

Mountain Views News

Sierra Madre Arcadia Duarte Monrovia Pasadena Altadena South Pasadena San Marino

SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 2021

VOLUME 15 NO. 13

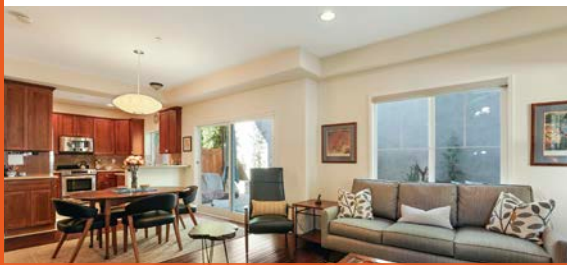
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Sierra Madre 91024 21EastAlegria.com

SHRED EVENT

Looking To Dispose Of Your Sensitive Documents?

SAVE THE DATE Stop by and drop-off your documents safely.

Date	Saturday, April 24th, 2021
Time	8:30am to 2pm
Where	30 N Baldwin Ave, Sierra Madre, CA 91024

Contact us for more information.



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

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A TOUGH YEAR, BUT NOT ALL BAD FOR SIERRA MADRE FD

By Kevin McGuire

In the outdoor setting of Memorial Park, Sierra Madre Fire Chief Brent Bartlett presented the Fire Department Annual Safety Report before City Council and a socially distanced community gathering Tuesday afternoon.

The report summarized 2020, a year plagued with pandemic and wildfires, but one that was also filled with significant accomplishments and victories. "As you know, 2020 was quite the year filled with challenges, but I'd like to remain optimistic and say it was a very good year for our fire department," Chief Bartlett proclaimed.

The Chief echoed the mission, vision and core values for the fire department stating the commitment to protecting life, property and the environment through "compassionate" service. The hopes expressed include the desire to be an innovative, yet cost-effective department providing exceptional customer service to the community.

On top of the COVID-19 predicament in 2020, the Sierra Madre Fire Department was relied upon for four major events. On July 6 and 7, there was the Soledad Fire, from July 30 through August 3 they attended to the Dam Fire, on September 5 and 6 the department was deployed in a prevention capacity for high wind weather event, and then the Bobcat fire terrorized several communities from September 6 through October 4. Many observed the ominous, eerie glow that lit up the night sky during the Summer. Firefighters did a superb job of containing the burn so homes and lives were saved.

In addition to the many challenges 2020 presented, the Sierra Madre Fire Department still rose up to many community outreach opportunities. The 2020 Drive-Thru Prevention Festival was successful, bringing in around 100 cars. They sent out Ready-Set-Go and Emergency Preparedness packets out to the community to raise awareness and also fire educational materials to area kids. The department also participated in Public Safety Week with the Police Department and they took Santa to the streets in December on a fire truck to spread holiday joy that was so needed this past year.

This year, you can expect a special Easter event from the Fire Department as well and as shots go into arms, hopefully a better year for all.

CONGRATULATIONS TO A VERY SPECIAL YOUNG LADY!



On behalf of the 2020 League of California Cities Women's Caucus, Mayor Arizmendi honors Meghan Malooly as the 2021 Woman of Persistence and Sierra Madre Woman of Distinction for her immeasurable contributions to the community and commitment to making a difference.

DRIVE THRU BOOK SALE!

The Friends of the Sierra Madre Public Library are making plans for their upcoming Drive-Thru Used Book Sale. It will be held on Saturday, April 3, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the parking lot behind the library. The address of the library is 440 West Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre.

There will be pre-packaged books in the following genres: History, Biography, Cooking, Non-Fiction, Fiction, Mystery/Thriller, Children's, and Young Adults. Each full bag contains 7-10 books and costs only \$5.00 each! Enter the parking lot from Sierra Madre Blvd. and drove to the friendly volunteer who will take your order. Then proceed to the container on the lot where masked and gloved helpers will put your books inside your car. No need to get out! Exit on Mariposa Ave.

The proceeds from our sales are used only to support the acquisitions, services, and programs of the Sierra Madre Public Library. Help support our much-loved library by attending on April 3.

SIERRA MADRE TO HOLD COVID 19 VACCINE CLINIC

The City will be hosting a vaccine clinic at the Hart Park House on April 6th at 9:30AM. Any groups eligible for a vaccine by LA County Guidelines are eligible to sign up for this clinic. The City has an initial allotment of about 60 vaccines.

Please contact Rosemary Garcia in our Community Services Department to sign up for an appointment. She can be contacted anytime between Monday - Thursday from 8AM - 4PM. City staff will respond on the same day within that time frame

CITY OF SIERRA MADRE VACCINE CLINIC

WHEN	APRIL 6TH 9:30AM
WHERE	HART PARK HOUSE 222 W. SIERRA MADRE BLVD.
CONTACT	ROSEMARY GARCIA (626) 355 - 5278 RGARCIA@CITYOFSIERRAMADRE.COM
ELIGIBLE GROUPS	ANY GROUP ELIGIBLE BY LA COUNTY GUIDELINES

Please contact Rosemary anytime between Monday - Thursday from 8AM - 4PM to sign up for an appointment.

City staff will answer or call back on the same day between 8AM - 4PM

NEW SECURITY FENCE APPROVED FOR SPREADING GROUNDS

By Kevin McGuire

The City has awarded a contract to Dash Construction Company, Inc. for the purchase and installation of a security fence spanning 1,000 feet at the Sierra Madre Spreading Grounds.

The property, which runs along E. Grandview Avenue, is a vital part of the city's water system which captures seasonal rain runoff helping replenish water resources in local basins. Built in the 1920s, the Spreading Grounds are managed year-round to help meet the community's water demands. The Grounds start close to Sycamore Place and are currently protected by about 17 acres of chain-linked fence met with an 8-foot steel fence at the City Yard entrance.

Over the years, the property at the Spreading Grounds has been breached by everyone from dog walkers and joggers to people illegally fishing to vandals. Trash cans, benches, beer cans and bottles have been thrown into water basins by late night partiers. Building and vehicles on site have been broken into and there was a report of the theft of copper wires and brass fittings from the property some years back.

In addition to the vandalism, there are many safety concerns when people wander onto the property. Injuries could occur, and it is a concern to fire and police personnel who come to the Grounds at all hours to refuel.

The City is proposing an 8-foot security fence along the property on Grandview made of powder coated galvanized steel. It will extend along the perimeter of Sycamore Place. The cost to be paid to Dash is along the lines of \$67,400 and was approved unanimously by City Council during their regular meeting on Tuesday, March 23, 2021.

The new fencing is said to be similar to that of the Mira Monte Reserve and, as it's a replacement project on an existing structure, so a CEQA review is not needed. To view the few report, visit www.cityofseirramadre.com.



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THE SIERRA MADRE PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION'S

ANNUAL EASTER EVENT DRIVE-THRU EDITION

SATURDAY APRIL 3RD, 2021
9:00 AM TO 12:00 PM

This year's annual Easter activities will include:
Individually wrapped candy bags
Pictures with the Easter Bunny
Music and lots of fun!

City Hall Parking Lot • 232 W Sierra Madre Blvd • Sierra Madre, CA 91024



\$20.00

Cash, Check or
Venmo
@Pack333SouthPasadena



venmo

Easter Lily Sale

Pre-Order & In-person Fundraiser

(Pre-order ends on March 24)

Palm Sunday Weekend

Saturday, March 27 & Sunday, March 28

Holy Family Catholic Church
1501 Fremont Ave South Pasadena 91030

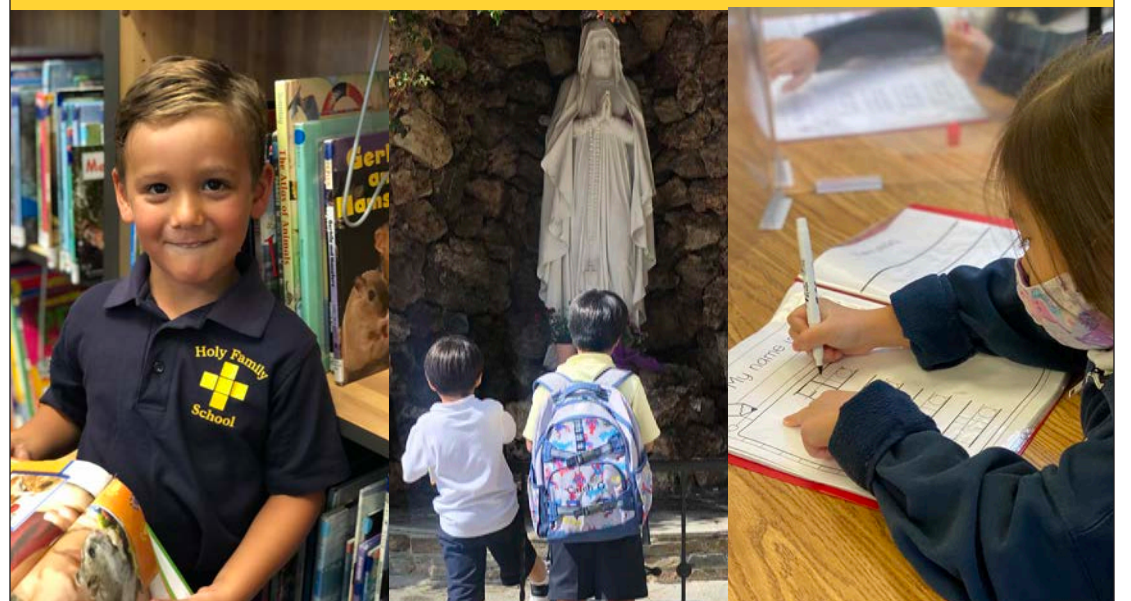
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Rotary Club of Sierra Madre SALUTES THE **LOS ANGELES DODGERS**

Meet MARK LANGILL
HISTORIAN, Los Angeles Dodgers

A member of the front office since 1994, Langill previously covered the Dodgers for the Pasadena Star-News as a reporter from 1989 to 1993. He attended Pasadena City College and Cal State Northridge. He has written six books about the franchise, including "Dodger Stadium," "Dodgertown" and "All For One," the team's official book commemorative the 2020 championship season.

TUESDAY, MARCH 30 • 8AM

Discover the amazing history of the Dodgers and its players from team historian Mark Langill.

To join our Zoom meeting, email your request to Sierra.Swish@gmail.com

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HAPPY 96TH BIRTHDAY SALLY CONTRERAS!



On Sunday, March 14th, more than 40 cars and 20 pedestrians, stopped by to wish Sally Contreras a very happy birthday.

The weather was cooperative and Sally is very appreciative "for the kindness of her friends and neighbors!"

Since the outbreak of the Pandemic, 'Drive By Celebrations' have helped many of us enjoy our 'special days'.

MVNews

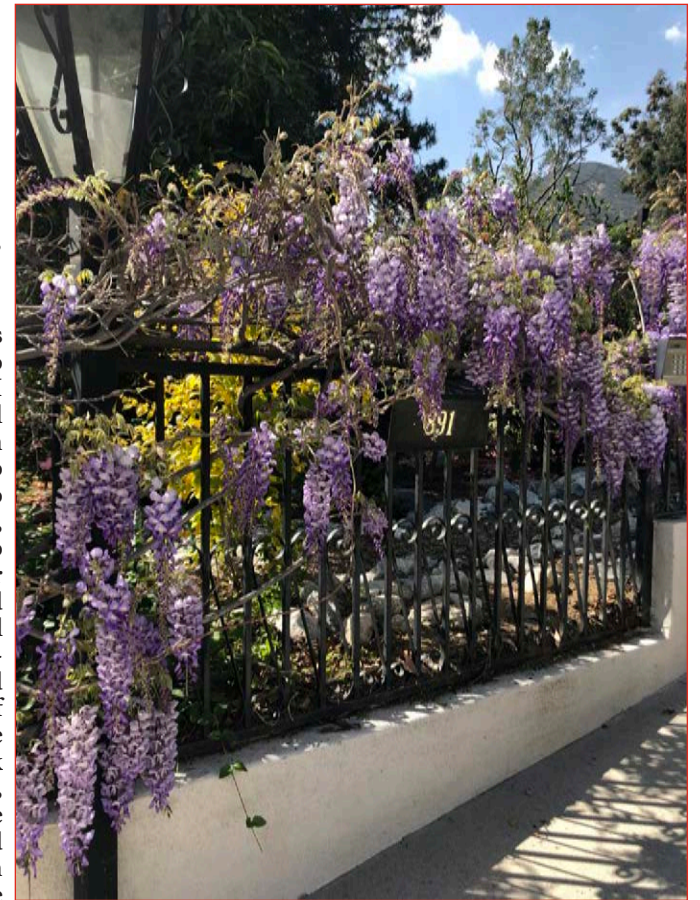
WALKING SIERRA MADRE - The Social Side

by Deanne Davis

"Of Wistaria blooms, I caught sight, today,
And ever since as violet of the deepest hue,
My passion, grows ever more profound!" Ise

"In memory of the spring now passing, I drew the long clusters of wistaria that move like waves."
Masaoka Shiki

As the Wistaria Festival was postponed again, much to everyone's dismay, I thought I would show you the beautiful picture of wistaria I took up on Grandview, just a block or two from Santa Anita a year or so ago. The day was exquisite, warm, sunny and it was such a joy to see this lovely rich purple flower in bloom again. Fingers crossed that we can all enjoy the festival in 2022. Meanwhile, the world-famous vine is growing and becoming even more beautiful. If you want to see some really fine wistaria right now, take a look downtown at city hall. Actually, if you look hard enough, you see wistaria peeking out here and there all over town. Just keep an eye peeled for those lovely purple blossoms, like those here in my picture!



I've been hanging onto the most wonderful article on wisteria, (The rest of the world spells it wisteria...Sierra Madre, being unique, spells it wistaria.) which ran in the Star News in 2015. Joshua Siskin, who writes The Smarter Gardener for several papers gave me permission to use his work and I quote:

"It has been several weeks since wisteria stopped blooming, but still I think of it. Its curtains of opulent lavender-violet flower clusters are hard to forget. All year long, except for a single brief moment in late winter and early spring, wisteria is a vine that shows nothing of ornamental interest. It does serve a utilitarian purpose in covering an arbor and thus provides shade for those strolling or dining al fresco. But without its flowers, wisteria would probably not be planted much, if at all.

I think that people, too, have this wisteria-like quality. We might go for months living a drab, humdrum sort of existence until we suddenly flower brilliantly for a brief, yet memorable moment. Indeed, most of the time we do our jobs well and provide assistance and sustenance for others. Yet, how often do we bloom, giving something that, coming from our best and truest self, delights and inspires the world around us? Long ago in Lithuania, there was a rabbi named Yisrael Salanter who said that "the greatest distance in the universe is the distance between your head and your heart." When our noblest and most idealistic aspirations, those that we carry around in our minds, somehow reach our hearts, that is when we truly blossom."

Nice! No wonder I keep it in my calendar for March!

Tomorrow is Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week, which ends with Easter Sunday, April 4th, which also happens to be my birthday this year. I shall be 29. Again.

Palm Sunday is the beginning of the end of Jesus' ministry here on earth. As you will recall, he was heading into Jerusalem and as he approached the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his friends/disciples ahead saying, "Go to the village ahead of you and as you enter it, you'll find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it back here. If anyone asks you why you're untying it, just say, "The Lord needs it." So off they went and, sure enough, there was the colt and, just as Jesus had said, the owner said, "Hey! Why are you untying that colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it," and the owner let them have it. They brought this donkey colt back to Jesus, threw their cloaks across it and Jesus sat down on it. As Jesus and his friends went down the road from the Mount of Olives, joy overtook them and they began to praise God in loud voices as they remembered all the miracles they had seen; the blind given sight, the dead raised, the lame walking again, demons banished, multitudes fed with a few loaves of bread and some little fishes. Their excitement was contagious. They spread their cloaks before him and a great crowd gathered and laid palm branches in the road and shouted and sang, "Hosanna to the son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven."

Can you imagine what a sight that must have been! Crowds of people dancing in the street, putting their coats in front of this donkey colt carrying Jesus into Jerusalem. They were shouting and singing and rejoicing to be there, close to this miracle worker. Hence, Palm Sunday. We've all been to Palm Sunday church services where the little Sunday School kids are given a piece of a palm branch and led down the aisle to place them at the foot of the altar. They have a sort of sketchy idea of what they're doing and it's a joy to see them waving these branches.

I expect there were a lot of little kids running around in the crowd that first Palm Sunday, too, waving branches and having an excellent time being outside on a beautiful day where everyone was happy.

Wherever you are tomorrow, online, outside, inside, in your pajamas or wearing jeans and a sweatshirt, rejoice in the day. Yes, the coming week is filled with sadness but, oh my friends, Easter is coming!

My book page: Amazon.com: Deanne Davis

Easter is a week away and "The Crown,"

My story about what happened to that crown of thorns

Is now a real book in addition to a Kindle! Also available on Amazon.com

If you want to check it out, here's the link where you can see a short video:

https://youtu.be/Y_pC0X286T8



CONSTRUCTION NOTICE

KERSTING COURT REMODEL PROJECT

February 2021 through April 2021

Project partially funded by grant funds from Supervisor Kathryn Barger's office

Sidewalk around the project will be closed. Please observe the sidewalk closed signs and use alternate routes

QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS

Public Works Department
Chris Cimino (626) 355 - 7135
ccimino@cityofsierramadre.com

City of Sierra Madre

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Paramedic Subscription Program

The City of Sierra Madre's Paramedic Subscription Program covers emergency medical response fees that may not be covered by your primary insurance company. This annual membership is available to City of Sierra Madre residents and covers emergency services provided within city boundaries.

\$71

Annually

How to Subscribe:

- Download enrollment form at: www.cityofsierramadre.com/smfid
- Mail completed form with payment included to:
Sierra Madre Fire Department
242 W. Sierra Madre Blvd
Sierra Madre, CA 91024



For more information contact (626) 355 - 3611 or fire@cityofsierramadre.com

SIERRA MADRE POLICE BLOTTER



March 14, 2021 to March 20, 2021
During this period the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to 207 calls for service.

Vandalism

Officers responded at 6:16AM on 3/15/21, to a possible attempted burglary to a residence in the 600 block of Mariposa Ave. Officers discovered glass French doors with one smashed glass pane and 5 additional glass panes that were cracked, but intact. All doors and windows were secured and it did not appear that the suspect(s) successfully entered the residence. Case to Detectives

Collision

Officers responded at 2:07PM on 3/17/21 to a call of a two car collision in the 00 block of S. Baldwin Ave. The driver of one vehicle was treated at the scene by SMFD personnel, with no other injuries reported.

Theft

On 3/18/21 at 12:16PM, a report was filed on-line of the theft of an air conditioning unit and a water heater from a residence in the 100 block of N. Mountain Trail Ave. Case to Detectives

Wishings 2021

A Faculty Show Celebration

Come visit the Creative Arts Group Gallery and Patio





Visit the gallery to see the faculty work and add your wish to our Community Wishing Tree.

Spring Session begins in April - Registration opens soon

Creative Arts Group

108 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre
(626) 355-8350 CreativeArtsGroup.org



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 April 6, 2021 4:00 pm

As part of the City of Sierra Madre's COVID-19 transmission mitigation efforts, the City Council meeting will take place at the City of Sierra Madre Memorial Park Bandshell located at 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd, Sierra Madre CA 91024. As part of the COVID-19 transmission mitigation efforts, the City recommends that all attendees bring their own chair. In the event of rain or other inclement weather, the meeting may be moved to Zoom.

The Brown Act provides the public with an opportunity to make public comments at any public meeting. Public comment may also be made by e-mail to PublicComment@CityofSierraMadre.com by 3:00PM on the day of the meeting. Emails will be acknowledged at the Council meeting and filed into public record. The public may also comment in-person at the meeting.

The meeting will be streamed live on the City's website at www.cityofsierramadre.com, on Foothills Media website at <http://www.foothillsmidia.org/sierramadre> and broadcast on Government Access Channel 3 (Spectrum).

For more information, please contact the City Clerk's Office via email at Laguilar@cityofsierramadre.com or Jpeterson@cityofsierramadre.com or by telephone at (626)355-7135 for more information.

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

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

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

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

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



Sierra Madre Woman's Club

550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. **2021: 113 Years**
 Founded February 23, 1907 - "Living the Volunteer Life" in Friendship
 Member of General Federation of Women's Clubs cfwc.org & gfwc.org

Wistaria Thrift Shop

Sat. March 20 & 27 10 am-3 pm
Regular Days/Hours Start Thurs, April 1
Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays 1st & 3rd Saturdays 10 am-3 pm

Thank You for Supporting Us & SMWC's Philanthropies!
Still Accepting Clean, Gently Used Donations
Saturdays, 8 am - 11 am

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



Sierra Madre Woman's Club

550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. **2021: 114 Years**
 Founded February 23, 1907 - "Living the Volunteer Life" in Friendship
 Member of General Federation of Women's Clubs cfwc.org & gfwc.org

Scholarship Applications

Due March 27, 2021

Applications Still Available
 from bcopti@yahoo.com

Scholarships Announced May 2021 for 2021-2022 Educational Year.

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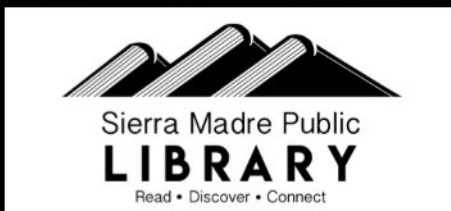


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This week at the
Sierra Madre
Public Library

March 29-April 3

Monday

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

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

The Library Is Sus—Online at 3:00pm; call the Library to register

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

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

Friday

Aloha Friday—View online after 10:00am

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Sunday.....Closed





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sm_umc@verizon.net
website - smumc.net



Local Area News Brief

Movie Crane Crashes onto Pasadena Home

High winds toppled a large lighting crane Tuesday night, being used by a Netflix film crew, onto a two-story Pasadena home causing minor injuries to one person.

The crane fell around 10:30 p.m. in the 3600 block of San Pasqual Street. Witnesses said the film crews were filming at the time. Neighbors described the incident as sounding like an explosion.

According to fire officials, three residents were displaced as Pasadena Building and Safety Division inspectors surveyed the damages.

The high winds also wreaked havoc across the city as many restaurant owners had their outdoor eating tents blown over.

Pasadena Police Looking for Shooting Suspect

Pasadena police are asking for the public's help identify a suspect wanted in connection to a shooting into an occupied vehicle earlier this month in East Pasadena that left a man dead and a woman injured.

According to police on March 13, at approximately 8:56 p.m., officers arrived on scene and located two victims inside a parked vehicle. The male victim a 23-years old, Azusa resident had been struck numerous times by gunfire while the female victim a 19-years old, Duarte resident sustained only minor injuries. Pasadena Fire Department Paramedics arrived on scene and transported both victims to a local hospital. The male victim arrived at the hospital in critical condition and would later succumbed to his injuries the following morning.

The female was treated for non-life-threatening injuries and was released.

Officers immediately began their canvassing efforts, searching for evidence and witnesses. Pasadena Police Detectives responded to the scene and assumed the investigation. Preliminary investigation revealed both victims were seated inside of a parked vehicle when the suspect approached the vehicle and began shooting in the direction of the victims. The suspect ran from the location following the shooting.

It was originally believed there were multiple suspects involved in the shooting but newly obtained information indicates only one suspect is responsible. That suspect has been described as a Black male wearing dark colored clothing.

Anyone with information is asked to call at (626) 744-4241 or anonymously at (800) 222-TIPS (8477).

PCC Employee Stabbed while on Zoom Call



The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department arrested the son of a, well known, Pasadena City College staff member in connection with her murder and the stabbing death of her brother Monday at the family's home in the 3100 block of North Marengo Avenue.

Both Carol Brown, 67, and Kenneth Preston, 69, were stabbed to death around 2:25 p.m. according to police.

Brown's son Robert Anderson Cotton, 32, was arrested on two counts of murder according to deputies. He was taken into custody at the scene shortly after the stabbing.

Brown was the co-coordinator of the Black STEM program at PCC.

"Yesterday afternoon

our PCC family suffered a terrible loss. Dr. Carol Brown, who most recently served as a co-coordinator of the Black STEM program, was the victim of a violent crime where she and her brother lost their lives," Pasadena City College President Erika Endrijonas said in a statement to the media. "The attack did not occur on the campus. The incident occurred during a remote conference call with other college employees."

Endrijonas said the stabbing took place during a remote Zoom call with other PCC employees. Homicide detectives also confirmed that the incident was captured on video during the call.

According to police Preston was found outside the home

Health Department Finds First Covid-19 U.K. Variant



Pasadena Public Health Department (PPHD) has received the first confirmed report of infection in a Pasadena resident with the COVID-19 variant B.1.1.7. This variant was first identified in the United Kingdom, spreads more easily and quickly (about 50% increased transmission) than other variants, and likely causes more severe disease based on hospitalizations and case fatality rates. The person infected in Pasadena was an adult, and the variant was identified through California Department of Public Health genomic surveillance testing of laboratory specimens. To date, PPHD has linked 10 other laboratory confirmed cases among Pasadena residents (for whom sequencing is not currently available) through contact tracing. In California, 265 cases of the B.1.1.7 variant have been reported. To protect the privacy of the individual, no further information will be released. "These cases illustrate why it is so important to limit non-essential travel and mixing households as much as possible during a pandemic. This is also a stark reminder that we cannot let our guard

down. We are so thankful that so many Pasadena residents who are currently eligible are receiving the safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines, and that we are now in the red tier of the state's Blueprint for a Safer Economy, but we are not out of the woods yet," said Dr. Ying-Ying Goh, health officer and director of Pasadena Public Health Department.

"If you must travel, it is important to watch for symptoms of COVID-19, follow public health guidance on getting tested prior to travel, use careful protective measures during travel, and get tested after travel. If you're traveling out-of-state, Pasadena residents are required to self-quarantine for 10 days after arrival in accordance with local and state travel advisories."

If you are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, you can submit this COVID-19 vaccine inquiry form to be notified when PPHD vaccine clinic appointments become available. Even when fully vaccinated, it is important to follow the 3 Ws: wear your mask, wash your hands, and watch your distance; avoid crowds.

Dr. Carol Brown

in the driveway. Brown was found inside. At press time, police said they did not have a motive for the attack.

City Seeks Help Update to Pedestrian Safety Plan

The City of Pasadena invites the public to participate in Pasadena Walks—a comprehensive update to the City's Pedestrian Plan. Made possible by a grant from the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). The project will identify barriers to walking in the city and identify potential solutions to improve safety and amenities for pedestrians.

Over the course of the project, community members, local business owners, and other key stakeholders will have multiple opportunities to help the City create and refine plans for a safer, healthier, more walkable Pasadena. The project will be supported by a volunteer Advisory Committee composed of representatives from each City Council district, the City's three business improvement districts (BIDs), the Accessibility and Northwest Commissions, and other local stakeholder groups.

The City's effort is particularly timely as more local residents rely on walking as a means of healthy, safe recreation and affordable transportation during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

"Pasadena is full of world-class destinations. The City of Pasadena believes residents should be able to get to these destinations on foot as easily as possible. This pedestrian plan update is the first and most important step towards creating a more vibrant, accessible and walkable Pasadena," says Laura Rubio-Cornejo, director of the City's Department of Transportation.

According to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, traffic crashes are the number one cause of premature death in the county for children ages 5-14. The project will review local collision data as part of the planning process to identify the safety performance of Pasadena streets. This data may then be used to help prioritize future investments and safety improvements.

To learn more about Pasadena Walks and take the project survey, visit: CityofPasadena.net/PasadenaWalks.

Virtual Community Forum on Caltrans Surplus Property



The City of South Pasadena, in partnership with Senator Anthony Portantino, will host a community discussion of Senate Bill 381 on Monday, beginning at 6:00 p.m. The community forum is an opportunity for the public to ask questions and provide input on the bill as it advances in the legislative process.

SB 381, introduced by Senator Anthony Portantino, would allow for more local control over the disposition of the state-owned properties along the SR 710 corridor and put the city in a much better position to safeguard and champion the interests of the South Pasadena community.

SB 381 aims to:

- Expeditiously offer to current tenants of single-family and other surplus residential properties, including multi-family residences, the opportunity to purchase the property as provided in the existing regulations applicable to the SR 710 Affordable Sales Program.

- Expeditiously offer unoccupied properties to the City at the original acquisition price paid by Caltrans.

- Allow the City to purchase properties at

their acquisition price after current tenants reject or do not qualify to purchase the properties in which they reside.

- Allow the City to establish and transfer ownership to a city-approved non-profit housing related entity that would act as a steward over the portfolio of surplus properties and ensure high-quality property maintenance and property management practices.

The virtual meeting will be conducted over Zoom and broadcast live on the City Council meeting webpage. Questions and comments may be submitted in advance of the meeting to SB381comment@southpasadenaca.gov. There will also be opportunity for questions and comments during the live workshop.

Registration is required to participate in the live forum. The city has created a webpage on their website to provide information and ongoing updates regarding SB 381. The new webpage provides the ability for anyone to sign up and receiving updates as they become available. For more information on SB 381 and to register for updates visit: southpasadenaca.gov search "state route 710 senate bill 381 Portantino."

CaltechLive Event: How Music Can Make You Better

CaltechLive! is excited to pick the brain of neuroscientist and opera singer Indre Viskontas as she discusses her book, How Music Can Make You Better, live on Monday, April 12, at 5 p.m. PT. This event is part of the Behind the Book authors series, which facilitates conversations with authors who explore the intersectionality of art, science, and society.

Viskontas will be interviewed by Maia Jasper White, Caltech's director of chamber music.

How Music Can Make You Better is a field guide from neuroscientist and opera singer Indre Viskontas that investigates what music is and how it can change us for the better—from deep in our neurons to across our entire society.

Viskontas explains how certain songs can carry us through a tough workout, comfort us after a breakup, or unite 50,000 diverse fans. With insight from renowned musicians, neuroscientists, and authors, she explores how the mind transforms sounds into human experience and how music connects us, heals us, and changes us for the better.

How Music Can Make You Better was published by Chronicle Books in 2019. It can be purchased online and in person at Vroman's Bookstore or through the publisher or Amazon.com.

For information on how to attend visit: events.caltech.edu/.

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ARCADIA POLICE BLOTTER

For the period of Sunday, March 14th through Saturday, March 20th, the Police Department responded to 995 calls for service, of which 92 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of some of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

Sunday, March 14:

1. At 10:53 a.m., an officer responded to the 100 block of Genoa Street regarding an investigation of mail theft. After stolen mail had been located, the officer contacted the victims and discovered their mailboxes had been forcefully opened. The investigation is ongoing.

2. At 9:08 a.m., an officer responded to a residence in the 500 block of West Winnie Way regarding a burglary report. The victim discovered her home had been heavily ransacked and two sliding glass doors had been shattered. The loss is unknown as of the date of this report.

Monday, March 15:

3. At 11:13 a.m., an officer responded to the 00 block of East Live Oak Avenue regarding a commercial burglary report. The officer determined an unknown suspect entered a locked storage unit and stole hand tools and a window air conditioner. The officer was unable to locate any suspects or witnesses.

4. At 11:11 p.m., an officer responded to CVS Pharmacy, located at 1401 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding a theft report. A store employee witnessed the suspect steal and conceal approximately \$109.40 worth of merchandise. The 35-year-old male from Arcadia was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking. A record check also revealed the suspect had three outstanding misdemeanor warrants.

Wednesday, March 17:

5. At 6:21 a.m., an officer responded to 168 Las Tunas Drive regarding two commercial burglaries. An investigation revealed a lone male suspect had smashed the front glass door to "Chattime". A nearly identical burglary occurred at a neighboring business. It is unknown if the male suspect committed both burglaries. The investigation is ongoing.

6. At 11:24 a.m., an officer responded to the 100 block of East St. Joseph Street regarding a theft from vehicle report. Sometime between February 24th and March 17th, someone re-moved the victim's catalytic converter from their vehicle.

7. At 3:22 p.m., an officer responded to Abercrombie and Fitch, located at 400 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding a grand theft report. Surveillance footage revealed two suspects stole nearly \$1,950.00 worth of men's fragrances. The suspects are described as a Hispanic female between the ages of 40 and 50-years-old, approximately 5'4" tall, 150 pounds, with dark brown hair. The second suspect is described as a Hispanic male, also between 40 and 50-years-old, approximately 180 pounds, with short hair. The investigation is ongoing.

8. At 9:58 p.m., an officer responded to a residence in the 100 block of Diamond Street regarding a domestic disturbance report. The officer determined an argument between an engaged couple resulted in the female half intentionally scratching the male half on the neck. The suspect, a 48-year-

old female from South El Monte, was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Thursday, March 18:

9. At 1:54 p.m., an officer responded to the 1100 block of Paloma Drive regarding a pack-age theft report. The victim discovered her package had been stolen from her porch some-time between March 10th and March 18th. The investigation is ongoing.

10. At 4:02 p.m., an officer responded to Conserv Fuel, located at 701 West Huntington Drive, regarding a theft from vehicle report. The victim stated her purse was stolen from the front seat of her unlocked vehicle while she went into the gas station. The victim did not see the crime occur. The investigation is pending a review of the gas station's surveillance footage.

Friday, March 19:

11. At 3:36 a.m., an officer conducted a traffic stop near the intersection of Sunset Boulevard and Huntington Drive when he witnessed the driver of a vehicle dozing off and driving with his head down. Upon contacting the driver, the officer detected a strong odor of alcohol emitting from his vehicle. The suspect, a 23-year-old male from Monrovia, was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking. A record check also revealed the suspect was driving with an expired license.

12. At 1:22 p.m., an officer responded to the intersection of Second Avenue and Colorado Boulevard regarding a robbery report. An investigation revealed that the victim discovered her wallet went missing while she was visiting a friend. When she confronted her friend, he became angry and hit the victim in the head with a metal pipe. Arcadia Fire re-responded but the victim declined medical attention. The suspect, a 35-year-old male from Monrovia, is outstanding as of March 23rd.

Saturday, March 20:

13. At 2:50 p.m., an officer responded to a parking lot located at 400 West Huntington Drive regarding a battery report. The victim was seated in his vehicle when his parked vehicle was hit by the suspect's vehicle. As the victim approached the suspect's vehicle, a passenger of the suspect vehicle exited the car, pushed the victim to the ground, and punched him in the face and torso. The suspect returned to the passenger seat and the vehicle fled. The victim refused medical treatment. The suspect's vehicle is described as a silver Chrysler sedan and the suspect is described as a white male, approximately 5'7" tall, 210 pounds, with blonde hair, hazel eyes, and was about 25 years old. The driver is described as a white female, approximately 5'4", 160 pounds, with blonde hair and brown eyes. The investigation is ongoing.

14. At 8:02 p.m., an officer responded to Chef's Coffee Shop, located at 13 East Live Oak Avenue, regarding a parking violation. The officer discovered a vehicle was illegally parked in a handicapped stall without properly displaying a placard. The driver was found asleep in the running vehicle. During a consensual search of the vehicle, the officer located cocaine and a loaded firearm. The 28-year-old male from Van Nuys was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

MONROVIA'S 2021 ART ON THE BOX PROGRAM APPLICATION DEADLINE EXTENDED

Calling all artists! The theme for the 2021 Art on the Box is Route 66 and there are five utility boxes available for painting. If you would like to be considered, please submit your application by April 8, 2021.



CITY OF MONROVIA 2021 ART ON THE BOX PROGRAM INFORMATION SHEET & APPLICATION



Applications can be found at www.cityofmonrovia.org/art. Designs must be submitted on the template provided. Proposals need to be submitted electronically to kzessau@ci.monrovia.ca.us with the subject line reading **"2021 Art on the Box Submittal."**

SELECTION CRITERIA: When making the selection for the Art on the Box Program, the Art in Public Places Committee will consider:

1. Artistic excellence, innovation, and originality
2. Creativity in reflecting this year's Route 66 theme

ARTIST SELECTION: The Art in Public Places Committee will select the designs based on the criteria. Artists will be notified by the City if their designs are selected. Once selected, the box must be painted within 60 days and artist must notify the City when the project is complete. Artists will receive a \$700 stipend when the completed artwork is approved. In order to receive payment, artists must submit an invoice and W9 form.

MATERIALS: Artists will be responsible for all the necessary materials required for the preparation and completion of the artwork as well as maintaining the integrity of the work for a period of 3 years. Artists will be given specific painting requirements that need to be followed to ensure the quality and longevity of the utility box. Artists will be supplied with the exterior UV protectant and anti-graffiti clear coat which must be applied once the utility box is completed. The removal of tagging and/or graffiti is NOT the responsibility of the artist.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Contact Kerri Zessau at kzessau@ci.monrovia.ca.us or 626.932.5564 with questions.

SPRING AND SUMMER DRIVE-IN BINGO'S!

Feeling cooped up in the house? Come out and join us as we safely play Drive-In Bingo at the Community Center in the parking lot – 365 Campus Drive. The cost is \$5 to play, and each participant will be given five (5) game cards for a chance to win gift card prizes. All participants must register prior to the event, be in the same household if they are sharing a vehicle, and must wear face coverings. The 50+ Drive-In Bingo Events will be held on Friday, April 2 and Friday, June 11 from 10-11:30am, and you can register now!

Please register online at ArcadiaCA.gov/Recreation or contact the Community Center at 626.574.5130. BINGO!!!

ALTADENA-SO. PASA-DENA-SAN MARINO

STAND UP AGAINST HATE: A MESSAGE FROM CHIEF INCONTRO

Across our Country, our State and our City of San Marino, hate has been experienced by our Asian American, Pacific Islander communities. It is inexcusable and in some cases criminal. As your Chief of Police, and parent of two students in our outstanding school district, I have a special interest in ensuring the safety and wellbeing of everyone in the city.

The Officers, civilians and professional staff of the San Marino Police Department are dedicated to supporting the Constitution of the United States and investigation and prosecution of those who violate laws. There are those who fail to understand that while speech is a protected right, it comes with the responsibility not to commit criminal acts, or to be hateful and disrespectful to others. Hate comes in many forms; direct face to face confrontations, writings, or through social media. So many hide behind the anonymity of social media. We should remember a meme may appear to be humorous to one person, it may actually be hurtful and offensive to others. Parents should monitor the social media of their children and when hateful content is found take appropriate action to educate and remove access to that social media platform.

It is important to understand the differences between hate crimes and hate incidents. A hate crime is a crime against a person, group, or property motivated by the victim's real or perceived protected social group. The law protects against many classes of hate crimes. Here are signs of a possible hate crime:

- The criminal chose the victim or property because they belonged to a protected group, like a certain religion or gender.
- The criminal made written or verbal comments showing a prejudice.
- The crime happened on a date that is important for the victim's protected group.
- There is a lot of organized hate activity in the area.
- A hate incident is an action or behavior motivated by hate but legally protected by the First Amendment right to freedom of expression.
- Examples of hate incidents include:

Name-calling,
Insults,
Distributing hate material in public places, and
Displaying hate material on your own property.

The U.S. Constitution allows hate speech as long as it does not interfere with the civil rights of others. If a hate incident starts to threaten a person or property, it may become a hate crime.

The San Marino Police Department encourages everyone who believes they may be a victim of a hate crime to contact the Department immediately so we may conduct a thorough investigation. It is important for you to report these crimes. You may not be the only victim and such activity, whether from a group or an individual, cannot be ignored. When you report a crime, you may be protecting someone else in our community. We take every call from the public serious and will investigate any crime to the fullest extent of the law.

It is time for all of us to get together and loudly denounce hate crimes and hate speech. We cannot ignore, or remain silent, it is time to speak up and stand up against hate. I invite all members of this community to join me and many other members of the City to speak out against hate directed at our Asian American and Pacific Islander communities and all other people who call San Marino home.



RESOLUTION NO. 7710, denounce hate crimes, hateful rhetoric and hateful acts against API-Americans

The South Pasadena City Council, on behalf of the City and all residents thereof, denounce hate crimes, hateful rhetoric and hateful acts against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and reaffirm our commitment to ensure that API Americans feel safe and welcome, both during this COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. South Pasadena City Council last week voted to approve Resolution 7710 (full text below).

WHEREAS, South Pasadena's proud and active Asian-American community makes up approximately 30% of our population. Our Asian-American neighbors are an integral component of that which makes South Pasadena so special. All of our lives are enriched by those in our presence that bring diversity to our life experiences; and

WHEREAS, the Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council and Chinese for Affirmative Action launched a hate incident-reporting internet website, "Stop AAPI Hate," at the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak in March of 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Stop AAPI Hate Reporting Center reported over 2,800 hate incidents against Asian Pacific Islander (API) Americans in 2020; and

WHEREAS, racism, hate crimes and negative rhetoric toward APIs has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, politically charged and culturally insensitive language referring to COVID-19 as the "Chinese virus" or "kung flu" further encouraged racism, prejudice and hate crimes toward APIs; and

WHEREAS, the promotion of such language by former President Donald Trump during his term further propagated anti-API sentiment in light of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans in the State of California are increasingly concerned about their safety and well-being, given the rise of hate crimes and other racially motivated attacks; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans in the State of California are more concerned about the safety of themselves and their families that are currently at high risk of being targeted; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, the California State Legislature's API Legislative Caucus spoke out against anti-API hate crimes in an effort to stand up for immigrant and refugee individuals. SECTION 1. The South Pasadena City Council, on behalf of the City and all residents thereof, denounce hate crimes, hateful rhetoric and hateful acts against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and reaffirm our commitment to ensure that API Americans feel safe and welcome, both during this COVID-19 pandemic and beyond; and

SECTION 2. That the Clerk of the City of South Pasadena transmit copies of this resolution to Governor Gavin Newsom, U.S. Senators Alex Padilla and Dianne Feinstein, Congressmember Adam Schiff, State Senator Anthony Portantino, State Assemblymember Christopher Holden.

SECTION 3. The City Clerk of the City of South Pasadena shall certify to the passage and adoption of this resolution and its approval by the City Council and shall cause the same to be listed in the records of the City.

For more information visit: southpasadenaca.gov.



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FEMA Covid-19 Funeral Assistance Starting April

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought overwhelming grief to many families. At FEMA, our mission is to help people before, during and after disasters. We are dedicated to helping ease some of the financial stress and burden caused by the virus.

Under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, FEMA will provide financial assistance for COVID-19-related funeral expenses incurred after January 20.

Who is Eligible?

- To be eligible for funeral assistance, you must meet these conditions:

- The death must have occurred in the United States, including the U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia.

- The death certificate must indicate the death was attributed to COVID-19.

- The applicant must be a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national, or qualified alien who incurred funeral expenses after January 20, 2020.

- There is no requirement for the deceased person to have been a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national, or qualified alien.

How to Apply:

In April, FEMA will begin



accepting applications. If you had COVID-19 funeral expenses, we encourage you to keep and gather documentation. Types of information should include:

An official death certificate that attributes the death directly or indirectly to COVID-19 and shows that the death occurred in the United States, including the U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia.

Funeral expenses documents (receipts, funeral home contract, etc.) that includes the applicant's name, the deceased person's name, the amount of funeral expenses, and the dates the funeral expenses happened.

Proof of funds received from other sources specifically for use toward funeral costs. We are not able to duplicate benefits received from burial or funeral insurance, financial assistance received from voluntary agencies, government agencies, or other sources.

For more information visit: fema.gov.

Cosmic Cocktail Hour Mount Wilson Observatory History

When it was founded in 1904, Mount Wilson Observatory was home to the world's largest telescope. Since then, the observatory's telescopes have been used by world-famous astronomers, among them the likes of Edwin Hubble and George Ellery Hale, to make countless extraordinary discoveries.

For this month's Cosmic Cocktail Hour, Tim Thompson, a Mount Wilson Institute trustee, will lead a presentation about Mount Wilson Observatory's fascinating history Wednesday, April 7, at 4 p.m. via Zoom, sponsored by the Pasadena Senior Center.

The observatory's history spans from 1889 when astronomy was first brought to the isolated mountaintop, to 1923 when astronomer Margaret Harwood became the first woman allowed to use the observatory, to 1944 when astronomer Walter Baade took advantage of World War II blackout conditions to observe stars in the center of the Andromeda Galaxy for the first time, to today as Mount Wilson Observatory carries on its storied legacy.

The cost of the Zoom event is only \$7 for members of the Pasadena Senior Center and \$10 for nonmembers 50 and older. Residency in Pasadena is not required.

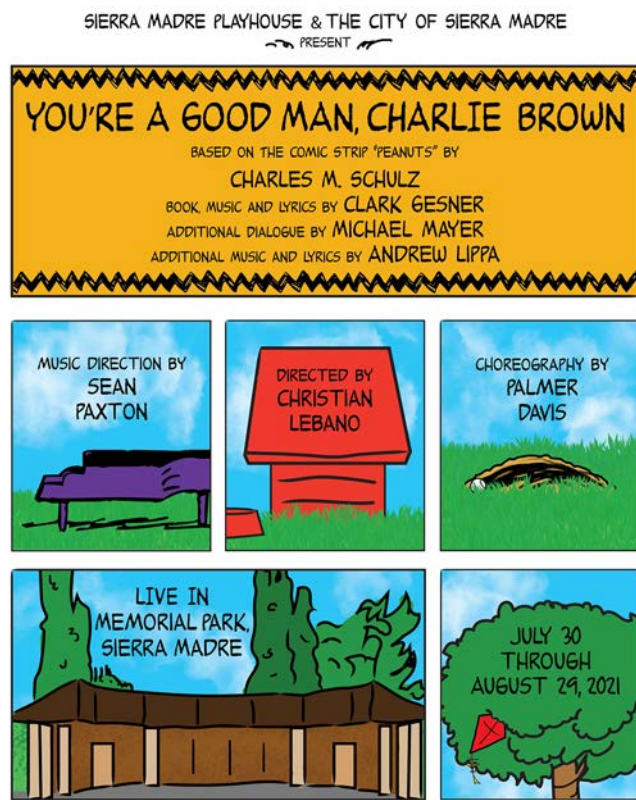
To register, visit: pasadenaseniorcenter.org and click on Events, Clubs and Lectures, then Online Events or call 626-795-4331. Everyone who registers will receive an email link to access the Zoom event. Anyone who does not have WiFi or an email address can call 626-795-4331 to receive a number to call to join this Zoom event by phone.

Pour your favorite beverage, sit back and enjoy the trip.

For more information about online activities and other programs and services of the Pasadena Senior Center, visit the website or call 626-795-4331.

AROUND SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

SIERRA MADRE PLAYHOUSE RESUMES FULLY PRODUCED SHOWS WITH A MUSICAL PRESENTED OUTDOORS: YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN OPENS JULY 30



TICKETS: [SIERRA MADRE PLAYHOUSE.ORG](http://sierramadrepayhouse.org) OR 626.355.4318

modate parties of two, four, or six. This will primarily be lawn seating (please bring your own blankets), but there will also be cir-cles designated for people who bring chairs.

Circles will go on sale starting May 3. Circles can be purchased at <http://sierramadrepayhouse.org> or by calling (626) 355-4318.

"This will be a joyous way to return to producing theater," says Sierra Madre Play-house's Producing Artistic Director Christian Lebano. "A wonderful, funny, heartwarming show which will allow families to enjoy live theater again. I cannot think of a better way to celebrate our reopening than with this show. I am so grateful to the partnership that the City of Sierra Madre is providing us. I have always wanted to produce in Memorial Park - and now, because of COVID we'll finally get to. I hope that this will become a yearly tradi-tion."

Sierra Madre Playhouse's season for Fall 2021, to be produced at the historic Playhouse, will be announced in May.

MORE SIERRA MADRE PLAYHOUSE NEWS:

Join us this Sunday, March 28 at 5 pm PDT, for the real-time premiere of our recording of "The Most Dangerous Game" by Richard Connell.

"The Most Dangerous Game" by Richard Connell, adapted and directed by Gary Lamb and star-ring Gary Lamb, Bill Mendieta, Saige Spinney, and Matthew Williamson makes its debut via real-time premiere on Sunday, March 28, at 5 pm PDT on Sierra Madre Playhouse's YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram channels! (Learn more about the director and cast on our Facebook or Instagram!)

ABOUT "THE MOST DANGEROUS GAME":

A big-game hunter from New York City falls off a yacht and swims to what seems to be an abandoned and isolated island in the Caribbean, where he is hunted by a Russian aristocrat. This short story from 1924 was inspired by the big-game hunting safaris in Africa and South America that were particularly fashionable among wealthy Americans in the 1920s. "The Most Dangerous Game" is much more than a hunting story -- the suspense keeps building until the very end.

Join us for the real-time premiere on any of these platforms! Click the icons below to directly join us Sunday at 5 pm PDT.



You Tube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TVMh5-Z8d_s
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SierraMadrePlayhouse/posts/3938219486201300>
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/sierra.madre.playhouse/channel/>

ABOUT SMP'S OFF THE SHELF SERIES:
 SMP's Off the Shelf: Short Stories Out Loud Series presents a full-cast, audio-only short story offering via real-time premiere every 4th Sunday of the month. This short story offering, as well as all our other Off the Shelf offerings, are available online permanently after their real-time premieres. New release every month!

TABLE FOR TWO by Peter Dills *thechefknows@yahoo.com*

EASTER HAM PRISONER BLEND

Reader Dottie C. got to me just in time. She asked for a couple of suggestions on wine pairings for her annual Easter Baked Ham. You see Dottie tells me that she is a traditionalist and family has been coming over to her family's home for almost thirty years. While everyone one loves her cooking skills she asked for a couple of suggestions on the wine part and possibly a beer for her new son-in-law.

A baked ham that has been glazed and has brown sugar is a tricky matter but I have two suggestions right away. Well three stay clear off a bold cabernet, the sugars will collide and make the cab just too citric. I suggested a blend and one of my all time favorites is Prisoner 20XX Blend.

The reason for this Napa gem, is it not only will go great with the ham, it also will match your sides of yams, rice pudding and string beans. Sounds like a great menu. What time is the party? The wine has a deep ruby red color and aromas of black cherry and plum. The first taste was powerful, and if you have been following my columns, you know I don't swirl -- I go for a complete taste. There's no need to let this blend sit; it was ready to enjoy right after opening with your Easter Brunch.

This is an absolute favorite of mine, one the best blends that I have tasted at any price. Available at finer liquor stores and wine departments. Sale price around \$43

Less money and a phenomenal value is the Maddalena Pinot Grigio, just like my previous comments, the Pinot Grigio is an ideal partner for your entrée. This Paso Robles award winner is perfect for your guests that want something cool and crisp. Your guests that might be the "occasional", social drinker will think you spent double the amount. Available at VONS. Wine Enthusiast 90 Points and I agree.

Email Peter at thechefknows@yahoo.com and follow me on Twitter @KINGOFCUISINE

LA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL APPLICATION OPEN
 The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Youth Advisory Council is a newly formed group of youth brought together to increase youth involvement within the Department.
 Through the Public Health Youth Advisory Council, members:
 • Work directly with DPH staff at a public health center, serving as local DPH youth am-bassadors and gaining hands-on community-level work experience.

- Develop leadership and advocacy skills through monthly Youth Advisory Council meet-ings focused strengthening youth voice, and personal and group competencies.
 - Learn about the various public health issues impacting Los Angeles County residents and on how the Department works to address them.
 - Advise and make appropriate recommendations regarding health issues of special inter-est to youth within Los Angeles County, and help guide the work of the Department of Public Health.
- Applications must be submitted by Friday, April 2, 2021.

COVID-19 HOSPITALIZATIONS DROP BELOW 700; L.A. COUNTY NEARS 4 MILLION VACCINE DOSES ADMINISTERED

To date, Public Health identified 1,217,034 positive cases of COVID-19 across all areas of L.A. County and a total of 23,055 deaths.

There are 692 people with COVID-19 currently hospitalized and 26% of these people are in the ICU. This is the first time daily hospitalizations dropped under 700 since October of last year.

Nearly 3,800,000 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered to people across Los Angeles County. Of those vaccinated, 1,232,348 people received second doses and 67,016 people received the single dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

Next week, Public Health is expecting to receive 340,000 vaccine doses; a 21% increase over the doses received this week. This allocation includes approximately 14,000 doses of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. Of the 340,000 doses we expect to receive next week, 65% will go to vaccine providers located in vulnerable and hard-hit communities across the county, specifically those communities in the lowest quartile of the Healthy Places Index and communities with high COVID-19 case rates. With more than 500 sites offering vaccination services across the county, we continue to move the needle in our vaccination coverage efforts, with a strong focus on hard-hit communities.

As of March 20, 65.1% of L.A. County residents 65 and older received at least one dose of the vaccine and 42.4% received both doses. Mobile vaccine teams are deploying to hard hit communities, with a priority of vaccinating residents 65 and older. More than 80 mobile vaccination teams were scheduled to administer vaccinations this week at senior housing sites, senior centers, faith-based organizations and community-based organizations. In the coming weeks, an additional 150 mobile vaccination sites are scheduled throughout our county.

Vaccine eligibility categories were expanded to include gardeners and landscapers, housekeepers and private child caretakers working at least 20 hours per week, and flight crews that live or are based in Los Angeles County. Persons in these occupations are now eligible for vaccine and can now register for a vaccination appointment.

The State announced starting April 1, COVID-19 vaccine eligibility will expand to individuals age 50 and older, and starting April 15, for individuals age 16 and older. The County hopes the expansion of eligibility includes increased doses of vaccine coming into L.A. County. Public Health greatly looks forward to this expansion, however the success will be dependent on receiving a substantial increase in vaccine supplies.

"We send our deepest sympathies to everyone mourning the loss of a loved one to COVID-19," said Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd, Director of Public Health. "The more people that are vaccinated, the closer we are to ending the horrific death toll associated with the pandemic. We know the virus does not respect borders and we remain quite concerned with reports of rising cases of COVID-19 and hospitalizations in a growing number of states. If we are able to hold the line here and prevent another wave of infections, we will soon be able to realize the profound benefits of our mass vaccination efforts in preventing COVID-19 hospitalizations and deaths. As vaccination eligibility expands, we remain laser-focused on ensuring an equitable distribution of vaccines."

Testing results are available for more 6,052,000 individuals with 19% of people testing positive. Today's daily test positivity rate is 1.4%.

L.A. County is working to ensure that eligible residents and workers in hard hit communities have increased access to vaccines. For information about who is eligible for COVID-19 vaccine in L.A. County, how to make an appointment if it is your turn, what verifications you will need to show at your vaccination appointment, and much more, visit: www.VaccinateLACounty.com (English) and www.VacunateLosAngeles.com (Spanish). *Vaccinations are always free and open to eligible residents and workers regardless of immigration status.*

LOCAL STATISTICS AS OF 3/26/2021

CITY	POPULATION	CASES	DEATHS
Altadena	43,260	3,249	67
Arcadia	57,754	2,642	127
Bradbury	1,069	35	0
Duarte	22,016	2,282	93
Monrovia	38,800	3,114	72
Pasadena	141,371	11,113	335
Sierra Madre	10,989	455	13

Know the Facts



Vaccinate ALL 58
 Together we can end the pandemic.

Californians have made extraordinary sacrifices to help slow the spread of COVID-19. Help is on the way as the state begins its rollout of safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine. Now the work begins to Vaccinate All 58. Together, we can end the pandemic – in all of California's 58 counties.

COVID-19 Vaccine is Here

- ▶ COVID-19 vaccine for California is here — it is safe and effective.
- ▶ California is committed to a fair and equitable allocation and distribution process. No one should bypass the established vaccine allocation and distribution process.
- ▶ Individuals with the highest risk of becoming infected and spreading COVID-19 will receive vaccines first. Later in 2021, most Californians will have an opportunity to get vaccinated.
- ▶ Vaccines are available at no cost.
- ▶ California is receiving shipments of COVID-19 vaccines produced by Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna. Health care workers and residents in long-term care will be the first to be vaccinated.
- ▶ California is working closely with community partners and stakeholders to help guide the planning process and ensure the vaccine is distributed and administered equitably.

COVID-19 Vaccine is Safe and Effective

- ▶ California has its own Scientific Safety Review Workgroup comprised of immunization, public health, academic and other experts who are vetting vaccine safety.
- ▶ The Moderna vaccine is approved for those 18 years and older, consists of two doses given 28 days apart, and is 94 percent effective against COVID-19.
- ▶ Sometimes vaccination can cause a sore arm, aches, fatigue or fever for a few days after getting the vaccine, but these are not harmful.
- ▶ Vaccinated individuals should keep wearing masks, washing hands and watching their distance until the vaccine has been widely distributed.
- ▶ The Scientific Safety Review Workgroup has confirmed that the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines have met high standards for safety and efficacy.
- ▶ The Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine is approved for those 16 years and older, consists of two doses given 21 days apart, and is 95 percent effective against COVID-19.

About The Vaccines

- ▶ The Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine is approved for those 16 years and older, consists of two doses given 21 days apart, and is 95 percent effective against COVID-19.

Remember, your actions continue to save lives. Wear a mask, wash your hands, keep your distance, and when it's your turn, get vaccinated.

For the latest facts, please visit covid19.ca.gov/vaccines.

PASADENA UNIFIED REACHES AGREEMENT WITH EDUCATORS TO SAFELY REOPEN MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS

In-person instruction to begin opening April 20 for grades 6-12

Pasadena, CA (March 26, 2021) – The Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) and United Teachers of Pasadena (UTP) reached an agreement on reopening middle and high schools for in-person instruction, setting the date for student cohorts to begin returning to campus on April 20, 2021.

“We’re very pleased to come to this agreement with UTP,” said Superintendent Brian McDonald, Ed.D. “Teachers and other employees represented by UTP are a vital link to student learning. Our goal has always been to work collaboratively with our labor partners in coming to a solution that benefits our entire PUSD community.”

As previously announced, PUSD student cohorts in preschool through second grade will begin returning April 13. Student cohorts in grades 3-5 return April 20.

Student cohorts in grades 6-12 will begin to return for in-person instruction on April 20 in the hybrid simultaneous learning model where groups of students are in the classroom and their classmates remain in distance learning. About Simultaneous Learning

“The return to in-person learning, when students can interact with their peers and meet face to face with their teachers, is a tremendous step forward as our community recovers from the pandemic,” said Superintendent McDonald. “We are excited to welcome students back to campus.”

Students who select in-person learning will be on campus in cohorts for two consecutive days between Tuesday and Friday and the remainder of the week in distance learning. Students will be on campus either Tuesday-Wednesday or Thursday-Friday, depending on their cohort assignment.

Cohorts will be assigned according to the results of the Return to Campus Survey which closes for 6-12 parents/guardians on April 7, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. Schools will notify parents/guardians about their students’ cohort assignments the week of April 12. Middle and high schools will hold orientation sessions for their school communities the week of April 12.

School Day Schedule:

The number of instructional minutes and start/dismissal times remain the same. Schools will send out specific schedules about class periods, as these may vary by campus.

In-person student cohorts will exit from the campus at lunchtime and resume personalized learning time at home until the school day dismisses. Personalized learning time includes small-group and/or asynchronous learning.

Asynchronous Learning Days

Middle and high school UTP members will have up to three days (April 1, 2, and 12) to prepare classrooms for social distancing. Students may be in asynchronous learning on those days. Students in grades 6-12 should check their Canvas account for directions from their teachers on April 1, 2, and 12.

UTP members in middle and high school will return to work locations on April 13 and teachers will be teaching from their classroom while 6-12th grade students remain in distance learning. Grade 6-12 student cohorts will begin returning to campus on April 20.

Middle and High Schools Reopening Calendar

April 1, 2, 12

Students in grades 6-12 may be in asynchronous learning days while teachers prepare for social distancing. Students should check their Canvas account for directions from their teachers on April 1, 2, and 12.

April 7

Return to School Survey for grades 6-12 closes at 11:59 p.m. Complete the survey at www.pusd.us/survey

April 13-16

Students in synchronous distance learning. Teachers will be in their classrooms.

April 19

All students in distance learning

April 20

Middle and high school student cohorts begin returning to campus
Student cohorts in grades 3-5 also begin returning

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 Christian School

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

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.bcsliions.org

Clairbourn School

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E-mail: jhawes@clairbourn.org

Holy Family Catholic School

1301 Rollin Street South Pasadena Ca 91030
(626) 799-4354 •
Transitional Kindergarten - 8th Grade
Principal: Mrs. Darcie Girmus
Website: www.school.holyfamily.org
Email: info@holysfamily.org
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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
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E-mail address: newsom.garrett@pusd.us

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Lisa Feldman: Head of School

Wilson Middle School

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(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.monroviashools.net

Duarte Unified School District

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...on our friends on April Fool's Day.

Kids: color stuff in!



April Fool's Day Surprises

The first day of April is April Fool's Day. It is a time for lots of fun. People like to play harmless jokes and pranks. One favorite trick is to point out something that's not really there!

April Fool's Day used to be called All Fool's Day. It is thought to have started in France. A long time ago, March 21st was the date of the New Year. A little over a week of parties and fun followed. On the last day of the festivities, April 1st, formal visits were paid and gifts exchanged.

In the 16th century, the Gregorian calendar was introduced. March 21st was no longer New Year's Day and April 1st was no longer the right day to visit and give gifts. News traveled slowly in those early times, so many people continued to celebrate April 1st as the last big day of the holiday season. Many others did not like the change of date and refused to change their ways. People who clung to the old ways were called "April fools."

Today, on April 1st, you might hear someone call out, "Poisson d'Avril!" They have fooled someone and are calling them an "April fish." The person took the "bait" and was easily "caught." April Fool's Day is a day for tricks that hurt no one. It is a time for laughter.



disguises

behave

costumes

I put "eyes" on all of the fruit to freak out my brother.

Jesters were people who would entertain crowds at marketplaces or festivals. Read the clues below to learn about jesters and to fill in the puzzle:

- _____ jesters entertained the king
- _____ jesters entertained crowds of people in marketplaces or at festivals
- some people thought jesters were "unlucky" and others thought they would bring good _____
- jesters might wear _____ to surprise people
- they told stories and _____

We put a rubber ducky in the fridge.



I love to make people laugh!

woman

gestures

tricks

traveling

understand

Today we have clowns to entertain us.

Aw! C'mon, I'm not that easy to "hook"!

fortune

court

first

jokes

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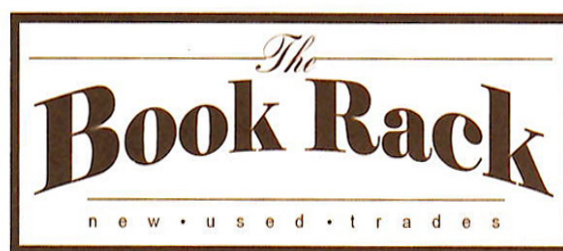
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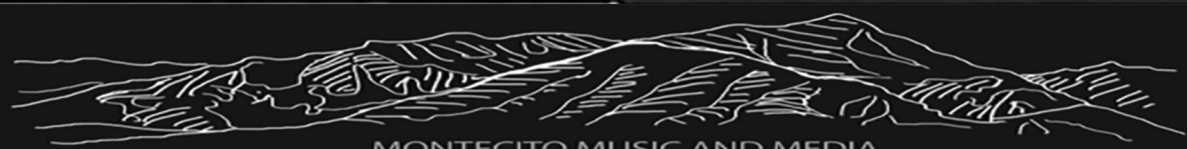


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HOW TO SEARCH FOR SENIOR DISCOUNTS IN 2021

Dear Savvy Senior:
I just turned 60 and would like to find out the best way to go about locating senior discounts. Looking to Save

Dear Looking:
One of the best, yet underutilized perks of growing older in the United States is the many discounts that are available to older adults.

There are literally thousands of discounts on a wide variety of products and services including restaurants, grocery stores, travel and lodging, entertainment, retail and apparel, health and beauty, automotive services and much more. These discounts – typically ranging between 5 and 25 percent off – can add up to save you hundreds of dollars each year.

So, if you don't mind admitting your age, here are some tips and tools to help you find the discounts you may be eligible for.

Ask!
The first thing to know is that most businesses don't advertise them, but many give senior discounts just for the asking, so don't be shy.

You also need to know that while some discounts are available as soon as you turn 50, most don't kick in until you turn 55, 60, 62 or 65.

Search Online
Because senior discounts frequently change and can vary depending on where you live and the time of the year, the internet is the easiest way to locate them.

A good place to start is at TheSeniorList.com (click on the "Senior Discounts" tab), which provides a large list of discounts in categories, i.e., restaurant dining, grocery stores, retail stores, prescription medications, travel discounts and more.

You can also search for discounts by provider. Go to a search engine like Google and Yahoo and type in the business or organization you're curious about, followed by "senior discount" or "senior discount tickets."

If you use a smartphone, there are also apps you can use like the "Senior Discounts & Coupons" app (available on the App Store and Google Play), which categorizes discounts by age and type.

Join a Club
Another good avenue to senior discounts is through membership organizations like AARP, which offers its members age 50 and older a wide variety of discounts through affiliate businesses (see AARPdiscounts.com).

If, however, you don't like or agree with AARP, there are other organizations you can join that also provide discounts like the American Seniors Association (AmericanSeniors.org), the American Automobile Association (AAA.com), or for retired federal workers, the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE.org).

Types of Discounts
Here's an abbreviated rundown of some of the different types of discounts you can expect to find.

Restaurants: Senior discounts are common at restaurants and fast-food establishments – like Applebee's, Arby's, Burger King, Chili's, Denny's and IHOP – ranging from free/discounted drinks, to discounts off your total order.

Retailers: Many thrift stores like Goodwill and Salvation Army, and certain retailers like TJ Maxx, Banana Republic, Kohl's, Michaels, Ross and Walgreens stores offer a break to seniors on certain days of the week.

Grocery stores: Many locally owned grocery stores offer senior discount programs, as do some chains like BI-LO, Piggly-Wiggly, Fry's Food Stores, New Seasons, Fred Meyer, and Hy-Vee, which offer discounts on certain days of the week, but they vary by location.

Travel: American, United and Southwest Airlines provide limited senior fares in the U.S. to passengers 65 and older, while British Airlines offers AARP members discounts of up to \$200. Amtrak provides a 15 percent discount to travelers over 62. Most car rental companies give discounts to 50-plus customers or those who belong to organizations like AARP. Royal Caribbean, Norwegian, Celebrity and Carnival cruise lines offer discount rates to cruisers 55 and over. And, most hotels offer senior discounts, usually ranging from 10 to 20 percent.

Entertainment: Most movie theaters, museums, golf courses, ski slopes and other public entertainment venues provide reduced admission to seniors over 60 or 65. And the National Park Service offers a lifetime senior pass for those 62 and older for \$80 (see nps.gov/playyourvisit/passes.htm).

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

FAMILY MATTERS By Marc Garlett



this spring. First up, although it's technically not a tax break, the IRS announced that the deadline for filing your 2020 federal income taxes has been pushed back from April 15 to May 17, 2021, which gives you an extra month to get your tax return handled.

The postponement applies to individual taxpayers, including those who pay self-employment taxes. But the extension does not apply to first-quarter 2021 estimated tax payments that many small business owners file. So if you file quarterly taxes, contact your tax advisor now if you haven't already done so.

Additionally, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act passed in March 2020 provides individual taxpayers with several hefty tax-saving opportunities, many of which are only available this year. What's more, President Biden's new relief package, known as the American Rescue Plan (ARP), which went into effect in March 2021, not only offers additional stimulus payments to most Americans, but it also includes significant tax relief for those taxpayers who lost their job and had to rely on unemployment benefits in 2020.

While there are dozens of potential tax breaks available for 2020, here are three of the leading ways you can save big money on your 2020 tax return.

1. Stimulus Payments
As part of the CARES Act, millions of Americans received stimulus checks in 2020, and those payments were an advance refundable tax credit on your 2020 taxes. This means that no matter how much you owe (or get back) on your 2020 taxes, you get to keep all of the stimulus money and won't have to pay any taxes on it.

Because the IRS didn't have everyone's 2020 tax returns when they issued the stimulus checks, they based the stimulus payments on your 2018 or 2019 returns, whichever one you had most recently filed. Using data from those years, the stimulus payments from 2020 phased out at an adjusted gross income (AGI) of \$75,000 to \$99,000 for singles and at \$150,000 to \$198,000 for married couples filing jointly.

Given that the stimulus payments were based on your AGI for 2018 or 2019 but technically apply to your 2020 AGI, you may find that your payment was either too

WAYS TO SAVE BIG MONEY ON YOUR 2020 TAXES—PART 1

2020 was such a tough year in so many ways for so many families. But thanks to recent legislation, you could see a silver lining in the form of major tax breaks when filing your income taxes this spring. First up, although it's technically not a tax break, the IRS announced that the deadline for filing your 2020 federal income taxes has been pushed back from April 15 to May 17, 2021, which gives you an extra month to get your tax return handled.

much or too little. But there's good news—even if your financial situation has improved since 2018 or 2019 and you received too much stimulus money based on your 2020 income, you get to keep the overage.

2. Unemployment Benefits
When the pandemic stalled out the economy, many Americans lost their jobs and were forced to rely on unemployment insurance to pay the bills. That said, unemployment benefits are generally taxable, so if you took them, without having taxes automatically deducted, you were looking at having to pay income taxes on that money when you file your 2020 return.

However, taxpayers who received unemployment benefits in 2020 were provided with significant relief with the passage of President Biden's American Rescue Plan (ARP). Under the ARP, the first \$10,200 of your 2020 unemployment benefits are tax-free if your annual household income is less than \$150,000. The ARP doesn't provide a different threshold for single and joint filers, so both spouses are entitled to the \$10,200 tax break, for a potential total of \$20,400, if both spouses received the benefits.

Note that if your unemployment benefits exceed \$10,200 in 2020, you'll need to report the excess as taxable income and pay taxes on the amount over the limit. And if your household income is over \$150,000, you'll need to pay taxes on all of your unemployment benefits just like you would before the passage of the ARP.

3. Waived RMDs
You are typically required to take an annual required minimum distribution (RMD) from your IRA, 401(k), or other tax-deferred retirement account starting in the year when you turn 72, but the CARES Act temporarily waived the RMD requirement for 2020. The waiver also applies if you reached age 70½ in 2019, but waited to take your first RMD until 2020, as allowed under the SECURE Act.

RMDs generally count as taxable income, so taking this waiver means that you may have lower taxable income in 2020 and therefore owe less income taxes for 2020.

However, there are several factors to consider, including the state of the market and your living expenses, when deciding whether or not to waive your RMDs. Given this, consult with your tax professional before making your final decision.

Next week, in part two of this series, we'll cover a few additional ways you can save big money on your 2020 tax bill.

SENIOR HAPPENINGS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! ...MARCH Birthdays*



Cathy Flammer, Clare Marquardt, Karen Blachly, Carla Duplex, Ella Guttman, Vicky Tchatlian, Mary Cooper, Sun Liu, Helen Wallis, Joan Crow, Nancy Fox, Martha Cassara, Rita Johnson, Mercedes Campos, Dorothy Webster, Terri Elder, Carol Cerrina, Amy Putnam, Sally Contreras
* To add your name to this distinguished list, please call the paper at 626.355.2737. YEAR of birth not required

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 lheinzz@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 lheinzz@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

ANTS,ANTS, ANTS, WHERE'S THE UNCLES?

I have learned in my life that the small things are the ones that get you down.

You would think the big things are the ones to steal most of your time. But those big things call attention to themselves from the very beginning. You know they're there, you know you have to do something about it, and so you do. The little things in life, usually unnoticed and ignored, cause most of the problems. Everybody has their definition of what a "small problem" really is.

A small problem for me is finding the pen I need for a particular project. I have a different pen for each project, and I don't like to mix them up. Someone in the family thinks it's crazy for me to have that kind of a problem. But everybody is crazy in some way. Another small problem for me would be finding the right book to do some research for the day. Believe me, that small problem can become a huge problem towards the end of the day. But then there is the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage.

She never met a problem she can't fix and fix right away. No problem, in her mind, goes without being fixed right now.

Sometime this year, we will be celebrating our 50th wedding anniversary. For 50 years, I have lived with her, and I have learned some things about her.

For example, when something isn't working right, she stops whatever she is doing and fixes it, and if it can't be fixed, then it really isn't broken.

This is quite different from me. There is nothing I can fix. If it isn't broken, I can't even fix it. That's why we make an excellent team.

There is nothing I can't break and there is nothing she can't fix. What a team we make.

There is nothing too big that she cannot fix and fix right away. I've always appreciated that, and I can't imagine how much money we have saved by not hiring fix-it people to come and fix something.

The truth be known, I never noticed anything is broken until after my wife fixes it. What would our home be if she wasn't around?

But then recently I discovered something new about her.

My wife and her daughter and granddaughter spent three days doing some thrift store shopping in St. Augustine. That meant I was in charge of the house for three days. I still don't understand why she left me in charge for that long of a period, but I don't look a gift horse in the mouth.

Anyway, I was in charge, and I tried to be as careful as possible, so I wouldn't get into any trouble. However, someone in the house dropped some cat food by the door as they fed the cats. I'm not at

liberty to reveal that person's name.

I never encountered any problem those three days and enjoyed myself; at least, I thought I was enjoying myself.

My wife came home on a Thursday, and that night we went to bed, and early the following morning, as I was shaving, I heard a loud voice coming from the kitchen area.

"What are you doing in here?"

I almost cut myself shaving, thinking we had an intruder, and I better get out there to see what's happening.

When I got to the kitchen my wife was at the door, looking down with some can of spray in her hand, yelling, "Get out of here and never come back."

I did not know what she was talking about or who she was talking to. As I got closer, I looked down at the floor, and much to my surprise, there was a whole colony of ants that had invaded her kitchen. I have never seen so many ants in all my life.

I was afraid to ask what I could do because she probably would've told me.

I try supporting her for the next hour as she was getting those ants out of her kitchen. Most of them did not survive. When she was done, I thought that would be over, and we could get on with our life.

After all, an ant is a tiny thing and, to my mind, easily disposed.

By afternoon, I had forgotten all about that morning incident.

We went to bed that night, as usual, thinking everything was okay.

The following morning as I was in the bathroom shaving, I again heard her screaming, "You're not back again, are you?"

I had forgotten about yesterday, so I ran out to the kitchen to see what was going on in the world.

There at the door, my wife was looking down and yelling and spraying something, and I noticed it was the ants again.

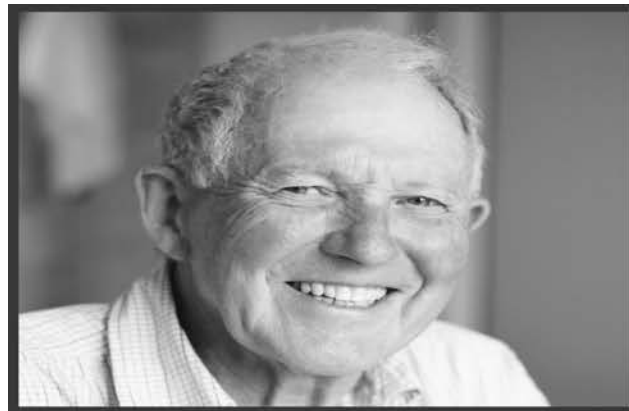
"I told you not to come back again!"

They were back again, and for the next few days, they returned every morning. Eventually, my wife had her way, and the ants disappeared. I have no idea where they went, but I'm hoping they don't come back again, or they will be in real trouble.

During the day, I happened to think of the Bible verse that said, "The ants are a people not strong, yet they prepare their meat in the summer" (Proverbs 30:25).

Ants are so little, and yet they can create such a big problem if not taken care of. Where are the uncles?

Dr. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, 1471 Pine Road, Ocala, FL 34472.



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

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A REMINDER TO STOP THE HATE!



CHRISTOPHER Nyerges

THE LOVE WE HAVE FOR DOGS



[Nyerges is the author of "Til Death Do Us Part?" a book about death and the many ways to deal with the death of a pet or loved one. The book is available as a Kindle download, or from the Store at www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance.com]

My review of the Hachiko story and movie (March 13, 2012, Vol. 15, #1) struck a chord with some readers, who shared their own personal stories of the death of their own be-loved canines.

During one discussion, the reader told me of his great conflict of choosing to euthanize his elderly and sick dog. He wanted the dog to die naturally, but he consented to his veteri-narian's recommendation that it would be best for the dog to be euthanized.

It reminded me of my childhood, when my own father took our pet dog to the vet when our dog was old and sick. He did it during the day when we were away at school. I was saddened and shocked that adults in the adult world would willingly kill their pet dogs and tell themselves that it was the best choice to make!

Later that night, after my father was asleep, my mother – who grew up on a farm – ex-plained that she used to see animals die all the time. "We just tried to make them com-fortable," she told me. "Animals know they are dying. They usually want to be around their people to feel safe, and not in a cold hospital where they don't know anyone." That was her way of telling me that she didn't agree with my father's decision. I was sad for a long time, and vowed that I would never again do that to any pet of mine – and I've kept that vow life-long, despite the inconveniences that come with assisting a person or pet in death.

The choice to let your pet die in its own time in your own home might seem to be the best organic choice, but it's not always easy, especially in this tight modern world.

Here's an example. My wife Dolores and I had many dogs, and many other pets as well. We lived in Highland Park with a bigger than average back yard, and so we had the room to let the animals live, and die. Pretty much every fruit tree in the yard had an ani-mal buried under it!

Our dog Luahona was getting old, and had cancer and other conditions. The vet told us that we could improve her diet, and give her special nutrients, which we did, but the vet also advised that it might be "kindest" to just euthanize Luahona. Of course, we were not going to do that.

In the final days, Dolores took Luahona with her in the car on her errands, as well as to the farmers market one day. We knew Luahona was dying and her ribs were showing be-cause she would no longer eat as much. A woman at the farmers market who observed Luahona's ribs sticking out chided us for not taking care of Luahona – as if she knew what she was talking about – and she went ahead and called the animal control officer.

The uniformed animal control officer came out and aggressively talked to Dolores. Dolores did her best to explain that there was no animal cruelty going on what-soever. Still, after listening to the story, the officer told Dolores that it would be in the best interest of the dog to euthanize. She further told Dolores that she had the legal right to take Luahona then and there and go euthanize her. Let's just say that I gave her a good dose of what I thought of her! Yes, I might have regretted a bit of my colorful language later, but I did not mind telling her that we were doing the right thing for our beloved friend, and that she was just a paid factotum for the legality of the state, no different from a Nazi following orders. It didn't go over well, but I did help Dolores and Loahona quickly get into the car and immediately drive home. We never saw or heard from that animal control officer again.

In a week or so, Luahona died in her bed at our home. We found it uniquely coincidental that a thunderstorm was occurring when Luahona died, with loud thunderclaps. We told ourselves that Luahona was saying goodbye, and thanking us.

Everyone has to make the decision for themselves as to how to deal with the death of their loved dogs, or cats, or other animals. It's a decision that is made more complicated by the rules and regulations of the state of California, and the County of Los Angeles, and all their well-intended rules and regulations. Still, you can always do the right thing if you think through all your steps ahead of time so you don't have to try to decide in the mo-moment when you are grieving the loss, or imminent loss, of your pet.

FREE ANIMAL HOSPITAL NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Heyo' Sierra Madre! How ya'll doing?

Your lovely local 501c3 non-profit, Free Animal Doctor, could use some stuff if you have it and don't need it! Plus a volunteer! Here are the deets (as the kids say, the kids from 20 years ago):

1) Towels. When we do Spay/Neuter clinics we put towels in every metal cage to make it more comfy. We also clean up with them. So if you have used towels you don't need, we need 'em! They can be stained, frayed, even a small hole here or there, just as long as they are clean. Put them in a plastic trash bag, and drop them under the mailboxes at 70 E. Montecito Ave... we cannot get enough towels! Love 'em!!

2) Portable canopies. Our big canopy got destroyed in the windstorm. We have a small one, but we could use one or two more. It's to shade our staff and clients when they come to the Spay/Neuter clinic and have to stand outside. Got one you don't use? We'll use it every weekend! Comment here and we'll connect.

3) Wanna volunteer? We need help checking pets in on Sundays and Mondays. We have about 20-25 people show up at about the same time, and we need to quickly process paperwork and get their pets safely into the clinic for surgery.

It's 730am until about 930am on Sundays and Mondays at Gate 7 of Santa Anita, right off Baldwin before you get down to the mall. You don't have to volunteer every day, but a couple times a month minimum would be good. There is a minor bit of training involved, and you get much better at it with experience, so we are looking for a bit of a commitment if you wanna help. Let me know, again, comment and I will arrange for us to get in touch. THANKS!!

Katnip News!



BRUNO (Mars)!

From his foster mom: "Bruno was rescued as a stray. He is not even two years old but has already lived a very hard life. I first became aware of him due to his loud meowing. He was an intact male and his "singing" had a sad, plaintive sound to it. So I named him Bruno,



after Bruno Mars (who also has a cry in his voice). I have been feeding and befriending Bruno for a year now. He would show up with battle scars and in the early days, before I could get close to him, a broken tail (he lost the end of it). Two months ago, he was neutered, vaccinated, and microchipped. Bruno is not feral, he must have been a pet who got abandoned or lost and had to survive on his own. The ordeal he has endured has not broken him. He is sweet and loving and eager to give life another chance. I have tried to integrate him into our household but our two cats are not reacting well to a third. This is not Bruno's fault, he has been very sweet to them. He deserves a safe, loving home." NOTE: Cats who are FIV+ usually need no medication and can live a full, long, life as long as they are monitored. They can live with other non-FIV+ cats if there is no biting or aggressive fighting. The condition is not contagious to humans or other species. See more pictures, adoption information and application on our website at the More Cats page at www.lifelineforpets.org.

Pet of the Week

Peppa is ten years old and loves affection! She was given a plastic spring toy recently and rubbed it with her chin, but she was much more interested in being pet. This sweet kitty wants to get to know you first, but she warms up to people very quickly when cheek scratches are involved. She loves being pet so much, she'll even drool when she's truly content! Peppa would make a great lap cat or couch buddy in a calm home. This lovebug even does well with other cats and small dogs.

The adoption fee for cats is \$100. 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 day at 5:00 p.m. for the following day.

Pets may not be available for adoption and cannot be held for potential adopters by phone calls or email.



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Sierra Madre based non-profit

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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



to explain the actions of many of those people who stormed the Capitol on January 6th.

For those seeming insurrectionists action was required right now. They were experiencing a threatened, or even immediate loss of the values they held most dear that were an integral part of the world in which they lived. They were fighting, breaking windows and laws, even risking arrest and even their lives to save their world from destruction. Of course that world consisted of an unchallengeable belief in White Superiority, Black Inferiority, Male Dominance, Genderly Separate Bathrooms, and a fear of Socialism or Communism or some "ism" which would take away their individuality and possessions and futures. Sure, this all makes little sense to we enlightened ones who classify their behavior as "crazy" while our behavior is "sane". Of course, I remember when we sane ones were willing to go to war and kill people we didn't know or be killed ourselves just because we had been taught to believe that what we were supposed to do so if our country called. Now that belief seems crazy but it is still around.

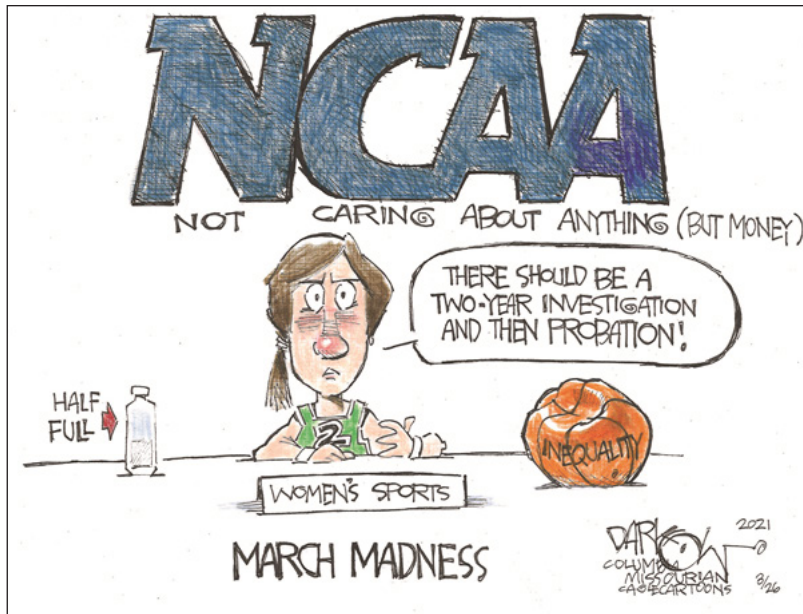
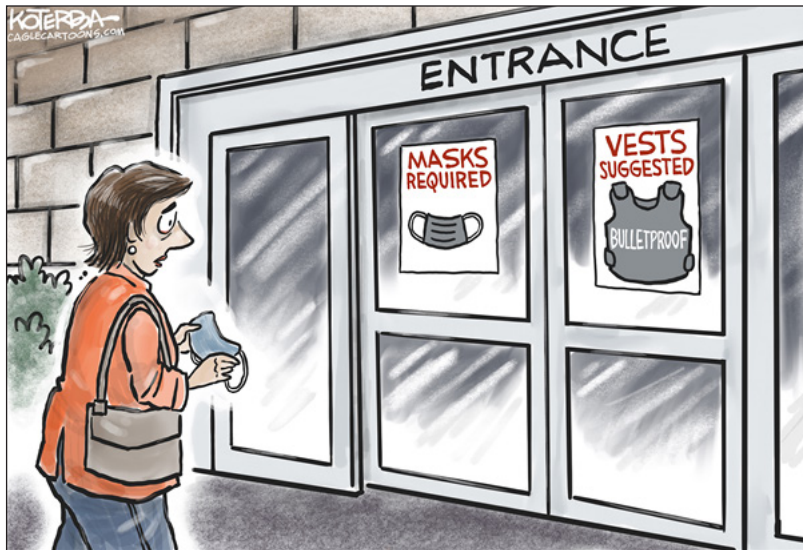
A couple of weeks ago, I recall dreaming that the fears of the Covid had now disappeared and my wife and I and important friends were dining at an expensive luxurious restaurant. A waiter approached and asked for orders and every one said "steak", "steak" and the waiter said "okay" steak for everyone". Inside the dream I could feel panic arise. I could not eat steak because I could not chew it since all of my upper teeth had been removed and had been replaced by a denture. I knew that I did not wear a product that would allow the denture to adhere to my upper palette and attempting to chew the steak would cause my denture to fall out and humiliate me. Quickly I called to the waiter, "No steak for me. I want snake."

Eventually all the other diners were brought plates of delicious looking steak while I was brought a plate with a live snake wriggling on it. End of dream, or at least, all that I can recall. In the next few days I noticed myself doing all sorts of strange things I had not done before. I went into a drugstore for the first time in over a year and purchased Fixodent. I asserted myself and adopted a wonderful dog contrary to my wife's wishes as she said I would not take responsibility to take care of the dog. We now have the dog that both my wife and I love. I rise early to walk the dog at sunrise just as I have been wanting to do for years but have been unable to motivate myself. Today I made a point of wearing my Ruth Bader Ginsburg socks and my Bernie Sanders tee shirt. I am going to lunch with friends and allowing myself foods that I would not have eaten before. Amazingly, I have gone to the barber and had my hair cut and allowed my wife to trim my beard. This has made our interaction much more pleasant in that I no longer insist on looking like a monster.

Anyway today I am more pleased with the person I experience myself to be and I attribute this both to the lifting of the Covid restrictions and to the snake dream. One never knows where the totality of our individual experience will lead us and it is a good idea to keep this in mind as we criticize others. After all, their dreams may be different from ours and it makes little sense to blame people for their dreams.

WHAT A DIFFERENCE A DREAM CAN MAKE!

Yesterday morning I read an article written by actor Paul Giamatti in which he describes the way he is affected forever after by his experience of the emotions of the characters he plays. He discusses different theories and the importance of the imagination as continually creating an experience of something that has not yet happened, may not ever happen, but has the effect of causing the internal emotions as if it is happening right now and requires an immediate reaction. The experience we all have in dreams may well consciously or unconsciously affect our subsequent action as if we had experienced something that, in fact, never occurred. He uses this description to attempt



LEFT, RIGHT OR CENTER!

JOHN MICEK



THE ANSWER ON GUNS IS STARING US IN THE FACE

Where do we go next? What do we do now?

Those are the questions I found myself asking after I spoke to a panel of gun violence reduction activists this week. It was two nights after the murders in Boulder, a week after the rampage in Atlanta, and hours after the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee played out a drama so reliably scripted that it felt like even the players involved knew they were playing a role.

Even over Zoom, in the early hours of the evening, the frustration among my fellow panelists was palpable. I couldn't see the slumped shoulders, but I could certainly feel them. There were some deep breaths. And a bit of gallows humor before these heroically dedicated volunteers – and they were all volunteers – plucked themselves up, and set about the endless work of trying to make a difference. After every mass shooting – and they continued during the pandemic, even if you didn't necessarily hear about them – our policy debate unfolds exactly the same way. Gun violence reduction advocates in Washington D.C. and in state capitals across the land push for action. Opponents pretend to be horrified at the politicization of the issue, hollowly complain that it's too soon to be talking about such things, and then nothing happens. And the numbers are staggering. According to data compiled by the Gun Violence Archive, nearly 20,000 Americans lost their lives to gun violence last year, the Philadelphia Inquirer reported. A further 24,000 died by suicide with a gun. It was the deadliest year in at least two decades, and it came on top of the catastrophic toll of the more than half-million we lost to the pandemic.

The accused shooter in Boulder allegedly carried out his murderous spree that claimed the lives of 10 people, including one police officer, with a weapon that was legally a pistol, but resembled a semi-automatic AR-15 rifle, the Washington Post reported.

City officials in Boulder had previously banned assault-style weapons until a judge struck down the ordinance weeks before the shooting.

In his ruling, Judge Andrew Hartman determined that "only Colorado state (or federal) law can prohibit the possession, sale, and transfer of assault weapons and large capacity magazines," Colorado Newswire, reported.

The people of Boulder moved on their own because their state lawmakers and their elected representatives in Washington wouldn't do it for them.

Where do we go next? What do we do now? The answer is staring us in the face.

We ban assault weapons. Every last damn one of them. They're the weapon of choice for mass murderers. They exist only to kill as quickly and efficiently as possible. The only people with a right to one are law enforcement and the military. I don't need one. You don't need one either.

After all, the United States had an assault weapons ban from 1994 to 2004. And it worked, as my friend and colleague John A. Tures, a political science professor at LaGrange College just an hour from Atlanta, recently wrote.

"From 2005 to 2021, there were an average of 5.1176 mass shootings per year, far more than the 1.6 from the [ban] years, and our year isn't over yet," Tures wrote. "And yes, the difference in means was statistically significant. Lumping the non-ban years with the ban years shows more mass shootings, on average, per year, during the years without an assault weapons ban, than during the years with [a ban]."

On Tuesday, President Joe Biden called on the Senate to act on two previously approved House bills tightening background checks and eliminating the so-called "Charleston Loophole," which allows the sale of a gun to continue even if a background check is not finished if three business days have passed.

Biden told lawmakers he knows Congress can pass an assault weapons ban, observing that "I got that done when I was a senator. It passed, it was the law for the longest time. And it brought down these mass killings."

Biden also made similar promises during his campaign, when he pledged to ban the sale of automatic weapons and high capacity magazines. He also said he'd implement a program for owners of semi-automatics to either sell them to the government or register their weapons under the National Firearms Act.

During a news conference in Pennsylvania earlier this week, the Rev. Bob Birch, who ministered to congregations in two communities shattered by gun violence – Newtown, Conn., and Nickel Mines, Pa. – argued the moral case for action.

"All of those killed were my neighbors. I cannot be a neighbor to those killed and their families, if I do not seek justice," he said. "If I am to follow the way of Christ ... I must work to end the cycle of hurting."

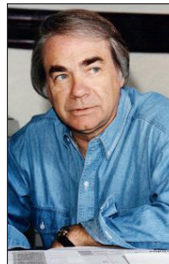
That's the moral test our lawmakers have faced and failed again and again. Given the opportunity to end the cycle of hurting, they have chosen not to act.

What do we now? Where do we go next? We know the answer. It's been there all along.

An award-winning political journalist, John L. Micek is Editor-in-Chief of The Pennsylvania Capital-Star in Harrisburg, Pa.

CARL GOLDEN

SO MUCH FOR A BI-PARTISAN INVESTIGATION INTO THE U.S. CAPITOL ATTACK



Whatever faint flicker of hope remained for the creation of a commission to investigate the Jan. 6 storming of the U. S. Capitol has been extinguished, another casualty of the polarization gripping Congress.

The idea of a commission similar to that established following the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 gained momentum in the immediate aftermath of the assault on the Capitol, but floundered when House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell disagreed over the makeup of the commission and its scope of responsibility.

Pelosi sought an 11-member panel of seven Democratic appointees and four Republicans, while McConnell suggested the commission expand its inquiry to the violent protests that erupted in several American cities last summer.

Despite their initial expressions of support for a commission, the suspicion lingers that neither was seriously committed to it.

Both have been in Congress long enough (Pelosi for 34 years and McConnell for 36) and are intimately familiar with its traditions, customs and maneuverings to understand the most effective way to bury an idea is to create a stalemate based on seemingly reasonable grounds.

Each knew in advance the other would reject their suggestions, normally a preliminary step toward a negotiated compromise. Not this time.

The longer a standoff drags on, interest wanes, other issues emerge to demand attention, the media moves on and it fades from the public consciousness.

McConnell attacked the proposed partisan makeup of the commission as Pelosi's attempt to guarantee a predetermined outcome, placing blame on former President Trump and the Republican Party for inciting their supporters to storm the Capitol to prevent Congressional certification of the Electoral College vote tabulation.

Pelosi criticized expanding the scope of the commission's duties as a distraction to focus on the civil unrest and the demands of protestors to defund the police, an issue which many Democrats blamed for the party's stunning loss of 15 House seats in 2020.

Neither is eager for a Democratic-dominated commission to spend months – potentially spilling over into the 2022 midterm elections when control of Congress hangs in the balance – in a public debate over the role of ex-president Trump in the Capitol assault (McConnell's fear) or on the politically dangerous demands to defund police departments (Pelosi's concern).

While they arrived at the conclusion independently, Pelosi and McConnell share the political calculation that abandoning the commission proposal poses a far less risk than the perils of thrusting the issue into next year's campaigns.

Both are adept at navigating the cross currents and competing agendas endemic to Congressional politics to achieve a desired outcome. More importantly, each has mastered the inside game – the unspoken wink and nod deal and the promise of future rewards – to either secure a victory or assure a defeat.

With the enactment of the \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 relief package, the migrant crisis at the southern border, rising demands for action on a massive infrastructure program, tax increases, voting rights and climate change, the Jan. 6 commission tumbled far down the priority list.

Committees in the House and Senate have held hearings on the Capitol siege, taking testimony primarily from law enforcement, the military and intelligence community.

Many believe Congressional committees are the proper and appropriate forum to conduct inquiries into the assault and to propose legislative action to address reported failures in security preparedness, communications protocols, and the role of the military.

The Biden Administration expressed general support for a commission, but emphasized it was a matter for Congress to decide – a pledge of non-interference and a promise the President would not pressure Democrats to back its creation.

It will be left to historians to sift through the evidence and formulate a comprehensive, definitive account of the most serious assault on the center of U.S. government by its own citizens in history.

For now, the American people will confront two truths – a Democratic truth and a Republican one – each promoting explanations and conclusions colored by partisanship and ideology.

Both sides can and will blame a paralyzing polarization for the failure to reach a consensus in support of an independent inquiry, one that, like the 911 commission report, will win the confidence of the American people.

It didn't have to be that way.

Carl Golden is a senior contributing analyst with the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy at Stockton University in New Jersey.

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GOOD + FRIDAY
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Friday, April 2 | 8a - 8p
Christ Church Sanctuary

Take time on Good Friday to remember Jesus' great love and sacrifice. Come and experience a visual journey through the final moments of Jesus' life.

Stop by our Sanctuary anytime between 8a-8p to walk through this self-paced reflective journey. Children ages 4+ are welcome to attend and will be provided materials to interact with this experience.

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EASTER

ON THE LAWN

Sunday, April 4 | 10:00a
Old North Church Lawn

Join us on the lawn as we celebrate the true life we find through the resurrection of Jesus! ALL are welcome (even little ones!) and we look forward to celebrating with you and your family!

*Our desire is to provide utmost safety and comfortability for all of our guests. For that reason, we are asking all attendees to wear masks, maintain social distancing, and request that you bring a chair to sit on. Learn more at [christchurchsm.org/easter](https://www.christchurchsm.org/easter)

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A Livestream will also be available
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