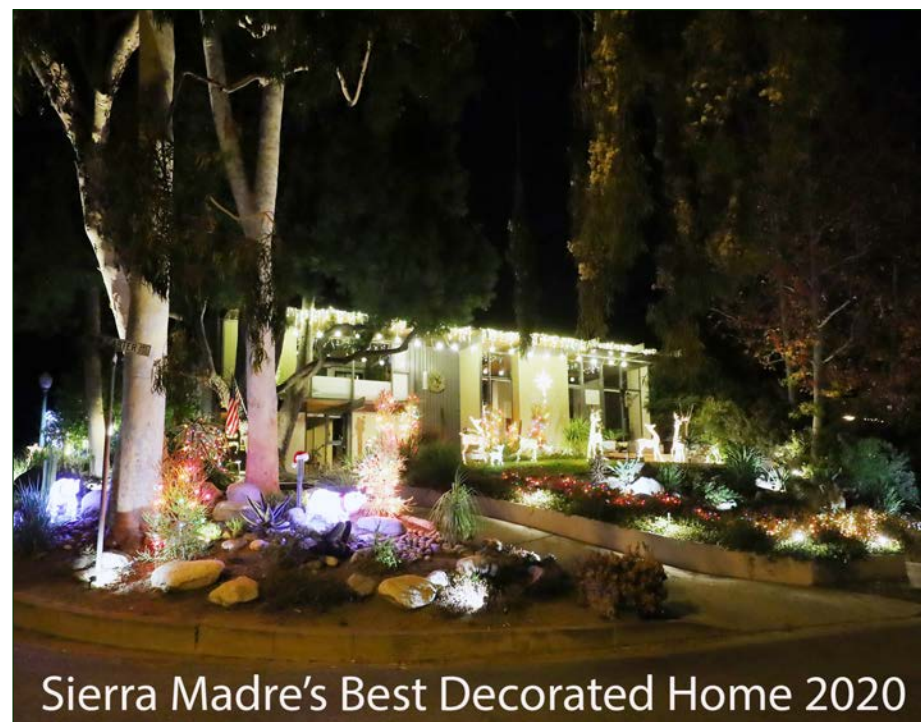
We are **active** and doing business **safely** and **successfully**. Call us today if you are looking to **buy** or **sell**!

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

deasyennerpodley

homeasart.com

AND THE WINNER IS:



Sierra Madre's Best Decorated Home 2020

Photo by PhotoSanta aka Photographer Dirk Bolle for the Mountain Views News

More on page 15

THE ANGELS OF LIFE

As we enter 2021...

By Craig Haikola

Willem's life was a failure and upon the day of his death, this opinion was not disputed. There were elements of drama, passion, hope and despair, however, in the way he lived. Let us walk in the world of Willem and explore why he was called "a failure." For in the life and death of Willem, an important lesson is learned. He encountered a handful of triumphs in his life but shared in many tragedies. In those important moments when Willem was descending into the depths of darkness, he was escorted up by earthly angels who provided their comfort and kindness to a mentally broken man.

Filled with optimism in early 20s, Willem enthusiastically accepted a ministerial position in a town that appears to have fascinated some sense in his soul. He penned a letter to his brother, Theo, about the people of this coal mining town. Describing the half-starved women who struggled to carry their jugs of water up from the river's edge, he also wrote about the men whose forsaken families inhabited the wretched squalor of timber shacks. If the scant dwellings and people's plight were not enough

to curse the conscience, the haunting landscape furthered its feeling. For in every direction of town, manmade mountains of spent coal rose above the land. Any hints of nature that remained were observed in the three lonely trees which were not a leaf, having long been suffocated by black coal smoke.

Willem was grieved by what he witnessed here, and his mind harkened to the Biblical story of the rich man who was blessed with wealth, but lacked the wisdom to make the world a better place. Willem could not erase from his mind that the man walked away from Jesus in exchange for his earthly possessions. This haunting story motivated Willem to gather his own possessions, the ones he deemed as comfort and placed them for sale; but even after completing this action, Willem wondered about what more he could do.

Then the real question surfaced in his mind: "What more am I willing to do?" There was a poor homeless man on the outskirts of town whom Willem remembered seeing. He had no visible possessions, and all he owned were the clothes upon his back. "If I should take this man out from the cold and give him a bed to sleep," Willem thought,

"then the world would become a better place."

Out his door he raced, and after discovering the homeless man, he brought him back to the room his parish was providing. The man was still in disbelief as Willem charitably said, "I give this room to you." The man looked around the room with the awe of a child, a tear in his eye, and a thank you upon his lips. Willem's work was done, so he gathered the few possessions he owned, and looked for another place to sleep. His new room was void of any furniture, so he placed a bed of straw upon the floor to sleep.

This unusual act of charity was not greeted with favor by his employer who informed Willem that "he was not suited for the position, as sleeping upon straw was undignified." They further reprimanded him with these words: "you care too much."

From this day forward, Willem's life began its dissent. The injury felt by this emotional rejection was more than a man of his mental makeup could bear. With a single committee's decision, the course of his life was altered. In the succeeding years, Willem's life became more difficult, as he began to suffer through

(continued on page 2)

SIERRA MADRE BUSINESS PROPERTY OWNERS HAVE RARE OPPORTUNITY TO LOWER THEIR TAXES

The city of Sierra Madre is offering owners who have property in one of the four assessment districts downtown the opportunity to lower their taxes.

How and Why?

The city wants to combine the current districts into one, forming a new district to be known as the Downtown Landscaping and Lighting Maintenance District. Such a consolidation requires approval by the property owners in the districts that would be impacted.

Sierra Madre currently funds landscaping, lighting and parking maintenance and improvements through the four districts. According to the fact sheet that was mailed to eligible voters, "two of the districts operate at a surplus and two operate at a deficit". By combining the districts the new district would generate sufficient revenue to provide those services and allow for a reduction in the property taxes with a cap that would be \$100 less than what is currently being paid.

Should the majority of affected property owners vote yes to approve the changes and a new district is formed, the property taxes would decrease as follows:

Current Taxes FY 20-21	\$300
New Taxes for FY 21-22	\$ 0
New Taxes for FY 22-23	\$100
New Taxes 23-24	\$200

The city is proposing to utilize surplus funds to offset 100% of the levy in FY 21-22 and supplement 50% in FY 22-23. By the beginning of FY 23-24 "it is expected that all surplus funds will be depleted and parcels will be assessed according to the Assessment Roll" with a maximum cap of \$200.

The vote by property owners is required in accordance to California's Proposition 218. Proposition 218 significantly changed local government finance when it was adopted in 1996. In general, the intent of Proposition 218 is to ensure that all taxes and most charges on property owners are subject to voter approval, and, as in this instance, even if the change works in the property owners favor.

Ballots have been mailed to all eligible voters and must be returned via mail or drop off at City Hall **before January 12, 2020.** (See hearing notice on page 14)

S. Henderson/MVNews

SIERRA MADRE RESIDENT ARRESTED ON CHARGES RELATED TO POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY FORMALLY CHARGED

On December 1, 2020, Robert Nessler was arraigned in Los Angeles Superior Court and charged with violation of the states child pornography laws under California Penal Code Section 311.1(a).

CA PC 311.1 (a) says:

(a) Every person who knowingly sends or causes to be sent, or brings or causes to be brought, into this state for sale or distribution, or in this state possesses, prepares, publishes, produces, develops, duplicates, or prints any representation of information, data, or image, including, but not limited to, any film, filmstrip, photograph, negative, slide, photocopy, videotape, video laser disc, computer hardware, computer software, computer floppy disc, data storage media, CD-ROM, or computer-generated equipment or any other computer-generated image that contains or incorporates in any manner, any film or filmstrip, with intent to distribute or to exhibit to, or to exchange with, others, or who offers to distribute, distributes, or exhibits to, or exchanges with, others, any obscene matter, knowing that the matter depicts a person under the age of 18 years personally engaging in or personally simulating sexual conduct, as defined in Section 311.4, shall be punished either by imprisonment in the county jail for up to one year, by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or by both the fine and imprisonment, or by imprisonment in the state prison, by a fine not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), or by the fine and imprisonment.

In public court records, Nessler entered a plea of 'not guilty' and a preliminary hearing has been set for January 21, 2021. At that hearing the court will determine whether the matter will proceed to trial if there is sufficient evidence.

Nessler is remains out of custody.

S. Henderson/MVNews



Robert Nessler, Courtesy EMPD

SERVING YOU SINCE 1949

GEM PLUMBING

Locally Owned & Operated

AIR CONDITIONING & HEATING
SALES, SERVICE & INSTALLATION

We Do It All!

COPPER RE-PIPES
FAUCETS | LEAK DETECTION
KITCHEN AND BATH REMODELS
DRAIN AND SEWER CLEANING | WATER
HEATERS | WE TACKLE OLD FIXTURES

ALL MAJOR BRANDS

Emergency Service Available

355-3496

140 E. Montecito | Sierra Madre

State Contractor Lic. #111308

VISA MasterCard DISCOVER AMERICAN EXPRESS

FREE ESTIMATES



Walter Cailleteau, DVM

927 N. Michillinda Ave.

Pasadena, CA 91107

(626) 351-8863

Free Exam!

For New Clients

Bring this coupon to save!





Sierra Madre CERT Trailer - Grant Fundraiser

CERT gets equipment credits towards a new trailer for each downloaded **California Ready Guide** that helps Californians get prepared for a disaster!

www.prepareca2020.org



The **California LISTOS Ready Guide** will teach you about the Five Steps to get prepared!

1. **GET ALERTS** to know what to do.
2. **MAKE A PLAN** to protect your people.
3. **PACK A GO BAG** with things you need.
4. **BUILD A STAY BOX** for when you can't leave.
5. **HELP** friends and neighbors get ready.



Festive Dining at Home!
HUGE PORTION • JUICY STEAKS • SUCCULENT SEAFOOD • FAMILY MEALS

Order online or call 626.286.3579
PICK UP OR DELIVERY
Sun-Thurs 12 - 8 pm
Fri-Sat 12 - 9 pm

CLEARMAN'S NORTH WOODS INN
7247 Rosemead Blvd., San Gabriel, CA
(626) 286-3579 • Order Online: sangabriel.clearmansrestaurants.com

Website Maintenance
Keeping your website current and up to date with today's technology.

pure media marketing
You work, we maintain = peace of mind
(626) 461-5015
PureMediaMarketing.com

ANGEL
(continued from pge 1)

bouts of depression, and then later, the spells of epilepsy would weaken him further. Consistently lacking money, he was assailed by malnutrition throughout his adult life. His brother, being an art dealer, financially supported him and encouraged Willem to paint with the hope that he may obtain some moments of relief.

Willem had no formal training as a painter, but he was exceedingly passionate about his hobby, and painted at night (this was the period before electricity, so lanterns and candles were the inventions that provided light between the hours of sunset to sunrise). The amusing custom that Willem acquired was to remove candles from his chandelier and affix them around the brim of his hat to better observe the colors he was painting.

The life of Willem ended in poverty, only able to sell a single painting before his death. His art, much like his life, was not truly appreciated during its

time. If ever a person required help, it was this man. For the betterment of our world, we are fortunate that three guardian angels came to his rescue. The first, his brother, Theo, who supported him financially and emotionally with an unyielding sense of kindness. His brother's comforting characteristics undoubtedly extended Willem's life by many years. The second was his friend who assisted Willem during his mental struggles, Dr. Gachet -- a man who would gather and protect many of Willem's paintings after his death. The third, and final angel, emerges in his loving sister-in-law, Johanna, who after her husband Theo's passing, circulated Willem's paintings to audiences around the world.

Today, our Willem is known by a different name: Vincent van Gogh. In one of his periods of personal darkness, when Van Gogh had been institutionalized in a mental asylum, he was still capable of painting one of the most profound emotions of art, "The Starry Night." Seated in the center of the canvas, a church spire points skyward to yellow stars that seem to

sail as sunflowers through the night. If Van Gogh did not have people who cared about him, he would have never become an artist, and upon his death, his mementos to the world, as he liked to say, would have been discarded as useless pieces of canvas. There is agreement in our age that a bright star, and an amazing element of art would have been lost, had Van Gogh never painted. It seems this would have made our existence less glorious.

Try to imagine for a moment that you had never met your best friend. How would your life be different? Your life may remain wonderful, but this we know, something would have been missed; for there is art, literature and friends who change us.

The Willems of the world are all around us if we care to look. They wander the sidewalks as broken people of the street. They have succumbed to homelessness by various sorts of circumstances, but each is a person who is created as a blessed masterpiece of a Heavenly kind. They are our mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters and friends. All too often,

they have no an angel to help. In one of his letters to Theo, Vincent van Gogh wrote that when he wanted to be with God, he went outside and looked up at the stars.

As we move past the star that brought Christmas, and begin to march upon the coming year, I wonder if the New Year will be any different for the people of the streets. I wonder if they will feel more love, hope and charity in the days ahead. I know as well as any, how easy it is to squander and miss the humble opportunities to create a difference every day. We might be shocked by the appreciation that is spoken when we help a person who has little hope -- a person whose life is changed

by the simple thought that someone cares.

There are many great groups in our City of Angels, and one of those Heroes of Hope is the Union Rescue Mission. They have served the less fortunate of our community for more than 100 years. They are restoring those lost and suffering, and reuniting people of the street back with their families, as they turn tears of despair into God-given gratitude. If you desire stories of triumph, log onto the Union Rescue website: www.urm.org.

It is the place to watch the most inspirational comebacks of 2020, and it will encourage you to imagine a different kind of

hope for the coming year.

ST. RITA SCHOOL

FAITH • EXCELLENCE • SERVICE



PREPARING FUTURE LEADERS

TK-8TH GRADE

State Of The Art Technology,
Accelerated Math, S.T.E.M.,
Robotics, Music,
Performing and Fine Arts,
After School Programs

Call 626.355.6114 • st-ritaschool.org
322 Baldwin Ave, Sierra Madre CA 91024



SUE COOK

Realtor
626.253.1323
suecookrealtor@gmail.com
Agent Lic. #02015404



Real Estate Cooked to Perfection



Craig Hakola
CraigHakola@aol.com

SIERRA MADRE

SIERRA MADRE

ARCADIA

PASADENA

ALTADENA

MONROVIA

Support Small Businesses

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL
RESTAURANTS AND BUSINESSES

WALKING SIERRA MADRE - The Social Side

by Deanne Davis



“One of the most glorious messes in the world is the mess created in the living room on Christmas Day. Don’t clean it up too quickly.” Andy Rooney

“What is Christmas? It is the tenderness of the past, courage for the present, and hope for the future.” Agnes M. Pahro

“Love came down at Christmas; love all lovely, love divine.

Love was born at Christmas, stars and angels gave the sign.” Christina Rossetti

Speaking of stars, and moving right along to planets, the Great Conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn has been one of our focal points this past week, taking us all outside somewhere around 5:30 every day to see how much closer to each other they’ve gotten. As this won’t happen again for another 400 years, we couldn’t very well say, “I’ll catch it next time,” and continue sitting on the couch eating Christmas cookies.

Dr. Chuck Seitz, my personal astrologer, sent me a fabulous picture which I’m including here. Here’s what he said, “A good view of the conjunction by an amateur with a good telescope.” I was dazzled. I can even see the rings ‘round Saturn in this picture. As I can only rely on my own fading vision, I just saw sort of a large star, which is what most people saw, making them relate this star to the Star of Bethlehem, the one wisemen and shepherds followed to that little manger in the stable, warmed only by cows, sheep and the love of Mary and Joseph; illuminated by a sky full of angels singing, “Glory to God in the Highest and on earth peace to people of good will.”

This glorious star is a most welcome high point in a year which has been less than stellar...get it, stars...stellar. What with Covid, closures, toilet paper shortages, no parties or family gatherings, this event gave us something new to think about. Which we needed.

O, Star of wonder, star of night
Star of royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.

Christmas is behind us. We can sit down, take a breath and give ourselves a minute to recuperate before we start planning for the New Year. 2020 passed with what felt like glacial speed and, mercifully, 2021 is just around the corner. I’m planning on leaving Christmas up just a little longer; let my head-turning lighted reindeer and star shower stay out in front just a little longer, and not be too quick to de-Christmas-ify.

Again this year I wanted to pass along this beautiful piece I keep hidden away at the bottom of the Christmas card basket, “Directions For Planting,” taken from the writings of Margaret Hooper Ineson, a precious saint of God and beloved member of our family. Born on November 22, 1904, she entered the gates of heaven on November 11, 2000...just a few days short of her 96th birthday. She lived her life according to her “Directions For Planting” and I thought this was a perfect way to end a year, which has had its ups and downs for all of us, and look forward to a New Year bright with promise and hope.

Directions For Planting

1. Plant 5 Rows of Peas
Preparedness
Promptness
Perseverance
Politeness
Prayer
2. Plant 3 Rows of Squash
Squash Gossip
Squash Criticism
Squash Indifference
3. Plant 4 Rows of Lettuce
Let Us Be Faithful
Let Us Be Unselfish
Let Us Be Truthful
Let Us Love One Another
4. Plant 4 Rows of Turnips
Turn Up For Where We’re Needed
Turn Up With A Smile
Turn Up With New Ideas
Turn Up With Determination

With just a little care and attention, what a wonderful harvest we shall reap from this Garden of love and caring.

As you look at the rest of the Christmas ham, wondering what you were thinking to buy such a big one, and ponder visions of scalloped potatoes with ham, ham and cheese quiche, six or eight more ham sandwiches on really good rye bread with a dill pickle, think back on all the wonderful phone calls, text messages, zoom meetings and cards that celebrated Jesus’ birth you received; then sing another carol or two just because you can.

Joy to the world, the Lord has come. Let earth receive her King!

May God bless you and keep you and make his face to shine upon you
And give you peace...and joy!

My book page: Amazon.com: Deanne Davis
Christmas is just a few days past and my book:
“Sunrises and Sunflowers Speak Hope”

Would be a really nice gift for anyone you’ve suddenly remembered.

You can find it on Amazon.com and they’ll even send it for you!

“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>



CITY HALL HOLIDAY CLOSURES

12/23 - CITY HALL CLOSED AT NOON

12/24 TO 1/1 - CITY HALL CLOSED

City Hall will be closed for the holidays.
Public Safety and Public Works will still be working during this time. No inspections or permits will be available during the break.

CHRISTMAS TREES ARE 100% RECYCLABLE!

Athens Services will collect Christmas trees at the curb from 12/26/2020 to 1/8/2021 this on your normal pickup day. Trees are delivered to various land-fills to be used as mulch or cover material, or to Athens’ American Organics compost facility in Victorville.

Tips to ensure your tree is properly collected:

Remove stands, ornaments, lights and tinsel.

Place holiday trees next to your regular trash containers.

Trees over 6 feet in length must be cut in half.

Trees with flocking or fire retardants ARE acceptable.

If you miss the date for recycling, please cut up your tree and place it in your yard waste container(s).

Please help keep our parks clean and safe during the holidays. If you see anyone illegally dump-ing holiday trees, please call your city’s Police Department.



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<https://www.facebook.com/BethanyCSM>

INSIDE MOUNTAIN VIEWS NEWS THIS WEEK

COVID 19 UPDATES.....PAGE 7
SIERRA MADRE NEWS.....Pgs 3, 4
PASADENA NEWS.....Page 5
ARCADIA/MONROVIA & MORE.....Page 6
AROUND SAN GABRIEL VALLEY.....Page 7
EDUCATION & YOUTH.....Page 9
BEST FRIENDS.....Page 10
THE GOOD LIFE.....Page 11
OPINION.....Page 12
LEGAL NOTICES.....Page 14

Weather Wise

6-Day Forecast Sierra Madre, Ca.

Sun	Sunny	Hi	70s	Lows 50s
Mon:	Sunny	Hi	70s	Lows 50s
Tues:	Sunny	Hi	70s	Lows 50s
Wed:	Sunny	Hi	70s	Lows 50s
Thur:	Sunny	Hi	70s	Lows 50s
Fri:	Sunny	Hi	70s	Lows 50s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

SIERRA MADRE CITY MEETINGS

As part of the City of Sierra Madre's COVID-19 transmission mitigation efforts, all City Council, Commission and Board meetings will be conducted virtually until further notice. The Brown Act provides the public with an opportunity to make public comments at any public meeting. Public comment may be made by e-mail to PublicComment@cityofsierramadre.com by 6:00PM. on the day of the meeting. Emails will be acknowledged at the Council meeting and filed into public record.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Any local non-profit or non-commercial organization can have their event information broadcast to the public on Sierra Madre Community Information Radio. The station covers the city of Sierra Madre, plus surrounding areas of Pasadena, Arcadia, and Monrovia.

Your event must:

- Benefit a non-commercial or non-profit entity
- Be open to the public
- Be of general interest to local citizens

Just write a Public Service Announcement that describes your event and e-mail it to radio@cityofsierramadre.com.


GFWC Sierra Madre Woman's Club




550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Founded February 1907 - 113 Years of "Living the Volunteer Life"
Member of General Federation of Women's Clubs cfwc.org & gfwc.org

Merry Christmas


Happy Hanukkah

Joyous Kwanzaa

Explore Opportunities & Membership with Us
GFWCSierraMadreWomansClub.org
Facebook/SierraMadreWomansClub 355-4379
Rent Our 1914 Historic Essick House 355-4379
Shop Award-Winning Wistaria Thrift Shop 355-7739
Clean, Gently Used Donations Accepted Saturdays 8 - 11 am


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 11/15 for Zoom Info

Join the GFWCSierraMadreWomansClub.org
SierraMadreWomansClub


RITZ RESALE

Women's Consignment
Clothing & Accessories

(626) 449-3528

Store Hours
Tues-Sat 11am-6pm
Sun 11am-3pm

900 Valley View Ave. #6
Pasadena, CA 91107

info@ritzresale.com



Sierra Madre Public
LIBRARY
Read • Discover • Connect

This week at the
Sierra Madre Public Library

December 28—January 2

Monday
Library Closed for Winter Break—No Services

Tuesday
Library Closed for Winter Break—No Services

Wednesday
Library Closed for Winter Break—No Services

Thursday
Library Closed for Winter Break—No Services

Friday
Library Closed for Winter Break—No Services

Saturday
Contact-Free Services Resume

Read, Discover, Connect
@ Sierra Madre Public Library

(626) 794-3383
Fax (626) 794-3395

Nuccio's Nurseries
INCORPORATED
www.nucciosnurseries.com


Growers of Rare
Camellias and Azaleas
Since 1935

3555 CHANEY TRAIL
ALTADENA, CALIFORNIA 91001

HOURS: 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.
(Closed Early on Rainy Days)

CLOSED WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY (ALL YEAR)
CLOSED SUNDAYS - JUNE THROUGH DECEMBER

Need to get out of the house?
Come and see us. We're Still Open!



KIWANIS CLUB OF SIERRA MADRE
Since 1927

**WISHING YOU
AND YOURS A VERY
HAPPY, PROSPEROUS
AND SAFE
2021**

Judy Webb-Martin, Presudent

SCHOOL OF SELF-RELIANCE
Since 1974
Self-reliance and survival skills for urban living or wilderness

Books for Self-reliant Learning!
\$20 each

EXTREME SIMPLICITY
HOW TO SURVIVE ANYWHERE
FORAGING CALIFORNIA

DVDs \$22
USEFUL PLANTS OF THE U.S.
SURVIVAL FOODS

SCHOOL OF SELF-RELIANCE
Box 41834, Eagle Rock, CA 90041
(626) 791-3217

Also visit our website
www.ChristopherNyerges.com
For More Survival Products

"Where there is no struggle, there is no merit."

FILE YOUR DBA HERE

Doing Business As,
Fictitious Business Name Filing

MAIL BOX & POSTAL 80 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre
626-836-6675

Obtain Street Address - Business Stationary - Flyers
Rubber Stamps - Business Cards - Mailing Service



9 Kersting Court, Sierra Madre, CA 91024
626-355-1180 www.leonoramoss.com

THANK YOU!

Thanks for all of your love and support.
We appreciate your business!
HAPPY NEW YEAR!



**Crystal Cleaners
Cleaning Services**

626-355-6022
53 n Baldwin Ave
Sierra Madre CA 91024

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



**GYM (626)836-1236
PILATES (626)836-2000**

**PRO PILATES
PERSONAL TRAINING
FULL FITNESS FACILITY**

www.SierraFit.com

RUIZ SHOE REPAIR EST. 1954

53 NORTH BALDWIN AVE SIERRA MADRE CA 91024
(626) 355 - 8111

COMPLETE LEATHER
REPAIR & RESTORATION
ORTHOPEDIC ADJUSTMENT

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



Casa del Rey
Mexican Cuisine

Full Bar

OUTDOOR DINING
&
TAKE OUT
31 N BALDWIN SIERRA MADRE
626-355-6060
www.casadelreyrestaurant.com



**SIERRA MADRE
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH**

**We Serve God and
Our Community!**

695 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Sierra Madre, CA 91024
(626) 355-0629

Contact us:
sm_umc@verizon.net
website - smumc.net

New Year's Holiday Closures and Reminders

Pasadena residents and businesses are reminded that City Hall and most City services will be closed on New Year's Day. Specific closures, exceptions and reminders are noted below.

Pasadena residents and businesses with any power emergencies should call Pasadena's Water and Power (PWP) Department at (626) 744-4673. For water-related emergencies, call (626) 744-4138. PWP's Customer Service Call Center will be closed Friday, Jan. 1. Customers can access their accounts and make payments through the automated phone system at (626) 744-4005 or online at: PWPweb.com.

The City's Citizen Service Center (CSC) will also be closed Friday. You can contact the CSC via the web or by calling (626) 744-7311. City trash collection will not occur on Jan. 1. Trash, recycling and yard waste collection will have a one-day delay for residents with Friday pickup.

Residents can drop off their Christmas trees today, through Monday, Jan. 4, for recycling at Eaton Blanche Park (3100 E Del Mar Blvd.) or Robinson Park (1081 N Fair Oaks Ave.) between the hours of 7 a.m. and 2 p.m. Please remove all stands, ornaments and lights prior to drop-off. Curbside Christmas tree pickup will take place Jan. 4 through Jan. 15 on residents' regular pickup day.

Pasadena Transit and Dial-A-Ride transportation will not operate New Year's Day. Overnight parking restrictions will not be enforced through Jan. 3. All parking meters will be free and parking time limits will not be enforced on Jan. 1. All other parking violations, including red curb parking and blocking fire hydrants, will be enforced.

The City's Permit Center will also be closed Jan. 1.

Pasadena Fire and Police Departments will continue to be staffed for all patrol, jail, fire, paramedic and other emergency services. Always call 9-1-1 for life-threatening emergencies. For non-emergencies, call (626) 744-4241. If you "See Something, Say Something." Report suspicious activity to Pasadena Police Department at (626) 744-4241.

All parks will be open for picnics, fun and play; however, gatherings of any size with non-household members are not permitted (except for outdoor worship services and protests, which are constitutionally protected activities). Please follow public health guidance to ensure the safest holiday possible. For more visit: cityofpasadena.net.



The Rose Bowl Name Goes Undecided

By Dean Lee

In the latest update to an ongoing saga that could end with the Rose Bowl, not only moving January 1 to Arlington Texas but also renamed.

The Pasadena city council met Tuesday night, during a closed door special meeting, to either, allow use of The Rose Bowl name, or prohibit the use outside Pasadena. City officials said no action was taken during the hours long meeting.

With less than a week before Notre Dame takes on Alabama the game is, for now, being called "The College Football Playoff Semifinal Presented by Capitol One."

The city council still needs to make the decision this week. The use of the name would also need approval from the Tournament of Roses Association. If the name is not allowed this would be the first time the game would be played New Years as something other than the Rose Bowl.

Along with the "Rose Bowl Game," "The Granddaddy of Them All" and "The Rose

Parade" are all trademarked.

In a letter to the council, Pasadena Chamber of Commerce CEO Paul Little said he opposed using the name outside the city.

"The name and the game are Pasadena's identity to the world," Little said. "You betray Pasadena, its residents and our history to allow the Rose Bowl name to be used for a game in Texas."

Others viewed the use as necessary during the state's COVID-19 restrictions.

As a Pasadena resident and business owner, I support the use of the Rose Bowl Game name in the CFP semifinal in Texas," said an unnamed former Rose Bowl Operating Company boardmember. "Portability and flexibility are effective principles during this pandemic. Please support the use of the Rose Bowl Game name at the Texas CFP semifinal."

A last minute appeal to the state last week by the Tournament of Roses Association was denied. If granted, the appeal would have allowed 4,000 people to attend the game in Pasadena.

On Monday Governor Gavin Newsom said he was sad to see the game leave California but added that with 0 percent ICU capacity, "we can't make exceptions."

In Texas, 16,000 fans are being allowed to attend the game at AT&T Stadium in Arlington.

Kermit the Frog to be Celebrity Conductor



Tournament of Roses officials announced Monday Kermit the Frog will be the celebrity conductor in the "Rose Parade's New Year Celebration presented by Honda." Kermit will lead the virtual performance showcasing seniors in high school and college. The world's most famous amphibian and international film and television star is no stranger to the Rose Parade; in 1996 Kermit road down Colorado Blvd. as Grand Marshal.

The segment will feature hundreds of students from bands across the country, and from around the world, who will come together for a special, virtual performance of "Everything's Coming up Roses." From Pennsylvania to San Diego and from Sweden to Panama, these students will be part of history as the first virtual performance in America's New Year Celebration.

The Pasadena Tournament of Roses has invited all the bands who were scheduled to perform in the 2021 Rose Parade to join the 2022 Rose Parade.

The music and choreography was sent to each school for preparation and rehearsal. Each student submitted a video of themselves performing.

The TV entertainment special will also feature special musical performances, heartwarming segments related to the Rose Parade, special Rose Bowl Game football highlights, equestrians, celebrity guests, spectacular floats from years past and New Year's wishes from fans around the world.

For more information and a list of participating schools, visit: tournamentofroses.com.

Cosmic Cocktail Hour: Search for Life in the Universe

Carnegie Observatories presentation hosted by Pasadena Senior Center

Dr. John Mulchaey, director of Carnegie Observatories, will make a presentation about the search for life in the universe for the second monthly Cosmic Cocktail Hour lecture on astronomy hosted by the Pasadena Senior Center Wednesday, Jan. 6, at 4 p.m. via Zoom.

Over the past decade, a series of remarkable discoveries has increasingly indicated that life forms must exist beyond Earth. According to Mulchaey, observations of water geysers on one of Saturn's moons and ice on Mars are just two examples, and the trillions of galaxies in the universe must contain types of life as well. "Detecting faraway evidence of life is one of the most complex challenges in astronomy today, involving observational astronomers who use telescopes for visual data and theoretical astronomers who deploy state-of-the-art technologies to analyze observational data and patterns," said Mulchaey. "During this event, I will discuss both types of research underway at Carnegie Observatories and how Carnegie astronomers and their colleagues worldwide are collaborating to address this exciting challenge."

The cost is only \$7 for members of the Pasadena Senior Center and \$10 for non-members. To register for this Zoom event or for more information, visit www.pasadenaseniorecenter.org and click on Events, Clubs and Lectures, then Online Events or call 626-795-4331. Everyone who registers will receive an email link to access the event.

At Carnegie Observatories, Mulchaey investigates groups and clusters of galaxies, elliptical galaxies, active galaxies, black



Mulchaey

holes and dark matter, which is the invisible material that makes up most of the universe. He also is a scientific editor of The Astrophysical Journal and is actively involved in public outreach and education about astronomy and astrophysics. He received his PhD from the University of Maryland and was a fellow at the Space Telescope Science Institute and at Carnegie Observatories before joining the Carnegie staff.

Since the beginning of the 20th century, Southern California – and especially Pasadena – has been the world's leading center of astronomy research and discovery. Today it is dedicated to deep research on the evolution of the cosmos and the training of new generations of astronomers. For the past 40 years most of this research has taken place at the Observatories' large-telescope facilities in the Atacama Desert in northern Chile and has yielded discoveries about galaxy and star formation, dark matter, black holes and more.

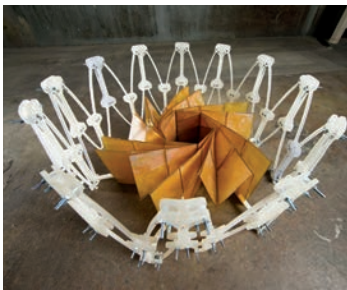
For more information about online activities and other programs and services of the Pasadena visit: pasadenaseniorecenter.org or call 626-795-4331.

Caltech Von Kármán Lecture to Feature Spacecraft Origami

Jet Propulsion Laboratory Technologist Manan Arya and Lizbeth B. De La Torre, Creative Technologist at Jet Propulsion Laboratory are set to talk about Spacecraft Origami Thursday Jan. 14, as part of the Theodore von Kármán Lecture Series. The lecture will be presented online only on YouTube at "Von Karman Public Talks."

According to event organizers, for years, engineers have had to deal with "the tyranny of the faring;" anything you want to send into space has to fit into a rocket bearing. A field of advanced design has been looking for new ways to advance our engineering, using the centuries old art form to dream bigger.

The Theodore von Kármán Lecture Series, named after JPL's founder, and presented by JPL's Office of Communication



and Education, brings the excitement of the space program's missions, instruments and other technologies to both JPL employees and the local community. Lectures normally take place twice per month, on consecutive Thursdays and Fridays.

For more information visit: caltech.edu/campus-life-events, or find CaltechLive! on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Photo credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech

Chu Decries San Gabriel Mountains Protections Cut by Senate Republicans

Judy Chu earlier this month issued a statement criticizing Senate Republicans for stripping language to increase protections for the San Gabriel Mountains from the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 which passed the House of Representatives Dec. 8:

"The NDAA conference report which the House voted on Tuesday [Dec. 8] was a far cry from the one House Democrats passed, and which I was proud to support, in July. Instead of using the NDAA to ruin public lands with a needless border wall, as Republicans had demanded, the House version protected and promoted public lands. In particular, I was so pleased that it included the text of the San Gabriel Mountains Foothills and Rivers Protection Act, my legislation to expand the borders of the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument to include the western Angeles National Forest. It would also have established a National Recreation Area to enhance conservation, increase access for all communities by connecting park poor areas to open space, and improve the management of the area through improved



resources, education, and public engagement. This language was included with the support of Democrats on the Armed Services Committees in both the House and Senate as well as Senate Energy and Natural Resources Ranking Member Joe Manchin and passed out of the House with overwhelming support. But that language protecting our precious lands was removed by Senate Republicans, who instead sent back an NDAA that increases the gap between defense and domestic spending, and commits the United States to endless war. We should be leaving future generations a better inheritance than just fruitless wars and humanitarian disasters. We should be leaving them a country they are proud to defend. That must include preserving our precious natural resources. I'm disappointed that this small commitment to our future was cut out of the final NDAA."

LOCAL NEWSPAPERS KEEP OUR COMMUNITIES INFORMED IN CHALLENGING TIMES.

Visit www.cnpa.com/AB5/ to learn more about how the future of your local newspaper is being threatened.

ARCADIA POLICE BLOTTER

For the period of Sunday, December 13th, through Saturday, December 19th, the Police Department responded to 884 calls for service, of which 89 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of some of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

Sunday, December 13:

1. At 2:12 a.m., an officer responded to 7-Eleven, located at 102 East Huntington Drive, regarding a purse theft report. The victim stated she was pumping gas into her vehicle when the suspect opened the driver side door and stole her purse from the front passenger seat. Through the investigative process, the suspect has been identified as a 39-year-old male from Baldwin Park.

2. At 8:57 a.m., an officer responded to the 900 block of West Duarte Road regarding a vandalism incident. The victim discovered her Honda Civic had been vandalized sometime during the previous night. The suspect keyed the rear passenger side door. The incident was not captured on surveillance footage.

Monday, December 14:

3. At 10:45 p.m., an officer responded to a residence in the 500 block of Fairview Avenue regarding a stolen vehicle report. Sometime between December 12th and 14th, the victim's 2002 Ford Econoline van was stolen. The handling detective was unable to locate any surveillance footage or suspect information.

Tuesday, December 15:

4. At 9:14 a.m., an officer responded to the front counter of the Arcadia Police Department regarding a theft from vehicle incident. Surveillance footage captured suspects stealing the victim's catalytic converter from her 2019 Honda Odyssey on December 5th at approximately 6:00 p.m. The suspects fled in an older model white Chevrolet Tahoe. The investigation is ongoing.

5. At 10:02 a.m., an officer responded to the 1400 block of San Carlos Road regarding found mail. An investigation revealed unknown suspects stole mail from a resident in the 1400 block of Oaklawn Road and left numerous pieces in the street. The officer was unable to locate any surveillance footage or cameras.

6. At 12:26 p.m., an officer responded to the 100 block of South Second Avenue regarding a theft report. A witness reportedly saw a suspect steal a leaf blower from a landscaper's company truck. The suspect, described as a black male seen wearing a hooded sweatshirt, fled to an awaiting white Ford F-150 truck.

7. At 2:44 p.m., an officer took a telephonic report of a package theft report. The victim discovered her packages went missing from her porch at approximately 1:30 p.m. on December 15th. The surveillance cameras did not capture the event and there is no additional suspect information.

Wednesday, December 16:

8. At 1:50 p.m., an officer took a telephonic report of a grand theft incident that occurred at Arcadia

Methodist Hospital, located at 300 West Huntington Drive. The reporting party stated a cart of power tools was stolen from the second floor sometime between December 11th and December 14th. The incident was not captured by surveillance cameras.

Thursday, December 17:

9. At 10:12 a.m., an officer responded to a residence in the 100 block of Diamond Street regarding a vehicle burglary report. Sometime during the previous night, unidentified suspects entered the vehicle by unknown means and fled with cosmetic products and personal paperwork. There are no investigative leads at this time.

10. At 9:11 p.m., an officer responded to Westfield Santa Anita Mall, located at 400 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding a battery report. An investigation revealed an altercation occurred between two male customers while inside Tokyo Japanese Lifestyle. The suspect ultimately punched the victim in the face. Arcadia Fire responded and evaluated the victim. The suspect is described as a Hispanic male, approximately 25 to 30-years-old, and was seen wearing a black sweater and black shorts.

Friday, December 18:

11. At 12:37 a.m., officers responded to a residence near the intersection of Windsor Road and Cornell Drive regarding the sound of gunshots. Officers discovered unknown suspect(s) fired multiple rounds into a residence in the 500 block of North Santa Anita Avenue. A review of the submitted surveillance footage revealed the suspect(s) were driving in a newer model Mercedes-Benz C-Class, dark blue sedan. The investigation is ongoing.

12. At 6:35 p.m., an officer responded to a residence in the 500 block of East Norman Avenue regarding a burglary alarm activation. An investigation revealed unknown suspect(s) smashed a rear window causing the alarm to activate. It appears as though the suspects fled before entering the home. The officer was unable to locate any surveillance footage.

Saturday, December 19:

13. At 4:51 a.m., an officer responded to a residence in the 1800 block of Elevado Avenue regarding an attempted burglary report. Surveillance footage revealed a white male, approximately 5'11" tall, with a thin build, and seen wearing a black brimmed baseball hat attempted to enter the victim's home but fled when he discovered the door was locked. The suspect may be responsible for two vehicle burglaries that occurred just a few houses away.

14. At 4:30 p.m., an officer responded to Fox Junk Removal, located at 19 La Porte Street, regarding a grand theft incident. Surveillance footage revealed suspects in a black SUV with no plates stole the catalytic converter from one of the company's dump trucks. The investigation is pending a review of the surveillance footage.



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



Even though you need help each day, we agree that you're still in charge

Many seniors fear that moving out of their home into an assisted living residence means forfeiting control of their lives. At The Kensington, nothing could be further from the truth. We believe it is our role to support our residents, not to assume complete decision-making authority. Of course, as specialists in caring for older adults, we monitor routines, behavior and mood every day. If we see changes that concern us, then we talk with residents and their families immediately. Together, we all decide about making adjustments to care and services to preserve comfort, wellness and morale.

We regard ourselves as our residents' champion, not their boss.
Call or visit soon to learn about our collaborative approach to assisted living.

**Limited senior living suites are available.
Reserve yours today!**

THE KENSINGTON
An Assisted Living Residence
SIERRA MADRE
www.TheKensingtonSierraMadre.com

626-355-5700
245 W Sierra Madre Blvd,
Sierra Madre, CA

RCFE
License
198601953



ALTADENA-SO. PASADENA-SAN MARINO

New South Pasadena Water and Sewer Rates For 2021

The South Pasadena City Council approved establishing new water rates with additional increase from the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) and new sewer rates. The new rates were approved on November 18. The MWD's change of the wholesale water rate for 2021 is considered as pass-through charge. Here are a few important key notes of the new rates:

New rates will be effective January 1, 2021.

Residents will see the new rates for January 2021 service on their bills around March or April 2021.

Water Rates for 2021 will increase by approximately 6.2 percent for the bi-monthly fixed charge and 8.8% for the volume charge.

Most single-family residences are served by a 3/4" meters, which are the least expensive sized meters available.

Sewer rates for 2021 will increase by approximately 4 percent from current sewer rate.

For more information visit: southpasadenaca.gov (search for water rates).

South Pas Tournament of Roses Crunch Time Party

With the cancellation of the live Rose Parade on Jan. 1, the South Pasadena Tournament of Roses Committee is already gearing up for the 2022 New Year's Day event by encouraging public support, starting Saturday, December 26, at 10 a.m. and continuing through Sunday, December 29, at 10 p.m.

South Pasadena Tournament of Roses Committee (SPTOR) President Brant Dunlap is urging those in the community and beyond to get behind a new look Crunch Time Party, minus the traditional dinner, silent and live auction held at the War Memorial Building in town. This

dozens of items, including a gourmet dinner for eight, a private airplane ride for two, a Big Bear getaway, an overnight stay at a high-end hotel, an elegant estate tour, dinners, gift baskets, entertainment and much more.

While this year's Crunch Time Party will look different, Dunlap knows the goal of the auction remains the same – to raise the necessary funds for the city float to participate in the 2022 Rose Parade and create enormous hometown pride along the way.

To take part in the auction site, go to: SPTOR.org or auctria.com/location/SPTOR2020

HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL DIRECTOR JAMES FOLSOM SET TO RETIRE

James P. Folsom, (pictured) the Marge and Sherm Telleen/Marion and Earle Jorgensen Director of the Botanical Gardens, is set to retire Friday. Folsom's retirement coincides with the culmination of one of his grandest projects: the completion of one of the largest and most beautiful Chinese gardens outside of China—Liu Fang Yuan, the Garden of Flowing Fragrance.

Throughout his Huntington career, much of Folsom's effort has been devoted to educational and research programs that increase public understanding of the science, culture, and history of plants, and of the critical role plants play in sustaining life on Earth. He has also presided over an era of unprecedented growth and fundraising for botanical projects.

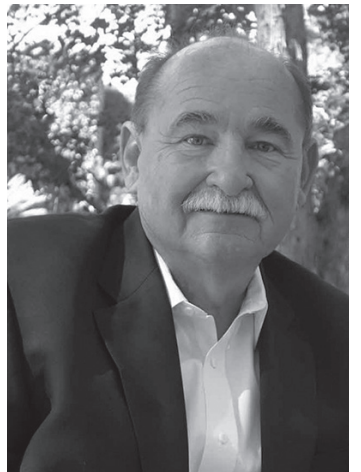
In 2020, Folsom was honored by the American Horticultural Society with its Liberty Hyde Bailey Award, the organization's highest honor, for significant lifetime achievements in the field.

"Jim's indelible imprint on The Huntington is everywhere," said Huntington President Karen R. Lawrence. "It can be seen in the gardens he has built, the botanical collections he has developed, the relationships he has nurtured with donors, and in the passion for the natural world that he has shared enthusiastically through programs for young and old. Any description of his duties fails to capture the totality of Jim's legacy, but it is anything but a platitude to say that his legacy lives on. We will miss the contributions of The Huntington's one-of-a-kind Pied Piper of botany."

Folsom joined the Huntington staff in 1984 as assistant curator and was named director of the Botanical Gardens in 1987. Today, he oversees a staff of 81, charged with the stewardship, care, and interpretation of more than a dozen thematic gardens covering 130 acres of the 207-acre grounds and conducting research among the specialized plant collections. The property was once the home of Henry E. and Arabella Huntington, who, in creating their trust document in 1919, transformed their estate into the institution that bears their name.

Among the most notable achievements under Folsom's leadership was his long-held vision of creating a garden to celebrate Chinese landscape traditions. That vision was realized in 2008 with the debut of the exquisite Liu Fang Yuan, originally 3.5 acres but now expanded to 15 acres. Enthusiastically supported by the local community, the project spanned 20-plus years and was an international partnership between Chinese and American architects, contractors, and craftspeople. The result is a world-class attraction that not only celebrates the height of Ming dynasty-era garden building, but also embodies the contemporary ideals of international cooperation and cross-cultural exchange. The total cost of the garden's construction came to about \$54.6 million, all of which was raised from individual, corporate, and foundation gifts.

Inspiring new audiences with the wonders of the plant kingdom has always been a key focus of Folsom's work. With a bachelor's degree in botany from Auburn University, a master's degree in biology from Vanderbilt University, and a Ph.D. from The University of Texas at Austin, he brought botanical education at The Huntington to the forefront. Along with his staff, he has offered programs for teachers, students, and the public that reinforce the critical importance of plants to life on our planet. Whether presiding over the dissection of a corpse flower on Facebook Live for an unforgettable lesson in that rare plant's reproductive cycle, leading a monthly botany lab for "citizen scientists," or demystifying the yeasty science of bread-making in fragrant workshops in the demonstration kitchen, Folsom has always been one of The Huntington's most engaging presenters and an inspiring advocate for the natural world.



ALTADENA LIBRARY SERVICES GO BEYOND BUILDING WALLS

Just because Altadena library buildings are temporarily closed doesn't mean that library services cease entirely. While library staff work from home, reference services over the phone at (626) 798-0833 and through live chat on the library website on Monday-Saturday, 10:00am to 6:00pm will continue to be available should you require assistance or just feel like talking books with a friendly voice.

The Altadena Library website is our online library branch... and it is open 24/7. With your Altadena Library card, you can continue to access digital reading platforms and databases anytime, including the following examples: cloudLibrary: Access to over 140,000 ebooks and audiobooks

hoopla: Movies, music, audiobooks, ebooks, comics and

TV shows to enjoy on your computer, tablet, or phone – and even your TV!

Tumblebooks: An online collection of existing picture books with animation, sound, music and narration which you can read or have read to you

The New York Times Online: Courtesy of the California State Library, a daily access code to give you full digital access to The New York Times.

A to Z World Foods: Thousands of international recipes, hundreds of culture and ingredient articles to take your culinary skills to the next level...and more! Not sure where to start? Want to learn more about what digital resources you can access with your card? Give them a call at (626) 798-0833.



AROUND SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

REP. SCHIFF SECURES FUNDING FOR LOCAL PRIORITIES IN SPENDING BILL

Funding Bill Includes Investment in Housing Affordability, Public Health Initiatives, and Space Exploration

Congressman Adam Schiff released a statement Tuesday following House passage of an omnibus appropriations bill with funding for 2021 local priorities, including affordable housing, public health, and space exploration:

“As we come to the end of an unprecedented year of challenges, changes and rancor, last night the Congress passed our annual major spending bill, which includes many local and national priorities of mine, including funding for housing, homelessness, healthcare, and more,” said Rep. Schiff. “I am grateful that the House prioritized addressing the housing and homelessness crisis, which has only been exacerbated by COVID-19, by allocating more than \$40 million for a new program of targeted vouchers to reduce homelessness.”

“American leadership in space exploration has been a key driver of our economic growth in the past century, including the development of many of our high-tech and emerging industries,” Schiff continued. “Answering the big questions about our planet and exploring the cosmos means investing today in the missions that will provide us with better understanding of the earth, and take robotic probes to Mars, the moons of Jupiter, and beyond, and I’m so proud to represent the talented team at Jet Propulsion Labs who lead the way in so much of that work. I’m pleased that the Appropriations legislation passed this week will prioritize these important investments, which will benefit the Southern California economy as well as the nation and humankind.”

“Although we are still in the midst of a deadly pandemic, it is also critical that we invest now in the study of emerging infectious disease threats, so our nation is better prepared for future public health crises. This bill also creates a Chronic Disease Education and Awareness Program at the CDC, which will fund important research into the diseases that affect millions of Americans every day.”

Highlights of the appropriations bill include funding for the following Schiff priorities:

\$43.4 million for a new program of targeted incremental vouchers to reduce homelessness.

\$11 million for National Emerging Special Pathogens Training and Education Centers



to maintain a sustainable infrastructure and culture of readiness for managing suspected and confirmed emerging special pathogen incidents across U.S. public health and health care delivery systems.

\$1.5 million to establish a new Chronic Disease Education and Awareness Program at Center for Disease Control, which utilizes a competitive grant process to strengthen the science base for prevention, education, and public health awareness for a variety of chronic diseases, such as lymphatic diseases and sleep disorders, that don’t currently have dedicated resources.

Providing \$570 million for the Mars Exploration Program to further development of a mission to return samples from Mars’ surface to Earth, targeted for 2026.

Provides continued funding for the Europa Clipper Mission, to launch a spacecraft into the orbit of Jupiter’s moon Europa by 2023, and maintains flexibility for NASA to choose the most appropriate launch vehicle for the spacecraft.

Providing \$2 billion in funding for Earth Science, to fuel the critical work of studying planet Earth and its inhabitants, including critical research and monitoring of the changing climate.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY COVID-19 UPDATE 12/25/2020

12/25/2020 3:30pm

LOS ANGELES COUNTY*	12/25/2020	12/17/2020
Total Cases	677,299	596,721
Deaths	9,299	8,757

STATS BY CITY	Population	Cases	Deaths
(12/17/2020 stats in parenthesis)			
Pasadena	14,1371	5,892 (5271)	150 (142)
Uninc- East Pasadena	6,403	131 (126)	2 (2)
City of Arcadia	57,754	2360 (1165)	46 (44)
Uninc. - Arcadia	7,981	283 (238)	3 (3)
City of Bradbury	1,069	32 (30)	0 (0)
City of Duarte	22,016	1234 (1093)	42 (41)
Uninc.- Duarte	4,428	508 (457)	5 (5)
City of Monrovia	38,800	1745 (1513)	41 (41)
Uninc - Monrovia	3,881	199 (174)	1 (0)
City of Sierra Madre	10,989	266 (223)	5 (5)
City of So.Pasadena	26,053	708 (614)	28 (28)
Uninc.- Altadena	43,260	1779 (1459)	26 (23)

La County Testing as of 12/25/20: 4,501,831 (4,265,009)
Positivity Rate (No. of persons positive out of total persons tested) as 12/25/20: 14.2% (12.8) Nationally recommended Positivity Level: 5%

Health Departments Send Urgent Holiday Message

As a coalition of 10 neighboring California local health departments, we thank everyone for doing their part to reduce the spread of COVID-19. As the first doses of the vaccine are being administered across our communities, we can finally see a ray of light at the end of the tunnel. As that light gets closer, we are hopeful that we are one step closer to getting back to doing the things and seeing the people we all miss the most.

In spite of this good news, we know that the next few weeks and months are critical. We are now experiencing the worst time of the pandemic. Our case counts, deaths, and hospitalizations are the highest we have seen so far. Our ICU capacity is the lowest. We are breaking records every day, and not in a good way. Our systems are being overwhelmed, and the virus is spreading everywhere.

The impacts of this pandemic are starkest among our community members most vulnerable to this virus, including our older adult family and friends, our community members working essential jobs to ensure we all have the basic goods that we need, and those living in our communities who have the least opportunities for health. The pandemic has taken a large toll and exacerbated health impacts within these communities. We cannot continue on our current path without facing serious consequences for our families, friends, and the local businesses that make our communities such special places to live.

This is a critical time when everyone needs to do their part to defeat COVID-19. We understand that people are tired, but public health measures are not the enemy — they are the roadmap for a faster and more sustainable recovery. We must all commit to taking precautions and heeding public health protocols, including the current Stay-at-Home Order, to reopen businesses and schools, to travel to see our families and friends in person, and to celebrate that next important event.

We can do all these things again, but only if we all follow effective, fact-based public health measures like wearing face masks, washing hands, practicing social distancing, and only

traveling for essential trips. Many of us are spreading the virus without knowing it—over 50% of exposures come from people who don’t have symptoms—so we all need to avoid social gatherings and activities with those outside our household. If we do these things, in a few weeks we could start to see the numbers slow and the curve bend. We will help our systems increase their capacity to manage and end this pandemic. If we fail, our finest medical researchers are clear: there will be even worse consequences for our families and our economy.

We have all had to alter our lives this difficult year and we all want this difficult time to be behind us. But the virus is not done with us yet. If we can all just come together in this moment to eradicate the virus, and recommit to protecting ourselves and one another, we will get back to normal day-to-day activities more quickly. The roadmap to a faster, more equitable, and sustainable recovery for all of us means committing and coming together to follow recommended public health measures.

We are all neighbors in California, even if we live in different cities and counties. The virus knows no borders and continues to severely impact us all, especially at this moment. The end is in sight, and the light at the end of this dark tunnel will keep getting brighter but only if we all do our part right now. We all have a personal and collective responsibility to slow the spread of the pandemic and eliminate the virus as quickly as possible. Let’s come together now for a brighter and healthier 2021.

The Public Health Alliance of Southern California
Imperial County Public Health Department
City of Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Orange County Health Care Agency
City of Pasadena Public Health Department
Riverside University Health System-Public Health
Santa Barbara County Public Health Department

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU!



A special thanks to all of our Supporters and Subscribers! We could not have made it this far without you. This heart was created by my Granddaughter (Maila Thomas) who really knows how important the Mountain Views News is to our community. Please note that this is only a partial listing.
Susan Henderson, Owner/Publisher/Editor

Where Your Community News Come First

Mountain Views News

Sierra Madre Arcadia Duarte Monrovia Pasadena Altadena South Pasadena San Marino

Subscribe Today!

TIME TO RENEW YOUR HOME DELIVERY SUBSCRIPTION

How can I get the paper delivered to my home?

If you live in Sierra Madre, Arcadia, Pasadena, South Pasadena, Altadena, San Marino, Monrovia, or Duarte, you can receive the paper at your front door each week for \$75 per year.

AND ALSO.....

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT AS WE ENTER OUR 14th YEAR OF PUBLISHING!

First Name:	
Middle Initial:	
Last Name:	
Address:	
Apartment No.:	
City/State/Zip:	
E-Mail:	
Phone Number :	()
HOME DELIVERY \$75 12 months \$30 6 months	Make Your Life Easier... Use Your Credit Card and you can process your subscription payment securely, online. [] Check here, fill out the form and an invoice will be sent to the email address listed above. YOU MUST HAVE AN EMAIL ADDRESS.....OR ...mail your check to: Mountain Views News 80 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. No. 327 Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024

The Bottle Shop

Wine & Spirits

sierra madre · california · since 1963



THE BOTTLE SHOP

58 W. Sierra Madre Blvd, Sierra Madre
626-355-1262

WINE TASTING - Wednesday-Friday 5pm to 10pm

The Book Rack

new · used · trades

Karen Kropp

204 So. First Ave.
Arcadia, CA 91006

Phone/Fax 626 446 2525
Email bookrackarc@sbcglobal.net

bookrackarcadia.com



- LIFETIME BRAKES
- WHEEL ALIGNMENT
- LUBE & OIL CHANGE
- GENERAL AUTO REPAIR

Javier Vega
Service Manager

(626) 345-9777
Fax: (626) 345-9218

www.brakemasters.com
2095 N. Lake Ave., Altadena, CA 91001

An Honest Brake® Since 1983

Growers of Rare Camellias and
Azaleas since 1935

Nuccio's Nurseries

3555 Chanoy Trail
Altadena, California 91001
(626) 794-3303



We are open daily except
Wednesdays and Thursdays
Business hours are from 8:00 to 4:30.
Closed Sundays - June 1 through December

On rainy days we normally close early, so please call first.

HOOPLA!

AN EMPORIUM OF GOOD THINGS

SUPPORTING LOCAL ARTISANS SINCE 2007!

FEATURING
ART • CARDS & STATIONERY • GIFTS • GOURMET • BATH & BODY
ESSENTIAL OILS • INCENSE • CRYSTALS • TEA

2591 Fair Oaks Avenue Altadena, CA 91001
626-797-1135 FAX 626-797-5889 ShopAtHoopla.com

Facebook: HOOPLAEMPIORIUM Twitter: HOOPLAEMPIORIUM
Instagram: HOOPLAEMPIORIUM Pinterest: SHOPATHOOPLA

That's when you can count on State Farm.
I know life doesn't come with a schedule. That's why at State Farm
you can always count on me for whatever you need - 24/7, 365.
GET TO A BETTER STATE. CALL ME TODAY.



John Diehl CLU, Agent
Insurance Lic#: 0D75608
835 E. Mariposa St.
Altadena, CA 91001
Bus: 626-791-9915

山食
SIERRA FUSION

PROUDLY SERVING DINING AL FRESCO, TAKE-OUT,
PRIVATE FUNCTIONS AND "PARTIES"

120 W SIERRA MADRE BLVD.
SIERRA MADRE CA, 91024
(626) 355-3030

BUSINESS HOURS
MONDAY - SATURDAY
3PM - 9PM

HAPPY HOUR
MONDAY - SATURDAY
3PM - 5PM

INFO@SIERRAFUSION.COM @SIERRAFUSION WWW.SIERRAFUSION.COM

DOG WASH
AMERICA

GROOMING FOR DOGS AND CATS

SPA PACKAGES
626-836-0701

187 West Sierra Madre Blvd.
Sierra Madre, CA 91024

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY Tuesday-Saturday
8:00 AM - 6:00 PM

FRONTIER HARDWARE CO., INC.

ACE

7 Days a Week

Arnold's Frontier Hardware & Gifts
297 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Sierra Madre, CA 91024
626-355-3365 Fax 626-355-8300

"Where Old-Fashioned Service Is Never Out-dated"

CENTURY 21

Village Realty

38 W Sierra Madre Bl, Sierra Madre
www.c21village.com
626.355.1451

Facebook.com/c21village

Serving the Community since 1986

Skin Rituals

300 W. Sierra Madre Blvd
Sierra Madre, CA 91024
626.441.7900

Enjoy this Voucher
\$10 off any \$50 service!
\$20 off any \$100 service!

New clients only; some restrictions may apply.

"If It's Glass We Fix It"

SIERRA

GLASS & MIRROR CO.

One of the Most Complete Glass Companies Anywhere

- Free Estimates
- High Rise Replacement
- Store Fronts
- Windows Alum. & Wood
- Patio Doors
- Shower & Tub Enclosures
- Mirrors (All Types)
- Wardrobe Doors
- Fine Crystal Repair
- Leaded Glass Repair
- Tempered Safety Glass
- Thermal Insulated Glass
- Laminated Safety Glass
- Wire Glass
- Window & Plate Glass
- Beveled Glass
- Picture Glass
- Obscure Glass
- Table Tops 1/16" - 1"

License #627218
Showers, Mirrors, Storefronts

(626) 355-3407 | (626) 795-4201 | Fax (626) 355-8396
347 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. | Sierra Madre, CA 91024

CALIFORNIA

BUSINESS COMPLEX

&

SELF STORAGE

MONROVIA

WE'RE YOUR PLACE WHEN
YOU'RE OUT OF SPACE!

CALL US 626-303-7917

Sierra Madre Self Storage
130 E. Montecito Ave.
Sierra Madre, CA 91024
(626) 355-1837

Piano Instructor

Accompanist

Vocal Coach

Connie Washburn

626.355.9511

bizoupoo@earthlink.net

ARNOLD'S FRONTIER HARDWARE

297 W. Sierra Madre Blvd
Sierra Madre, CA 91024
626-355-3365
Fax 626-355-8300

www.frontierhardware.com
sales@frontierhardware.com

"Where Old-Fashioned Service is Never Out-dated"

EAST MONTECITO AVENUE DESIGN DISTRICT

SIERRA FITNESS PILATES

51 East Montecito Avenue Sierra Madre, CA 91024
(626) 836-2000 (Pilates) (626) 836-1236 (Gym)
www.sierrafit.com

MONTECITO MUSIC AND MEDIA

626-622-6123

PREMIUM MUSIC INSTRUCTION
montecitomusicandmedia.com

billytheburke@gmail.com

Designers, makers & restorers of fine stained glass windows

Susan Wallis

Custom stained and leaded glass

38 E. Montecito Ave. #7
Sierra Madre CA 91024
626-355-2899

EST. 1946

THE SHABBY DOG

PET GROOMING - DOGGIE DAYCARE
CAGE FREE BOARDING

SHABBY CAB PICK UP & DROP OFF SERVICE

WWW.THESHABBYDOG.COM
31 E. MONTECITO AVE
SIERRA MADRE, CA 91024
(626) 836-5452

SIERRA MADRE FIRE DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL TOY DRIVE NEEDS YOUR HELP!



Happy Holidays! Today Team One and the SMPD kicks off our annual toy drive. We have collection bins in the station lobby for the USMC's Toys for Tots and Pasadena PD's F.A.S.T. Air Support unit. Drop off an unwrapped toy of your choice in the bin of your choice during normal business hours. No stuffed animals please.

COMBATTING THE SERIOUS EFFECTS OF DIGITAL DEVICES DURING COVID-19

(StatePoint) Screen time among children and teens has skyrocketed during the COVID-19 pandemic. In the cold-weather months, when families are more likely to be spending free time indoors, it's especially important that parents and caregivers set schedules to help ensure safe, healthy and balanced use of digital devices, according to experts.

"Digital devices and the internet have become absolutely necessary tools for kids, not only for school, but for connecting and socializing with friends. Unfortunately, these tools can often be used in unhealthy ways to fill a void left by the loss of many typical school-year routines," says Michele Havner, director of marketing, OurPact, a screen time monitoring app for parents.

Research has consistently shown that more screen time is often accompanied by health and wellness challenges like anxiety, depression, low self-esteem, poor sleep and reduced physical activity. Havner says that parents can help kids build healthier relationships with digital devices in the following ways:

- **Being good role models:** Parents are in many cases relying on digital devices to work from home and may also be facing some of the same issues as their children, including boredom and isolation. However, they can serve as good digital role models by setting aside screen-free time for other activities, like art, cooking, music, exercise, crossword puzzles, reading and more.

- **Avoiding being punitive:** This extended situation has been stressful for parents and kids alike, so parents should try to take a compassionate approach to the situation. When engaging children on screen use, they can start the conversation on the right foot by acknowledging the many challenges and stressors that the "new normal" has created for young people. This is also a good time to check in about what exactly kids are doing online and whether the uptick in social media use has exposed them to negative content or cyberbullying.

- **Setting schedules:** Screen use before bed is associated with poor sleep due to the blue light emitted by digital devices, which can delay the release of sleep hormones. If possible, cap screen usage at least 30 minutes before bedtime. While many people like to keep devices on bedside tables, consider turning bedrooms into screen-free zones.

- **Making it happen:** Devices have become so important to children, they may not realize the negative effects they are having on their health, making getting kids to actually put down devices often easier said than done. In fact, kids will often defy verbal limitations and warnings. Fortunately, parents can get a little outside assistance in making rules stick. One solution is OurPact, a screen monitoring app that allows parents to set online schedules. Using the app, parents can limit app access automatically for recurring activities like school or bedtime, and can block or grant internet access on a child's device. They can even view screenshots of kids' digital activity, helping them swiftly address usage issues like unsafe content and cyberbullying. To learn more or download, visit OurPact.com.



EDUCATIONAL TOYS TO SUPPORT AT-HOME LEARNING THIS SCHOOL YEAR

(StatePoint) This fall semester is unlike any experienced in recent history, with some students learning at home, and teachers facing new challenges to keep students engaged.

For this reason, many parents are looking for extra support at home. Luckily, there are fun ways to infuse more learning into daytime schedules. Here are three learning toys which can keep kids engaged:

- **Build the Fundamentals:** Help lay the foundation for academic achievement while getting kids ages 2-7 excited about learning with the LeapStart Preschool Success interactive learning system. Touch-and-talk activities such as games, puzzles and creative challenges enhance learning to help kids build math, reading, problem-solving skills and more. The easy-to-hold stylus is comfortable for kids of all ages and promotes proper writing grip. And because the activities build on one another, this is not just a toy, but a learning system that can grow with your child. The expansive LeapStart library of books (sold separately) covers a variety of preschool through first grade subjects with more than 30 activities in every book.

- **Explore the World:** Young explorers can travel the world and see everything in it with the Magic Adventures Globe. Using the stylus, children can tap on the interactive learning globe and experience new places, languages, cultures, animals, geography, habitats and more through high-quality BBC videos. Featuring an integrated video screen, animations and live-action videos can supplement the school curriculum to provide a deeper understanding of the world. Three built-in interactive games further encourage kids to grow their geographical and cultural knowledge.

- **Spark a Love of Literacy:** Spark a love of reading and writing with the LeapReader Reading and Writing System, a tool which sounds out words, guides letter strokes and builds comprehension. LeapReader is also available with an accompanying book set that features interactive pages, lively character voices and activities that help boost reading confidence by introducing vowel sounds, sight words, word blending, spelling skills and more. Young readers can continue their learning journey with additional books advancing through four reading levels.

These learn-at-home toys are available on Amazon. For more information and school year ideas, visit www.leapfrog.com.

With educational toys that boost skills and spark a love of learning, families can embrace the school year with confidence.

SCHOOL DIRECTORY

Alverno Heights Academy
200 N. Michillinda Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
(626) 355-3463 Head of School: Julia V. Fanara
E-mail address: jfanara@alvernoheights.org

Arcadia High School
180 Campus Drive Arcadia, CA 91007
Phone: (626) 821-8370, Principal: Brent Forsee
bforsee@ausd.net

Arroyo Pacific Academy
41 W. Santa Clara St. Arcadia, Ca,
(626) 294-0661 Principal: Phil Clarke
E-mail address: pclarke@arroyopacific.org

Barnhart School
240 W. Colorado Blvd Arcadia, Ca. 91007
(626) 446-5588
Head of School: Ethan Williamson
Kindergarten - 8th grade
website: www.barnhartschool.org

Bethany Christian School
93 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
(626) 355-3527
Preschool-TK-8th Grade
Principal: Dr. William Walner
website: www.bcsllions.org

Clairbourn School
8400 Huntington Drive
San Gabriel, CA 91775
Phone: 626-286-3108 ext. 172
FAX: 626-286-1528
E-mail: jhawes@clairbourn.org

Foothill Oaks Academy
822 E. Bradbourne Ave., Duarte, CA 91010
(626) 301-9809
Principal: Nancy Lopez
www.foothilloaksacademy.org
office@foothilloaksacademy.org

Frostig School
971 N. Altadena Drive Pasadena, CA 91107
(626) 791-1255
Head of School: Jenny Janetzke
Email: jenny@frostig.org
The Gooden School
192 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
(626) 355-2410
Head of School, Jo-Anne Woolner
website: www.goodenschool.org

High Point Academy
1720 Kinneloa Canyon Road
Pasadena, Ca. 91107
Head of School: Gary Stern 626-798-8989
website: www.highpointacademy.org

La Salle College Preparatory
3880 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Pasadena, Ca.
(626) 351-8951 website: www.lasallehs.org
Principal Mrs. Courtney Kassakhian

Monrovia High School
325 East Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016
(626) 471-2800 Principal Darvin Jackson

Email: schools@monrovia.k12.ca.us

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

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

St. Rita Catholic School
322 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
Principal: Adela Solis (626) 355-6114
solis@st-ritaschool.org
Website: www.st-ritaschool.org

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

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

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

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

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

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

Arcadia Unified School District
234 Campus Dr., Arcadia, Ca. 91007
(626) 821-8300 Website: www.ausd.net

Monrovia Unified School District
325 E. Huntington Dr, Monrovia, Ca. 91016
(626) 471-2000
Website: www.monroviaschools.net

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

Arcadia Christian School
1900 S. Santa Anita Avenue Arcadia, CA 91006
Preschool - and TK - 8th Grade
626-574-8229/626-574-0805
Email: inquiry@acsllions.com
Principal: Cindy Harmon
website: www.acsllions.com

BETHANY

Student Focused

CHRISTIAN

Christ Centered

SCHOOL

PRESCHOOL THROUGH 8TH GRADE

CONTACT US!

93 N. Baldwin Avenue
Sierra Madre, CA 91024
www.bcsllions.org

Avoid the Three Cs

Crowds

Confined spaces

Close contact

with people outside your household

County of Los Angeles
Public Health

covid19.lacounty.gov

Extended Family Child Care

Maria Thompson - License #198017322

Full Time / Part Time
Drop-Ins / After School Care
Evening & Weekend Drop-Ins

- * Fun Daily Activities
- * Arts & Crafts
- * Music & Movement
- * Nutritious Snacks
- * After School Pick Up
- * Homework Help

626-483-8028

City of Sierra Madre
Quality Child Care
State Licensed / CPR & First Aid Certified

CHRISTOPHER Nyerges



TO LOVE YOUR DOG

Christopher Nyerges
[Nyerges is the author of such books as “Extreme Simplicity,” “Self-Sufficient Home,” “How to Survive An-ywhere,” and others. Information about his classes and books is available from Box 41834, Eagle Rock, CA 90041, or www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance.com.]

Recently, Dennis Prager talked on his popular radio show with listeners who called in about the love of their dog. Some loved their dog more than other people, and some said that while they loved their dog a lot, they placed people ahead of dogs. It was an interesting discussion, where Prager tried to find personal clarity on the issue of love of dogs. As Prager often says, he’s far more interested in obtaining clarity on an issue than getting others to agree with him.

At the end of the show, Prager concluded that people who have a great love for dogs do so only be-cause they haven’t developed the ability to love people. They, therefore – according to Prager’s conclu-sion – are loving dogs as a second-best to loving people, because they lack, or haven’t developed, the ability to love other humans.

Though Prager’s conclusion could be right in some of the cases, I knew it was incorrect. I am one of the dog lovers, and yet I do not regard myself deficient in the art of loving other humans. I think the reason that Prager came to this conclusion is most likely because he has never developed a close relationship with a dog! (However, I am just speculating on that point).

Dog are such unique beings that there is absolutely no reason why people cannot have deep relation-ships and deep love for their dog, without sacrificing love for other humans. In fact, I see no reason why the inquiry must be framed that way at all!

In every case where I had a pet dog, we regarded the dog as a part of the family. I talked to the dog. I got to know its idiosyncrasies. I learned that dogs are just like people. There are some generalizations that you can make about all dogs, and yet, each is an individual, with their own preferences, and fears, and food likes and dislikes, and patterns of behavior.

I think it was W.C. Fields who said you cannot fool dogs and children. This is because neither has the ability to lie or be deceitful. Furthermore, dogs have the ability to detect as aspect of human nature that lies just beneath the surface which other humans usually don’t detect, or choose not to. For example, I have often wondered why my dog will growl at one visitor to my home, but will be happy and playful with everyone else. What is the dog detecting? Even more, shouldn’t I be listening to what my dog is telling me by that growl?

Once when I was driving along a busy street in the business district, my dog Ramah suddenly perked up and zoomed in on one man who was jogging. She began to wildly and angrily bark at that one man. Why? What did Ramah see, or smell, or detect, in that man which I did not? Whatever it was, you’d be wise to observe what your dog notes, and don’t ignore it.

I had a dog who lived with me when I lived alone, and since he was an older dog, my sched-ule was al-ways worked around him. I never stayed out too late, because he came in from his penned yard and came inside with me at night. I tended to his feeding and washed him. He was very much like a child. I developed a close and loving relationship with this dog – he was a purple ribbon pit bull named Cassius Clay.

I began to study Beatrice Lydeckers book, “What the Animals Tell Me,” and I began to apply her princi-ples of animal communication. All of this was a very revealing and insightful journey as I began to learn what it was like to think like a dog, and to attempt to view the world through his senses. And I felt such a great pain of loss when he died in my arms one Sunday evening.

And yet, none of that in any way deprived me of any deep human relationships. If anything, this en-hanced my relationships at the time, and allowed me to have even better relationships than I would have otherwise. Cassius Clay taught me to be a better person!

I will continue to listen to the broadcasts of Dennis Prager on the radio in the morning, be-cause he is a deep thinker who seeks the answers to some of life’s most fundamental issues. But in this case about dogs, I encourage Prager to get to know a canine more intimately, and he’ll realize that love of humans never needs to suffer just because you also love a dog!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Bravo to Chris Nyerges. He’s one of the best columnists in Mountain Views News. He’s a totally well-rounded resident who has been writing for years, when he wasn’t leading us on local trips to trash cans behind restaurants to show us how to survive in a pinch, or teaching us what not to eat if starving in the chaparral.

Now he is giving us a lesson in his own life, from Catholicism to Buddhism to the origin of the word ‘pagan’ to solstice and back to Santa Claus jumping out of a comic book crossed with interfaith interculturalism.

Quite a trip, Chris. I would not have predicted this trajectory when we were both writing for the Altadena Chronicle.

Best of all, you have shared with readers a generous spirit of true Christmas...loving ways to exchange real gifts with those we treasure.

Julie Parker, Altadena, CA 91001



Katnip News! Simply SIMON!



Yes, Simon is certainly a handsome guy! He probably knows it, because he likes to be king of the house and show the other kitties he’s boss! His size helps with this, because he’s a big boy. Yet, he is great with people when he gets to know them and likes to sit near them. He’s cuddly when he wants to be, and is easily held. He has no objections to going into a carrier. Simon is playful, and likes the cloth birds, but he’s just as happy if you drop something small, like a walnut, and will happily chase it around until it gets lost! Simon is very healthy and has shiny, sleek fur, like a mini-panther. Simon is about 1.5 yrs. and has more pictures on our website’s More Cats page. To apply, see our Adoption Procedures page at www.lifelineforpets.org. Can’t adopt? Please share and/or donate to our fun Giving Grid in honor of your own pet/s: <https://www.givinggrid.com/gt2020/>.



Pet of the Week

Even though the weather in Southern California is sunny, Snowball is the purr-fect cat for the winter season and beyond! This four-year-old kitty will probably win you over with her snow-white fur and striking green eyes, but she also has a great personality. Snowball is the kind of cat who enjoys attention, and will head-butt you to get more. She’s mellow and easy-going, and is looking for a home where she can settle in and really come out of her shell. Snowball can’t wait to bring her chill demeanor to your home all year long!



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. Adoptions are by appointment only, and new adoption appointments are available every Sunday 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.



Canyon Canine

Dog Walking & Sitting Services
Sierra Madre, California

Chris Leclerc

www.canyoncanine.com
chris@canyoncanine.com

626-355-8333 626-533-9536



WALK'N THE DOGS & MORE

PET SITTING OF ALL KINDS



DOG WALKS
30 Minutes - \$20 60 Minutes - \$35




MORNING & EVENING DOG VISIT & WALK
\$25 per visit (includes feeding & a walk)
* without a walk - \$20 per visit

PET VISIT • Cats, Birds, & Reptiles
Feeding, Litter, & Belly Rubs - \$12.50

PET SITTING
\$15 First Hour (includes feeding).....\$12.50 per hr.

Medications  \$5 extra

Email - walknthedog9@gmail.com



Do you have to many books at home? Wondering what to do with them? Come to The Book Rack and trade them in for a book you have not read.

We have 1000's used and New books for your reading pleasure.

204 S. First Ave
Arcadia

Phone 626-446-2525
[website: bookrackarcadia.com](http://www.bookrackarcadia.com)

GET BREAKING NEWS
ONLINE AT:
www.mountainviewsnews.com



Pets in need

Some pet parents cannot afford the cost of vet care right now. You can help those pets! Visit us:

www.FreeAnimalDoctor.org



WHAT CAREGIVERS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT MEDICARE

Dear Savvy Senior:

I am the caregiver for my 81-year-old mother, who recently fell and broke her hip, and have a lot of questions about how original Medicare works and what it covers. Where can I get some help understanding this program? Overwhelmed Caregiver

Dear Caregiver:

Excellent question! Having a working knowledge of Medicare can help you take full advantage of the coverage and services it provides to ensure your mom receives the best care possible. Here's what you should know.

Medicare Assistance

A good starting point to get familiar with Medicare is the official "Medicare & You" handbook that overviews the program. It's mailed to all beneficiaries every fall and provides an up-to-date description of all services and benefits. You can also see it online at [Medicare.gov/medicare-and-you](https://www.medicare.gov/medicare-and-you).

If you have a particular question, you can call and visit with a Medicare customer service representative at 800-633-4227. Medicare also works closely with State Health Insurance Assistance Programs (SHIP) to provide free health insurance counseling. To find a SHIP counselor in your area visit [SHIPCenter.org](https://www.shipcenter.org) or call 877-839-2675.

Caregivers also find Medicare's secure website – [MyMedicare.gov](https://www.Medicare.gov) – especially useful. After setting up a personal account for your mom, you can view the details of her coverage, track recent health care claims and keep up to date on the preventive services she qualifies for.

Compare Tools

Medicare can also help you locate the right health care providers for your mother. At [Medicare.gov/care-compare](https://www.Medicare.gov/care-compare) you can find and compare doctors, hospitals, home health agencies, dialysis facilities, inpatient rehab facilities, long-term care hospitals and nursing homes in your mom's area.

What Medicare Covers

Medicare can reduce many out-of-pocket medical expenses your mom incurs, but it doesn't cover everything. Understanding what Medicare does and doesn't cover can save you time and spare you frustration when navigating the caregiving maze. Here are some key points for caregivers:

Besides basic hospital and physician services (which includes telehealth services) and optional prescription drug benefits, Medicare covers home health care too. To qualify, your mom must be homebound, under a physician's care and in need of part-time skilled nursing care or rehabilitative services like physical therapy.

Medicare also helps pay for oxygen, catheters and other medical supplies that a doctor prescribes for home use. The same is true for medically necessary equipment like oxygen machines, wheelchairs and walkers.

In addition, Medicare covers skilled care in a nursing home for limited periods – up to 100 days – following hospital stays. But it doesn't cover long-term stays. Patients who need custodial care (room and board) must pay out of pocket unless they're eligible for Medicaid or have private long-term care insurance.

Medicare pays for hospice care too, for someone with a terminal illness whose doctor expects to live six months or less. The hospice benefit also includes brief periods of respite care at a hospice facility, hospital or nursing home to give the patient's caregivers an occasional rest.

Besides long-term nursing home stays, original Medicare typically doesn't cover regular dental care or dentures, regular eye exams or eyeglasses, and hearing exams and hearing aids. Likewise, it won't pay for nonemergency ambulance trips unless a doctor certifies they're medically necessary.

To find out what Medicare covers, visit [Medicare.gov/coverage](https://www.Medicare.gov/coverage) and type in the test, item or service you have questions about, or download the Medicare "What's covered" app in either the App Store or Google Play.

Financial Assistance

If your mom lives on a limited income, you should check whether she qualifies for help with prescription drug costs or with other Medicare-related premiums, deductibles and copayments.

For help with drug costs, visit [SSA.gov/prescriptionhelp](https://www.SSA.gov/prescriptionhelp) or contact Social Security at 800-772-1213 and ask about the "Extra Help Program." For help with other Medicare costs, go to [Medicare.gov](https://www.Medicare.gov) or call 800-633-4227 and ask about the "Medicare Savings Programs."

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



SENIOR HAPPENINGS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! ...December Birthdays*



Maria Decker, Nancy Dorn, Prudence Levine Pat Karamitros, Joan Hufnagel, Mary Alice Cervera, Carol Horejsi, Shirley Anhalt, Helen Reese, Levon Yapoujian, Toni Buckner, Lottie Bugl, Pat McGuire, Sheila Wohler, Nan Murphy, Eleanor Hensel, Sylvia Curl, Elizabeth Levie, Gayle Licher, Cindy Barran, and Melissa Stute, Prudence Levin, Sheila Woehler. * 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

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

SIERRA MADRE SENIOR COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

OUT TO PASTOR

A Weekly Religion Column by Rev. James Snyder



ANOTHER CHRISTMAS TREE IN THE BAG

It's hard to believe, but another Christmas has come and gone. It comes so slow but leaves so fast. I guess I'll never understand that. This Christmas was probably the most unusual that I have ever experienced.

When I was young, I remember those first Christmases; they were so slow in getting here. I think for the week leading up to Christmas, every day gained at least 10 new hours. By the time Christmas Eve arrived, I was so worn out waiting that I didn't know what to do.

I can't remember my first Christmas because I was only five months old at the time. I have a hard time remembering those early Christmases, but I'm sure they were times of fun and merriment. There were no cell phones at that time and so I have no selfies to show.

The day after Christmas, the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and I were sitting around the Christmas tree drinking our morning cup of coffee. Looking at the tree brought back a lot of memories for both of us. My memories are vaguer than hers, but after all, it's the memory the counts.

At our stage in life, we are at what's called the empty nest stage, and the house is so quiet. Reflecting on this, I couldn't help but remember some of those Christmases were so loud and so much energy, I didn't think that Christmas Day would ever get over.

Leading up to Christmas in our house was quite interesting. The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage puts everything together, and she has a plan for everything.

I remember one year trying to help her, and I just got in her way. Not only that, but I dropped a couple of Christmas tree ornaments, and they broke. To this day, I've never made up for that one.

As we were sitting around the Christmas tree, I remembered a Christmas when I was rather young. This would have been hundreds of years ago, I'm sure. That Christmas, my father got me a Daisy Red Ryder BB gun for my present. Those were the days when such a thing as that happened.

I was never so happy with a Christmas present in all my life. I can't be sure how many boxes of BBs I went through that first month of having it. Nothing was more exciting to me than going out-side and shooting my BB gun at anything and everything.

I certainly long for those good old days when you

could be a man no matter how old or young you were. A BB gun was a great asset at that time.

I must confess that I had my BB gun confiscated during the first couple of days after Christmas. For some reason, I'm still not sure about it today, I was not supposed to shoot any windows in the house. I think, if I remember correctly, there were three windows I shot during that episode.

Not only did I have my BB gun confiscated, but there was a Christmas spanking that went along with that. I can almost feel the spanking today.

When I got my BB gun for Christmas, nobody told me that there were certain things I wasn't supposed to shoot. It wasn't my fault that I shot a window. It was my parent's fault for not telling me not to shoot a window. However, they were not interested in why I shot the window, only that I shot the window.

In a couple of weeks, I did get it back and was very careful what I shot from that moment on. I remember I had a great time with it. I only wished I had that BB gun now. I often wondered what happened to that BB gun.

I chuckled as I told my wife the story of my BB gun.

As much as I tried, I never got a similar story from my wife. I know there were several, but I could never get her to own up to that truth. Of course, she knows if I had that kind of information that I could use it to my advantage.

What I have discovered about wives is that they talk a lot but know when not to talk. As far as husbands are concerned, they don't talk that much, but they never know when not to talk.

Admiring our Christmas tree for this year was a very special time. In a week or so, that tree would be taken down, the ornaments packed away, and the tree put back up into the attic where we stored it. While it was up, though, it was wonderful to think about all of the activities that happened around that tree.

Of course, down through the years, we have replaced that tree several times. But it's the thought that really matters. All the wonderful stories that come from that tree certainly bring cheer to our hearts. We spent some time talking about the gifts we gave and the gifts we got.

As we were reminiscing, I remembered a verse of Scripture that has encouraged me.

"I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35).

It's not what you get that really matters, but what you give and the reason behind that giving.

Even though you need help each day, we agree that you're still in charge

Many seniors fear that moving out of their home into an assisted living residence means forfeiting control of their lives. At The Kensington, nothing could be further from the truth. We believe it is our role to support our residents, not to assume complete decision-making authority. Of course, as specialists in caring for older adults, we monitor routines, behavior and mood every day. If we see changes that concern us, then we talk with residents and their families immediately. Together, we all decide about making adjustments to care and services to preserve comfort, wellness and morale.

We regard ourselves as our residents' champion, not their boss.
Call or visit soon to learn about our collaborative approach to assisted living.

**Limited senior living suites are available.
Reserve yours today!**

THE KENSINGTON
An Assisted Living Residence
SIERRA MADRE
www.TheKensingtonSierraMadre.com

626-355-5700
245 W Sierra Madre Blvd,
Sierra Madre, CA
RCFE License 198601953



THE PLUMBING SPECIALIST FOR RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL



Century Rooter Specializes in:

All Plumbing Repairs
Water Heater Replacement
Backflow Testing Services
Sewer and Drain Cleaning
Residential & Commercial

24/7 EMERGENCY SERVICES
(800)782-4744

www.CENTURYROOTER.com

OVER 35 YEARS OF PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

1609 S. California Ave • Monrovia, Ca 91016
LIC. #707409

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

**Limited Senior Living Suites Still Available
Call or Visit to Reserve Yours Today**

THE KENSINGTON
An Assisted Living Residence
SIERRA MADRE
626-355-5700
245 West Sierra Madre Blvd
Sierra Madre, CA 91024
www.TheKensingtonSierraMadre.com



MOUNTAIN VIEWS NEWS

PUBLISHER/ EDITOR
Susan Henderson

PASADENA CITY EDITOR
Dean Lee

PRODUCTION

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

WEBMASTER
John Avery

DISTRIBUTION

CONTRIBUTORS

Stuart Tolchin
Audrey Swanson
Mary Lou Caldwell
Kevin McGuire
Chris Leclerc
Bob Eklund
Howard Hays
Paul Carpenter
Kim Clymer-Kelley
Christopher Nyerges
Peter Dills
Rich Johnson
Lori Ann Harris
Rev. James Snyder
Katie Hopkins
Deanne Davis
Despina Arouzman
Jeff Brown
Marc Garlett
Keely Toten
Dan Golden
Rebecca Wright
Hail Hamilton
Joan Schmidt
LaQuetta Shamblee

Mountain Views News has been adjudicated as a newspaper of General Circulation for the County of Los Angeles in Court Case number GS004724; for the City of Sierra Madre; in Court Case GS005940 and for the City of Monrovia in Court Case No. GS006989 and is published every Saturday at 80 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., No. 327, Sierra Madre, California, 91024. All contents are copyrighted and may not be reproduced without the express written consent of the publisher. All rights reserved. All submissions to this newspaper become the property of the Mountain Views News and may be published in part or whole.

Opinions and views expressed by the writers printed in this paper do not necessarily express the views and opinions of the publisher or staff of the Mountain Views News.

Mountain Views News is wholly owned by Grace Lorraine Publications, and reserves the right to refuse publication of advertisements and other materials submitted for publication.

Letters to the editor and correspondence should be sent to:

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

Phone: 626-355-2737
Fax: 626-609-3285
email:

mtnews@aol.com

A member of
the
California
Newspaper
Publishers
Association



Mountain Views News
Mission Statement

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

STUART TOLCHIN



Last Sunday I eagerly walked down the hill from my house intending to pick up a copy of last week's Mountain Views News. I can hardly wait to see my printed articles and the pictures that accompany them. For the last couple of months I have had two articles in each issue. One of the articles is an interview of a neighbor accompanied by their picture while the other article is just me writing about me and is also accompanied by a picture.

In the article about the neighbor that should appear in this week's issue I have written a profile of the owner- publisher, editor of this paper, Susan Henderson. Prior to this week I have always selected the picture that will accompany my articles. This week the choice of picture will be made by the subject herself and I am very interested to see what picture she will choose. It is my personal experience that the choice of picture, if closely analyzed will reveal surprising information about the subject and/or the intent of the interviewer. What age will be depicted? What weight? What activity?

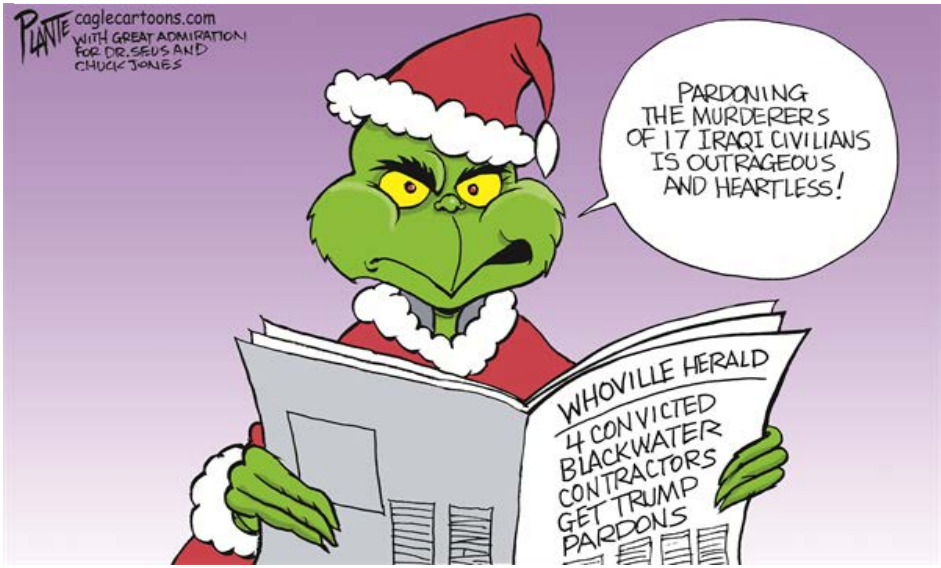
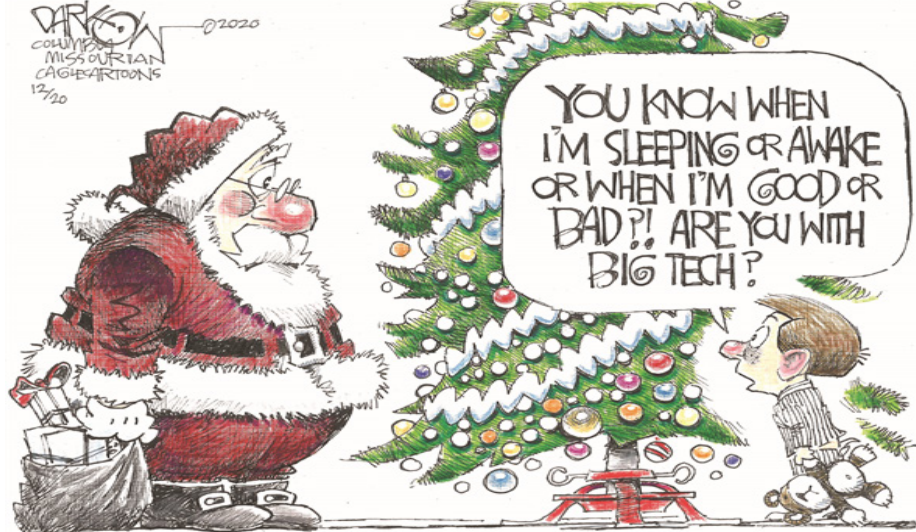
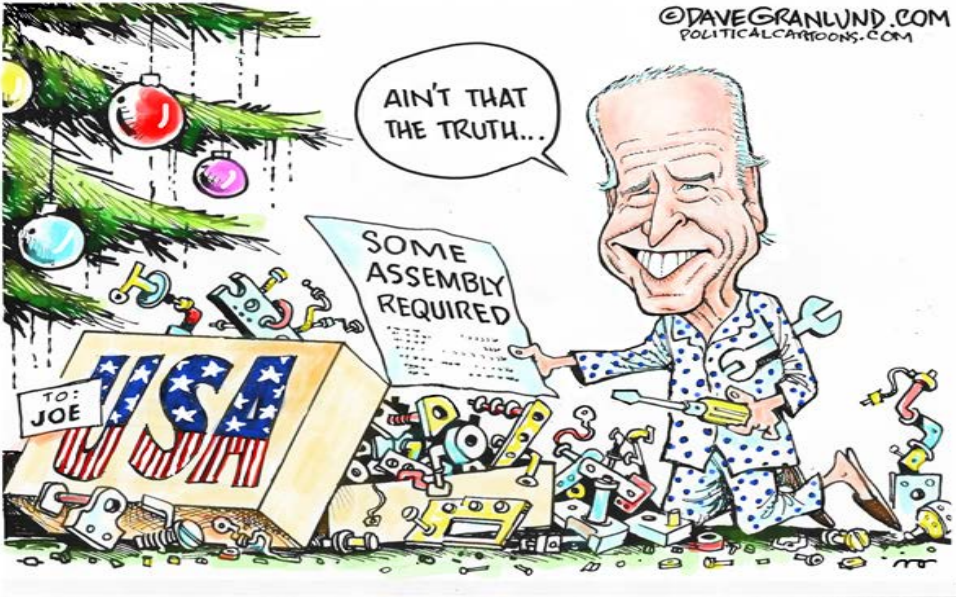
For example, last week my article was entitled Protests and was my perhaps unsuccessful attempt to explain the purpose behind my refusal to cut my hair or shave during this entire year of the Pandemic. The prior week the picture accompanying the article entitled The Eternal Search for Meaning displayed me with my hand on my chin, bewilderingly looking skyward, clean shaven and in a worn Tee shirt. This picture would have been completely incompatible with the Protest article and I belatedly submitted a picture showing me in my prior to this year every-day lawyer - clothes of coat, tie, and hat. I am very noticeably pointing out to the hillside below the deck where I am standing. The newspaper picture was presented in black and white but is shown on the Mountain Views News website Vol.14 no.51 p.12.

Comparison of the two pictures shows a bewildered man wondering about his place in the Universe while the second picture shown a man all dressed for work but clearly unprepared and unable to work pointing to his beautiful surroundings. Closely examining the pictures now makes the meaning of the articles clearer to me, if no one else. In the first picture I am confused as my lifelong work-life has been disrupted and I know not what to do. By the next week I have found an uncomfortable solution. Get mad! Dressed in my lawyer clothes and in front of my beautiful hillside I show that I am ready to work and be productive but the forces of the world have me transformed into a confined, functionless old man. At least that's what the pictures say to me. I am protesting against the pandemic, protesting against my ageing, protesting against my confinement no matter how beautiful my prison is. Today, I am still protesting but with a little more understanding of my reasons.

The picture accompanying the other article is of a very pretty young woman in her mid-twenties. The article reveals her as now 74 years old having lived a life full of ups and downs. For her present age she is still good looking but I chose that picture to show her that for me and for many who know her she will always be that beautiful; always a beautiful memory of a freer, joyful life in this difficult present.

This week the picture of Susan Henderson will be of her own choosing. It is very possible that the picture will allow for an understanding which informs the text. Similarly, this week I have given no instructions and provided no picture to accompany this article. Let's wait and see.

PICTURES



LEFT, RIGHT OR CENTER!

JOHN MICEK



THREE THINGS THAT KEPT ME SANE IN 2020

The end of this sad, strange, historic and transformative year is almost upon us. And like a lot of you, I found myself burrowing into ritual, structure, and obligatory loaves of sourdough to fill up those hours of social isolation thrust upon us by the COVID-19 pandemic.

But of course, you can't live on pandemic sourdough alone. So here's a quick list of the books, music, and bits of culture that provided some peace and tranquility amidst the frantic hours of work, moments of mourning, and surprising intervals of joy and extreme gratitude that made up my 2020.

"1177 B.C.: The Year Civilization Collapsed," Eric H. Kline, Princeton University Press

When you're staring down what feels like the end of history, it's only natural to wonder if we've been here before, and what lessons those times of trouble hold for us now.

This slender, but massively weighty volume, by George Washington University classicist Eric H. Cline, takes up one of the great mysteries of human history. In 1177 B.C., after centuries of brilliance, the civilizations of the late Bronze Age Mediterranean came to an abrupt and cataclysmic end. Over the space of a generation or so, the Mycenaeans, the Minoans, the Hittites, and the Babylonians, slid into irreversible decline, vanishing from history, as the region slid into a centuries-long dark age that didn't end until the emergence of what we now know as the classical era around 750 B.C.

Historians are still trying to unravel the interconnected calamities, which ranged from incursions by seaborne groups of marauders collectively known as the "Sea Peoples" and internal unrest, to the severing of sophisticated regional trade routes, that hastened the end of the Late Bronze Age. While it's a very foreign world in a lot of ways, it's also one that is recognizably our own, reminding us that civilization is a delicate thing that needs to be tended to and nurtured if it is to survive.

"Folklore," Taylor Swift

For all the ink that's been spilled about the death of the monoculture, July's surprise release of Taylor Swift's ninth record was a throwback to those seemingly bygone years where we were all listening to, and dissecting, the same records at the same time.

The minimalist, folk-imbued electronica that Swift crafted in lockdown with The National's Aaron Dessner, and longtime collaborator Jack Antonoff of Bleachers, was just the sort of quiet escapism that we were all looking for as we came blinking into the sun of what ended up being a short-lived, post-lockdown world.

Sometimes the right record comes along at the right moment. Swift, ever adept at choosing her moments, found hers with "Folklore."

"The Mandalorian," Disney+

After a concluding Skywalker trilogy that felt as overstuffed as often as it felt half-baker, writer/director Jon Favreau's space western marked a welcome return to smaller-scale storytelling that managed to evoke the pulpy best of the original film series, while forging a ground that was uniquely its own. Pedro Pascal's laconic bounty hunter Din Djarin, the Mandalorian of the title, channeled fan nostalgia for the bounty hunter Boba Fett of the original series, even as he established himself as a new and serious player in the sprawling mythos.

Warning: Spoilers ahead.

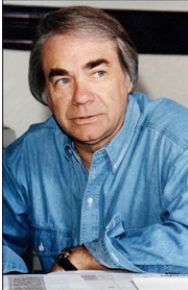
Fan service abounded throughout the series, with such favorites as Jedi Knight Ahsoka Tano being brought to vivid life by Rosario Dawson (who's getting her own series). The resurrection of Boba Fett was another welcome (if slightly expected moment). And, of course, the surprise return of a certain legendary Jedi Knight in the Season Two finale (I'm not going to spoil it for you if you haven't seen it) was one of those heart-stopping moments that the franchise excels at when it's at its best.

But there's no doubt that the emotional center of the series, its entire reason for being, was the emerging father/child relationship between Mando and Grogu (don't call him Baby Yoda anymore).

Some of the series' sweetest moments came when Pascal's bounty hunter let down his guard and allowed this impossibly adorable creature into his scarred heart. That journey into fatherhood - a theme across the franchise - is what keeps the Mandalorian from devolving into just another big-budget, Hollywood shoot-em-up.

Email me at jmicek@penncapital-star.com or hit me up on Twitter @ByJohnLMicek. I'd love to hear about your picks.

CARL GOLDEN



WHAT'S THE END GAME OF TRUMP'S DESPERATION?

Despite having failed to prevail in any consequential legal challenge to overturn the presidential election, President Trump and his team of conspiracy theorist attorneys - egged on by hardcore supporters and advisers, members of Congress and an element of the media - have continued to insist he was re-elected overwhelmingly and his victory stolen by massive fraud and foreign interference.

Even the most devoted Trump disciple must have concluded by now that the Biden Administration will assume office Jan. 20 and the ex-president will retire to Florida to plot a takeover of the Republican Party and his comeback in 2024.

Given the apparently pointless strategy of perseverance, it is reasonable to ask: "What is the end game here?" Any hope that the Supreme Court will agree with the president and set aside the election in whole or in part vanished long ago.

The bizarre and dangerous demands that martial law be invoked, the Constitution suspended and Trump continue in office were quickly consigned to the loony bin where they belonged.

Even a nascent movement to block the Congress from exercising its Constitutional duty to certify the election was dismissed by Republican Party leaders horrified at the prospect of becoming party to what amounts to a coup to seize power, a turn of events normally reserved for "Mission Impossible" films set in a banana republic. Might the end game be a Trumpian strategy to assert a dominating influence over the yet to be written history of the 2020 presidential election?

Could the goal be to assure the Trump view of the election - fraud-riddled and worthy of a RICO violation - be given attention and veracity equal to the Biden view of a victory given him by a nation weary of the tumult, chaos and muddled policies of the past four years?

Trump is an individual obsessed with the acclaim of others, indulging in self-praise at every opportunity even when demonstrably unrealistic. From his insistence that the audience for his inauguration in 2017 was the largest in history to his repeated claim that he accomplished more on behalf of African Americans than Abraham Lincoln, Trump lifted exaggeration and embellishment to new heights.

He thrives on the roar of the crowd, the chants of support from campaign audiences and the crush of television cameras following his every move while recording his every utterance. His need for attention and adulation is the equivalent of the human species need for oxygen.

He gleefully and shamelessly diminishes his opponents by hanging derogatory nicknames on them. His vocabulary is stuffed with one or two-word descriptions of the intellectual shortcomings of his critics or anyone who disagrees with him.

It is not at all difficult, then, that given his history and personal pathology that defeat at the hands of Joe Biden - the highest and most public rejection of his career - was so devastating and drew the intensity of vitriol embodied in his reaction. Responding by creating a mythology for academics and scholars to study and accept in their works of history fits neatly into Trump's obsession with bending reality to his will.

The ongoing legal challenges to his failed re-election effort are an integral part of that strategy.

It is crucial to Trump's self-esteem to insert doubts about the legitimacy of Biden's election into the historical record. It is equally important to him that his defeat be presented as a classic case of victimization, that sinister forces at play robbed him of his rightful due and punished millions of Americans who cast votes for him only to see their desires stricken.

A steady stream of litigation based on anecdotal evidence and affidavits alleging first hand knowledge of illegal behavior by election officials is necessary to maintain the narrative that Trump was cheated out of a victory that he earned and deserved.

The greater the attention to the Trump attorneys' legal maneuvering and arguments, the greater their credibility in the eyes of historians who, it is hoped, will accord it equal weight with the Biden narrative.

Seventy-five years ago England's Prime Minister Winston Churchill, was turned out of office and was asked how he felt he'd be treated by history.

"History will treat me very well," he responded, "because I intend to write it."

Trump, it would appear, intends to follow old Winnie's advice.

A photograph of a woman and a young girl. The woman, who is Black, is wearing a wide-brimmed straw hat, a white collared shirt, and a grey vest. She is smiling broadly at the camera. The young girl, who is also Black, has dark curly hair and is wearing a pink and white patterned shirt. She is also smiling and looking towards the camera. They are both holding a light blue book. The book's cover features the text "Children's 3rd Grade Class Presents" and "Once Upon a Time" in a stylized font. The background is dark and out of focus, suggesting an indoor setting at night.

Mountain Views News 80 W Sierra Madre Blvd. No. 327 Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024 Office: 626.355.2737 Fax: 626.609.3285 Email: editor@mtnviewsnews.com Website: www.mtnviewsnews.com

Mountain Views News 80 W Sierra Madre Blvd. No. 327 Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024 Office: 626.355.2737 Fax: 626.609.3285 Email: editor@mtnviewsnews.com Website: www.mtnviewsnews.com



2nd Place Winner
Sierra Madre's Best Holiday Decoration

*All photos are by
DIRK BOLLE*



DRIVE
AROUND
TOWN
AND SEE
THESE AND
MANY OTHER
WONDERFUL
DISPLAYS!

GAURANTEED
TO
BRIGHTEN
YOUR DAY!



SIERRA MADRE'S PEOPLE'S CHOICE
2020 BEST HOLIDAY DECORATIONS

HONORABLE MENTIONS BELOW





WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER



LET'S SUPPORT OUR
LOCAL BUSINESSES
AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE




A Real Estate Expert You Can Trust

Luther Tsinoglou

626.695.8650 | Luther@Tsinoglou.com

Visit us at [Tsinoglou.com](https://www.Tsinoglou.com)

[deasypennerpodley](https://www.deasypennerpodley.com)

Southern California Real Estate
Agent lic #01135433 | Broker lic #01514230



CHRIST CHURCH
SIERRA MADRE

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 for more details and to familiarize yourself with COVID guidelines for our gatherings.

SERVICE TIMES

IN-PERSON
Sat 4:30p

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



191 W. SIERRA MADRE BLVD. | CHRISTCHURCHSM.ORG

BH

*Affordable Elegance...
There's a reason our residents call us Home!*

*Serving Sierra Madre for over 88 years
Our non-profit Assisted Living home continues to deliver affordable, elegant
accommodations on our campus of three acres.*

THE BRITISH HOME IN CALIFORNIA, LTD.

647 Manzanita Ave., Sierra Madre, CA. 91024

(626)355-7240 Info@britishhome-ca.us License # 191501668

