

# Mountain Views News

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2021

VOLUME 15 NO. 38

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## WISTARIA HYSTERIA

*Rumors of the destruction of the sacred Sierra Madre Chinese Wistaria Vine are just not true. "We have no intention of tearing down the Vine", says Wendy Mak*

By Susan Henderson

On Saturday, September 11, 2021, something terrible happened in Sierra Madre. According to eyewitnesses, 20-30 residents took it upon themselves to trespass on private residential property in protest against the alleged destruction of the Wistaria Vine.

One overzealous neighbor started the entire ugly chain of events to unfold. On Saturday she noticed that gardeners were pruning parts of the vine and she is alleged to have gone to the property and taken pictures of the discarded branches. Those pictures were then posted on Social Media and resulted in people swarming the property. The hysteria spread and at one point city officials were called.

The problem was that the crowd was acting on a rumor that someone was "cutting down" the vine and that simply was not true. The gardeners were pruning parts of the 25 *ton* plant. However, the crowd created enough fear that the gardener stopped working, city staff was called out and a decision was made to clear the property of the trespassers and stop all activity that day.

Needless to say, the sight of so many upset people storming private property was quite disturbing to the new owners. "I was really scared", said Vicky Mak who had just purchased the property. Her sister Wendy was onsite and witnessed the entire event.

The vitriolic reaction was due to the spread of misinformation on social media and misinterpreted pictures and verbal reports. The hysteria did not end that day and continued with very negative posts on Facebook including one suggesting illegal activity, ".....we could have drones hovering over their house all weekend.....". Tee shirts were made up seemingly instantly. As a result, The Mak's were subjected to a very unwelcoming and un-Sierra Madre like reception.

In a lengthy Skype interview with Ms. Mak who currently lives in San Francisco, and a follow up meeting and walk thru of the residence and grounds with her sister who lives nearby, this writer, who has also been chair and/or co-chair of the Wistaria Festival for at least the last 10 years and is very knowledgeable in all things Wistaria, was able to see firsthand what was being done. The Vine is definitely not being destroyed.

### What Happened

The truth is, prior to even purchasing the property Ms. Mak was aware of the Vine's history. "We know how special this place is. We are well aware of the significance of the house", she said.

It was discovered in July by the City of Sierra Madre that there was a water leak on the property and a notice was placed on the door. Upon investigation it was discovered that the vine had grown 'under' the house creating not only the breach of the water line but also an unsanitary haven for expired rodents. After review of the situation by the experts, instructions were given to the gardener how to clear the underbrush and cut back the necessary parts of the vine to 'redirect' part of its growth patterns. This was also important because the weight of the vine was beginning to sink the roof of the patio

area and compromise the metal trellises that anchored it in several places.

In the vine's history it has already destroyed the original home, growing into the walls and fireplace and causing the roof to collapse. Only good maintenance will keep it from spreading beyond the tolerance of the structures it attaches to.

### Timeline of Events

In March of this year, the first visit was made to Sierra Madre City Hall by the potential buyer researching any city ordinances, etc. regarding both the vine and the house.

In April, the property was purchased.

In May, according to Vincent Gonzalez, Sierra Madre's Director of Planning and Community Preservation, Ms. Mak requested an application for a "Historic Resource Evaluation", completed and returned it to the city in June.

In July, Mr. and Mrs. Solt, the previous owners moved out of the house and Ms. Mak began preparing her new home for her family which includes two children. In fact, Ms. Mak had invested in an Arborist, Botanist and Landscape Architect in order to properly maintain the Vine early on.

### Upkeep Is No Easy Nor Inexpensive Task

Over the years, experts have been brought in from Cal Tech, Occidental, and Cal Poly Pomona. Correct pruning and other maintenance are a necessity to keep the vine healthy and Ms. Mak's engagement of an arborist, botanist and landscape designer shortly after she bought the property demonstrates her desire to maintain the vine and make certain its 'growth patterns' are beneficial to the vine itself and the property.

She shared the landscape design plans with this author who can now attest to the fact that the plans will not diminish the vine's ability to retain its current standing in the Book of World Records. Further, if our climate allows, the Vine should be in good shape for the 2022 Festival something Ms. Mak is looking forward to.

### What's Next?

Sierra Madre is a town known for its community spirit and family-like atmosphere. Perhaps, in an effort to make certain its welcoming reputation remains intact, those who violated that private property should think about how to show this family what Sierra Madre is really like. A small, close-knit community! We need a really big Welcome Wagon effort to help the Mak's put last week's frightening episode behind them.

Pictured Above: The Vine in full bloom in 2018 (file photo) The purple box is a portion that was pruned on Saturday. The inset photo was taken on Tuesday. The green foliage is the vine when it is not blooming. Photo by S. Henderson

### Note:

In 1994, the vine was officially entered into the Guinness Book of World Records. According to the definitive history of the Vine, penned by the late Sierra Madre Historian Phyllis Chapman, "The Guinness Book of World Records has named the Vine the World's largest flowering plant. It is estimated that at the height of bloom it has 1.5 million blossoms with 40 blossoms per sq. ft., weighs 250 tons and has branches that extend 500 feet. Wistaria is a member of the pea family though its seeds resemble a flat bean. Seed pods burst open in the summer. The plant is deciduous, losing its leaves in the winter. Wistaria seeds were brought from China by Marco Polo in the 13th century. A complete History of the Vine can be read at: <http://mtnviewsnews.com/v13/html/n11/p13.htm>

## COUNCIL APPROVES GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT AND ZONE CHANGE - AGREES TO ADDRESS PROPERTIES DESIGNATED FOR LOWER DENSITY

By Kevin McGuire

"Stop me if I'm not making sense."

This certainly is not what you want to hear from your Associate City Planner, but considering the dilemma of having an inconsistent General Plan and Zoning Map, and a plethora of possible legal implications on top of it, you can understand Joshua Wolf's standpoint when trying to simplify Sierra Madre's difficult situation into digestible chunks.

Mr. Wolf was tasked with such a challenge as he gave a presentation on the proposed General Plan Amendment 21-01 before City Council, an item which was continued from July 2021.

During this first meeting for City Council since summer break, and this first session indoors since 2020 that didn't include Brady Bunch boxes and asking folks to "unmute," many questions were asked, many concerns were raised, and there certainly was enough confusion to go around.

On the table before them sat General Plan Amendment 21-01 and a Zone Change consideration to correct the land use designations of unique parcels in the amended 2015 General Plan Land Use Map to match the existing limitations on such parcels. (cont. pg 3)

## SIERRA MADRE'S HIGH FLYING MAYOR



Friday, Mayor Arizmendi participated in a ride-along with pilots from F.A.S.T (Foothill Air Support Team). F.A.S.T assists public safety by providing air support to Sierra Madre and many other nearby cities. Pilot Corrales and Sgt. Sharma provided an informative experience of the program for the Mayor as they flew over surrounding areas.



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## SIERRA MADRE SPOTLIGHT



### THE GIVING TREE

This week I had the pleasure of chatting with yet another fantastic individual right here in town: Bob Spears. In 1973 he became a teacher and administrator for the Los Angeles Unified School District. His hard work and passion is truly admirable. In time, He went to where he could be even more of a help, the Sierra Madre Fire Department. When asking around about Bob I felt like I was on yelp, I just kept getting 5 star glowing reviews, “He also has been responsible for our trails for years! He hauls the most ridiculous equipment up trail on his own back! He has redone Bailey Canyon, Jones Peak Trail and Mt Wilson trail all the way up to actual Mt Wilson. He is amazing!”  
- Carol Canterbury



After years of dedicated service and multiple jobs within the fire department, Bob retired, but not before becoming The Volunteer Fire Department Chief. Even in retirement Bob wanted to continue making our community beautiful and very selflessly began refurbishing the benches all around town, not looking for money or compensation. This act of kindness should inspire everyone to be the best human beings we can be! No one asked him to do this, he saw that the benches needed a little extra love and decided to take the initiative and make a change! That’s something to admire and emulate. Refurbishing these benches is no easy task. Bob purchases all the materials he needs (the wood comes from a local lumber yard in Pasadena called Ganahl Lumber), he takes them apart and depending on the specific style of the bench (who knew there were different bench types? Bob has taught me so much!) he will sandblast, powder coat, varnish and replace the wood on each bench, he’s done about 20! All here in town! I find this absolutely inspiring! This is exactly why I wanted to start the Sierra Madre Spotlight, to find special people that are helping others! I have to admit I’m now going to play a game where I quiz myself and try to guess what style each bench is. I know that sounds lame, but I’ve basically been living alone in other peoples homes with their pets all summer so I have to make my own excitement.

Bob’s wonderful benches now ensure that all are able to relax and enjoy a beautiful day. There’s even one right in front of the sweetest ice cream shop: Mother Moo’s. According to Robert Gjerde, “He [Bob Spears] is on the planning commission. He is sort of in charge of maintaining the Bailey Canyon and Mt Wilson Trails. He recently rebuilt the information/bus kiosk that goes in Kersting Court.” One of his current big projects is trying to get funding for a new beautiful Mt. Wilson trail head. The very talented Karen Moran is a successful architect and has already designed a stunning piece and now just needs to raise the funds to put it into being. If anyone would like to help this kind and selfless man continue on his journey of constantly improving and beautifying our town, please consider donating. No amount is too small or large, even just sharing our story would be more than enough.

Stay strong Sierra Madre and remember, everytime you sit on a bench (no matter if it’s here or in space) think of Bob Spears. Think of the man who instead of sitting on his bed surrounded by cats, which is what I’m doing this exact second, he decided to go



out into the world and do something for the community with absolutely no expectations. He truly is a jolly good fellow, which no one can deny!

Left: First bench Bob refurbished - Before/Right: After



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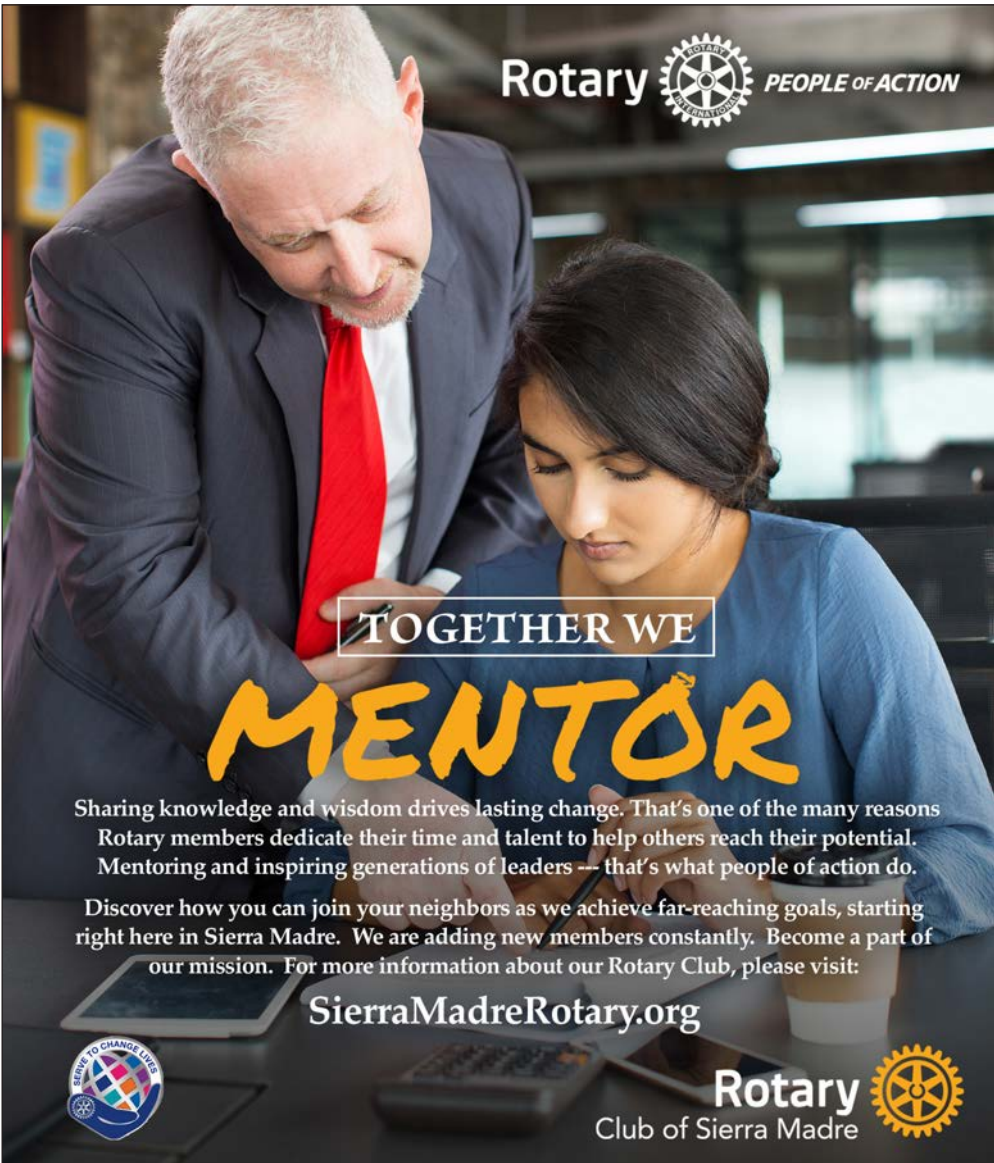

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### PUBLIC SAFETY WEEK

Join the Sierra Madre Police Department for our second annual virtual Public Safety Week. Presenters from public safety agencies in LA County will discuss safety tips, cover current topics and explain services available to the community.

Attendees can submit questions for the presenters to CSO Lou Oronoz at [loronoz@cityofsierramadre.com](mailto:loronoz@cityofsierramadre.com) by September 23, 2021.

All meetings start at 6:00PM through zoom  
Meeting ID: 893 0636 1395  
Passcode: 160054

9/27

#### SIERRA MADRE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Rodrick Armalin will update the community on services and answer questions submitted by the community.

9/28

#### DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Presented by Rebecca Barboza on all topics regarding wildlife and living with our bear population.

9/29

#### SIERRA MADRE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Brent Bartlett and Captain, Fire Marshall Rich Snyder will address current topics and provide updates on the Fire Department.

9/30

#### SIERRA MADRE SEARCH AND RESCUE

SMSR Joint Operation Leader Barbara Fortini will discuss precautions when out in nature among other topics

10/1

#### LA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

A discussion on how critical the partnership between our agencies is and how it benefits our children, families and our community.

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# SIERRA MADRE

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## GENERAL PLAN.....continued from page 1

So, what does this all mean? Well, most residents in Sierra Madre fall into one of three residential categories: R1 (Residential Single Family), R2 (Two-Family Residential), and R3 (Multi-Family Residential). These properties are spread across the four different quadrants of the city. A straight correction of the inconsistencies in the land use designations would mean many residents would incur a negative change in residential designation. For example, an R3 homeowner might be changed to an R1 homeowner, which could greatly affect the value of their property.

### History in a Nutshell

So how did this happen and what's been done to correct it? Back in 2015, City Council approved changes to the General Plan, the long-term plan for development in the city. The update included amendments to the Land Use Map, which changed land use designations of a number of parcels across the city. The update also included revisions to the zoning map for consistency with the amended land use map, as required by state law. During a later review of the General Plan and Zoning Maps, city staff found inconsistencies between designations of some parcels.

In May 2021, The Planning Commission reviewed changes recommended by city staff. The Commission sent for some revisions and on June 3, 2021, City staff sent the corrections back to the Planning Commission and City Council approved those changes on June 17, 2021.

On July 13, 2021, Council was first presented with General Plan Amendment 21-01 during an outdoor public hearing at Memorial Park. After a confusing discussion and many comments and concerns from residents, Council voted to continue the discussion and review all available options.

October 15, 2021 is the deadline for filing in order to meet obligations in this Housing Element Cycle, and with the huge Monastery housing project already on the Planning Commission's plate, time isn't really on the City's side. Negotiations between Zoning and Planning Commission could possibly lead to further inconsistencies to what the General Plan intended.

### Options and Opinions

City staff presented Council with two alternatives. Alternative 1: They can approve General Plan Amendment 21-01 and Zone Change 21-01 as is, possibly affecting residential designation changes to many residents, or Alternative 2: they can approve General Plan Amendment 21-01 and Zone Change 21-01 and also direct staff to address the properties that would be designated for a lower density land use by the 2015 General Plan.

Several residents voiced their concerns via email and at the podium at the meeting on Tuesday September 14, 2021.

"I purchased my property six months ago with the plan to build a few houses on it," said Eric Lin. "I'm now in that strange gray area where I would like to find out what I can do with it. Or is it just going to be a loss for me? I paid for an R3 and now it's an R1," Lin said.

Mark Lamb has been a Sierra Madre resident for 13 years and purchased an R2 property which had two houses on it. Now it's zoned an R1. "My best path is if you agree to your option 2," Lamb

stated. "Then based upon current land use it can be rezoned to an R2."

There were several emails siding against the redesignations. In addition, there is also concern over non-conforming ordinance protections. In other words, say a property that was an R2 with two houses is now an R1 designation and the second house suffers earthquake or fire damage. Will the property owner be able to rebuild what was lost or damaged? According to Joshua Wolf, these properties will receive protection and will be able to rebuild under these protections.

### Legal Implications

So, what if the city did nothing? What if they left the General Plan and Zoning as is? According to City Attorney Aleks Giragosian, "the state requires that the city amend its zoning to comply with the General Plan. If the city doesn't, then someone can sue to ensure that the city does." A writ could be sent from the court forcing the city to do so. In order to grant design or Conditional Use Permits for development, "certain findings" need to be made to make sure development is consistent with the General Plan. If it's not...the permit cannot be issued, according to Giragosian.

City Council is also limited to the number of amendments to the General Plan they can have in a year. According to Associate Planner Wolf, the earliest we would see a revised General Plan after reviewing all the affected parcels would be January 2022.

### So, What's the Verdict?

"So um, quite frankly...this sucks," Council Member Robert Parkhurst bluntly said as the conversation came back for Council discussion. "It's a very difficult situation that we're in. The plan before us...brings us into compliance with law. That's important. But it creates a difficult situation for a short period of time. We want to do the right thing and it pains me the most is amount of time it will take to get to the right place," Parkhurst stated.

"I feel like we're in a bad situation now, with the inconsistencies in this map," said Council Member Kelly Kriebs. "We need to do what we are obligated by law to do which is to make them consistent, while still exploring the possibility of reverting to the prior, higher zoning and land use densities."

Mayor Rachele Arizmendi agreed with her colleagues about the difficulty of this situation for the staff and residents, and the need to address the inconsistencies and comply with the law. She then took charge of the motion herself and moved to approve General Plan Amendment 21-01 and Zone Change 21-01 and also direct staff to address the properties that would be designated for a lower density land use by the 2015 General Plan. This was Alternative 2.

"As you've heard tonight, people are talking about the direction the state's going in, higher density in the city, we're looking for multi-family, and those of you who've had R3 and are planning to do work on R3, we want you to be able to do that," Mayor Arizmendi said. "And we think we've found a way to do it, unfortunately it just can't be today. These two maps need to come in compliance," she said.

The motion past unanimously. The full staff report, including zoning maps can be viewed on the city website at [cityofsierramadre.com](http://cityofsierramadre.com).

## SIERRA MADRE POLICE BLOTTER

September 13, 2021 to September 11, 2021 During this period the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to 183 calls for service.

### D.U.I.

A vehicle was stopped for a vehicle code violation on 9-5-21 at 12:48AM in the 500 block of W. Sierra Madre Bl. The driver was found to be impaired and under the influence of an alcoholic beverage. Following a consented Field Sobriety Test, the driver was arrested and transported to Pasadena Jail for booking. Case to the DA's office

On 9-7-21 at 1:30AM in the area of Baldwin Ave and Sierra Madre Blvd. a vehicle was stopped for a vehicle code violation. The driver was impaired and combative, later arrested and taken to the Pasadena Jail for booking for D.U.I. and battery. Case to the DA's office

### Firearm

On 9-6-21 at 6:53AM, in the 700 block of Baldwin Court, officers responded to a call of a verbal dispute where a male was subsequently arrested for brandishing a firearm and taken to the Pasadena Jail. Case to DA's office

### Burglary

A residential burglary in the 00 block of S. Baldwin Ave. occurred between the hours of 10:30PM on 09/06/21 to 3:00AM on 09/07/21. Unknown suspect(s) unlawfully entered the residence and ransacked the interior of the home. Case to Detectives

### Theft of Vehicle

On 9-10-21 at 11:59PM, officers responded to the 400 block of Mountain Trail Ave. to take a report of the theft of his truck that was parked in his driveway by unknown person(s). Case to Detectives

### Possession

On 9-10-21 at 11:48PM, a vehicle was stopped for an expired registration. During the vehicle inventory, drug paraphernalia was discovered. The driver was cited and released and the vehicle was impounded. Case to the DA's office

## A WORD FROM SIERRA MADRE PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION LOCAL 5216

The Sierra Madre Fire Department is excited to announce its 34th Annual Fire Prevention Festival taking place on Saturday, October 9th, at Memorial Park, from 9AM to Noon.

The Sierra Madre Fire Department's goal is to educate our community members on how to best prepare for, and stay safe during, a fire emergency. Stop by the fire prevention festival to get important educational information, meet with local agencies, and participate in a variety of fun activities. Bring the kids for a fun and engaging activity hub that will include games, arts and crafts, goodie bags, and a chance to meet Smokey the Bear!

Many local agencies will be represented at this year's festival, including the Sierra Madre Police Department, LA County Fire Department, Angeles National Forest, Sierra Madre Search & Rescue, Pasadena Humane Society, and many more. Stay tuned for more updates.

## WALKING SIERRA MADRE - The Social Side

by Deanne Davis

"That old September feeling, left over from school days, of summer passing, vacation nearly done, obligations gathering and football in the air. Another Fall, another turned page; there was something of jubilee in that annual autumnal beginning, as if last year's mistakes had been wiped clean by summer." Wallace Stegner

Sitting down at my computer, looking at the blank page again and wishing it would fill itself with words of wit and wisdom, I realize September is already half over! How time flies, whether you're having fun or not. Another pumpkin picture this week because October is just around the corner. "September tries its best to have us forget summer." Bernard Williams

Of course, in our region of the world, September and October are frequently the hottest months of the year. We recall sending our children off into the blazing inferno we referred to as the "back to school heat wave."

*"It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it."* Aristotle  
*"Education's purpose is to replace an empty mind with an open one."* – Malcolm S. Forbes  
*"Education is the ability to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or your self-confidence."* – Robert Frost  
*"It must be remembered that the purpose of education is not to fill the minds of students with facts...it is to teach them to think, if that is possible, and always to think for themselves."* – Robert Hutchins

What we hope when we send our precious children off to school is that their teacher will love them, accept them as they are and see the hidden treasure buried inside each one of them. It would be nice if this teacher could awaken a love of reading in them which will carry them through their lives; teach them spelling and grammar are necessities, not just useless frills; help them appreciate math and science; be kind to others, use nice words only and aspire to be on Jeopardy! one day.

As our little ones, and our not so little ones head off to another year of school, another year of learning to cope with other kids, some of which may not be so nice; to learn to be responsible (no, your mother can't do your math homework for you); to be respectful, to simply grow and learn how to learn, the best thing we can do for them is pray. Make their lunch and pray. Give them frosted flakes for breakfast and pray. Take them for ice cream and pray. Put them to bed, thankfully close the door...and pray. Please God, keep them safe. Please God, don't let anyone hurt them. Please God, help me be more patient. Please, God...

As a child, I got sent to boarding school when my mother could afford it or sent to live with my grandmother, Nana, and my Aunt Helen when she couldn't. Auntie Helen worked at I. Magnin's – a wonderful store filled with beautiful things which is now, sadly, long gone - in downtown Los Angeles and was gone all day. Hence, Nana was stuck with me. Out of desperation, she taught me to read and I started working my way through Compton's Pictured Encyclopedia, 1922 version, which was pretty much all there was to read. I started with A and just read. These are beautiful books, filled with pictures of far-away places and a "Thought" at the beginning of each book. Here is part of the one that kicks off Volume 8:

*"We come into a world that is open to receive us; for a few short years we live in the world as we find it; but soon, perhaps almost sooner than we know, we are making our own world, carving our own way, shaping our own thoughts, controlling our own destinies. What shall we take, and what shall we reject? The things we put into our pockets may be as nothing, though they may be made of gold; but the things we put into our minds are all the world to us, though they fall from the skies or rise from the valleys or pour out upon us from the hills, and cost us nothing. We are what we think. We are as old as we feel, as rich or as poor as our imaginations. We are as strong as our faith or as weak as our fears. It is these things that make up life for us; it is your mind that makes your world, and your mind is what you make it."* Arthur Mee

These words, written in 1922, or maybe even before, certainly apply now, don't they! Reading was my salvation, books my constant most faithful companions. Reading is still my favorite thing to do. I am a big fan of authors Lincoln Child and Douglas Preston. They have a series featuring an FBI agent, A. Pendergast, which now encompasses over twenty books. I have devoured them all, spending quite a bit of time last Monday finishing the latest, "Bloodless." These guys are prolific writers and have published a number of titles on their own, all of which I have also devoured. I admire them tremendously and recommend their books highly.

As I mention below, I have a new story about to be added to my Amazon page, you might take a look. AND, the Library's Used Book Sale is October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Treasures to be found, my friends!

Speaking of reading, I have really appreciated and been enlightened by the articles by Nancy Beckham which have been in the Mountain Views News the last few weeks about the potential changes in Sierra Madre the new zoning ordinances could bring about. Very helpful information.

One last thing: September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. Just saying.

**My book page: Amazon.com: Deanne Davis**  
**For you Emma Gainsworth fans, all her escapades are there AND, there's a new Emma adventure about to release as a Kindle book!**

## GOVERNOR NEWSOM SIGNS SB 8, 9 AND 10

Governor Newsom's California Comeback Plan will lead to over 84,000 new housing units and exits from homelessness, including today's announcement of \$1.75 billion in affordable housing funding for the new California Housing Accelerator

SB 8 extends the Housing Crisis Act of 2019 to jumpstart more housing production

SB 9 gives homeowners additional tools to add critically needed new housing and help ease California's housing shortage

SB 10 establishes voluntary, streamlined process for cities to zone for multi-unit housing — making it easier and faster to construct housing

SACRAMENTO – Governor Gavin Newsom today signed bipartisan legislation to expand housing production in California, streamline housing permitting, and increase density to create more inclusive and vibrant neighborhoods across the state. The suite of bills also will help address the interrelated problems of climate change and housing affordability by promoting denser housing closer to major employment hubs – a critical element in limiting California's greenhouse gas emissions. The Governor also highlighted the state's ongoing work to spur more housing production, tackle barriers to construction and hold local governments accountable.

"The housing affordability crisis is undermining the California Dream for families across the state, and threatens our long-term growth and prosperity," said Governor Newsom. "Making a meaningful impact on this crisis will take bold investments, strong collaboration across sectors and political courage from our leaders and communities to do the right thing and build housing for all. I thank Pro Tem Atkins and all the Legislature's leaders on housing for their vision and partnership to keep California moving forward on this fundamental issue."

Today, California officials announced the new California Housing Accelerator – a \$1.75 billion component of Governor Newsom's California Comeback Plan to expedite construction of an estimated 6,500 shovel-ready affordable multi-family units in projects stalled due to constraints on the supply of tax-exempt bonds and low-income housing tax credits.

The California Comeback Plan invests an unprecedented \$22 billion in housing and homelessness which will lead to the creation of over 84,000 new affordable homes for Californians, including over 44,000 new housing units and treatment beds for people exiting homelessness. This Plan marks the most significant investment in housing in California's history with \$10.3 billion proposed for housing and over \$12 billion for the unhoused.

The Governor today signed California State Senate President pro Tempore Toni G. Atkins' SB 9, the California Housing Opportunity and More Efficiency (HOME) Act, which the White House this month commended to increase housing supply. The HOME Act facilitates the process for homeowners to build a duplex or split their current residential lot, expanding housing options for people of all incomes that will create more opportunities for homeowners to add units on their existing properties. It includes provisions to prevent the displacement of existing renters and protect historic districts, fire-prone areas and environmental quality.

"I appreciate Governor Newsom's continued commitment to solving one of the most vexing issues facing our state – increasing the amount of housing and widening access for more Californians," said Senate Pro Tem Atkins (D-San Diego). "SB 9 will open up opportunities for homeowners to



## Weather Wise

6-Day Forecast Sierra Madre, Ca.

Sun	Sunny	Hi	90s	Lows	70s
Mon:	Sunny	Hi	90s	Lows	70s
Tues:	Sunny	Hi	90s	Lows	70s
Wed:	Sunny	Hi	90s	Lows	70s
Thur:	Sunny	Hi	90s	Lows	70s
Fri:	Sunny	Hi	90s	Lows	70s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

## SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

### September 14, 2021

**THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS!**

As part of the City of Sierra Madre's COVID-19 trans-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](mailto:PublicComment@CityofSierraMadre.com) by 3:00 p.m. 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 Foothills Media website at [foothillsmmedia.org/sierramadre](http://foothillsmmedia.org/sierramadre) and broadcast on Government Access Channel 3 (Spectrum)..

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

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

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

Your event must:

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

Just write a Public Service Announcement that describes your event and e-mail it to [radio@cityofsierramadre.com](mailto:radio@cityofsierramadre.com).

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This week at the  
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**September 20-25**

### Monday

Story Adventure at Memorial Park—Available all week!

Preschool Storytime at Memorial Park—In-person at 9:00am. Call the Library at 355-7186 to register

Bubble Party at Memorial Park—In-person at 10:00am

Minecraft Monday: Survival—In-person or online at 4:00 pm

### Tuesday

Sewing Machine Basics—In-person at 1:00pm

### Wednesday

Board Library Teens—In-person at 4:00pm

### Thursday

Baby Rhyme Time at Memorial Park—In-person at 9:00am; call the Library at 355-7186 to register

### Saturday

Craft It! Build a Book—In-person at 11:00am

Sewing Machine Basics—In-person at 3:00pm

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- John Harrigan



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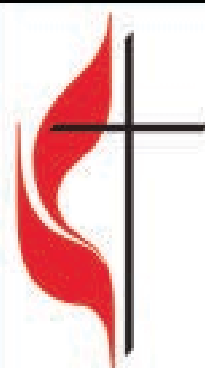
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# Pasadena Altadena

News From Your Community For Your Community

## Pasadena Celebrates Latino Heritage

Join the City of Pasadena and the Latino Heritage Committee for Pasadena's 23rd annual Latino Heritage Celebration. Due to COVID-19, this year's celebration does not include a parade or festival but instead features an entire month of free, family-friendly virtual and outdoor events. All events comply with Pasadena Public Health Department COVID-19 protocols:

### Virtual Event: Make Your Own Piñata

Saturday, Sept. 25, 10 a.m. Let's make a piñata! Participants will craft a handmade piñata which is sure to be the highlight of your next fiesta! Art kits will be available for pick-up for registered participants at Villa Parke Community Center. Register now at [cityofpasadena.net/reserve](http://cityofpasadena.net/reserve).  
**"Selena" – Movie in the Park**  
Saturday, Oct. 2, Villa Parke, 363 E. Villa St., movie begins at dusk

Join us for "Selena" at Villa Parke! The movie is based on the true story of singer-songwriter Selena Quintanilla-Perez and stars Jennifer Lopez. Bring your blanket, lawn chairs, and enjoy food available for purchase. Come early to participate in our Selena costume contest! Register now at [cityofpasadena.net/reserve](http://cityofpasadena.net/reserve).

### Paint and Aguas Frescas

Saturday, Oct. 9, 3 p.m., Villa Parke, 363 E. Villa St.

Join us for paint and aguas frescas! Participants will have the opportunity to create their very own painting while enjoying a tasty cantarito of agua fresca! Art kits and aguas will be provided. Participants will paint under the instruction of an experienced artist. Register now at [cityofpasadena.net/reserve](http://cityofpasadena.net/reserve).

### Latino Heritage Concert in the Park

Saturday, Oct. 16, 5 p.m., Memorial Park, 85 E. Holly St.

¡Bailamos! Let's dance! Latino Heritage would not be complete without a celebration of Latin music! Join us for a live music celebration at the Memorial Park Bandshell. Dance to traditional hits with strong salsa beats. This is a great event for the whole family. Bring your blanket, lawn chairs, and dancing shoes! Register now at [cityofpasadena.net/reserve](http://cityofpasadena.net/reserve).

### Virtual Event: Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) Sugar Skull Craft

Saturday, Oct. 30, 10 a.m.

Participants will follow step-by-step instructions to create a fun and unique calavera. Art kits will be available for pick-up for registered participants at Villa Parke Community Center. Registration opens Oct. 1: [cityofpasadena.net/reserve](http://cityofpasadena.net/reserve)

Pre-registration for events is recommended but not required. For more information on these and other upcoming events, visit [cityofpasadena.net/reserve](http://cityofpasadena.net/reserve), follow @PasadenaParksandRec on Facebook and Instagram, or call (626) 744-6530.

Pasadena Public Library is also celebrating Latino Heritage month with a wide variety of free programs and activities. For details on these events, visit: [pasadenapubliclibrary.net](http://pasadenapubliclibrary.net).



## Civic Center Housing Project Proposed

The Pasadena city council is set Monday afternoon to hear a Predevelopment Plan Review for a new 5-story affordable housing project to be located directly across the street from City Hall adjacent to the YMCA building.

According to the city staff report, National Community Renaissance of California( National CORE) has proposed to develop the 43,258 square foot property at 280 Ramona Street and 279 E. Holly Street with a new 5-story, 112- unit senior affordable housing project with on-site amenities, two courtyards, including one semi-public, and one level of subterranean parking with 44 parking spaces.

The proposed site is currently vacant.

"A semi-public courtyard accessible from the main corner entrance at Garfield and Holly is consistent with the pedestrian- and civic-oriented vision of the area and will encourage more activity along the street," the report reads.

National CORE is seeking a State density bonus and a lot line adjustment for the project, staff said.

They also noted that the proposed project site is within the Civic Center Historic District. Every surrounding parcel contains a designated historic landmark. These include the adjacent Pasadena YMCA Building, Pasadena City

Hall, the George Ellery Hale Building, the Pasadena YWCA Building, and the County Court Building staff said.

The report is an information only item on their agenda. No action or vote will be taken.

The council meets at 4:30 p.m. both in the Council Chamber, Pasadena City Hall, and by videoconference/teleconference. Members of the public may provide live public comment by submitting a speaker card prior to the start of public comment on the item, at: [cityofpasadena.net/city-clerk/public-comment](http://cityofpasadena.net/city-clerk/public-comment).

*Photo Google Street View of project area taken in February.*

## Garfield Well Project at Villa-Parke - Community Meeting



Pasadena Water and Power ("PWP") will conduct a community meeting Sept. 25 behind Villa-Parke Community Center (363 East Villa Street) regarding the Garfield Replacement Well Project that is expected to start next month.

According to staff, the existing well at Villa-Parke was drilled in 1921 and was removed from service in 2015. In December 2020, all of the above-ground pumping equipment was removed and the well was abandoned in compliance with regulatory requirements. The proposed replacement well will be drilled about 950 feet deep and located within the park, approximately 100 feet northwest of the existing well. It will be capable of producing up to 1,500 gallons of water per minute, comparable to the

capacity of the abandoned well. It will also be equipped with a submersible pump, effectively nearly eliminating the noise and other aboveground impacts of the abandoned well.

Based on the analysis, certain noise mitigation measures will be implemented by the project contractor to maintain the noise levels in the neighborhood at or below the current levels. These include the installation of 24-foot tall sound barriers, the addition of mufflers to all construction equipment, as well as the use of engine enclosures and covers for construction equipment, as provided by manufacturers. Drill cuttings will be exported via trucks during the hours of 7:00 a.m. through 7:00 p.m. For additional information visit: [PWPweb.com/GarfieldWell](http://PWPweb.com/GarfieldWell).

## Flu Shot Clinics at the Library

Pasadena Public Library is set to offer free flu shot and COVID-19 clinics in partnership with Pasadena Public Health Department. Vaccine supplies are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Masks are required. Please wear short sleeves. Free flu shots are available to those six months and older. COVID-19 vaccines are available to anyone 12 years and older. Children under 18 years must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

Monday, Oct. 4 • 2-4:30 p.m. • La Pintoresca Branch Library  
- Thursday, Oct. 7 • 2-4:30 p.m. • Lamanda Park Branch Library  
- Thursday, Oct. 14 • 2-4:30 p.m. • Linda Vista Branch Library  
- Monday, Oct. 18 • 2-4:30 p.m. • San Rafael Branch Library  
- Thursday, Oct. 21 • 2-4:30 p.m. • Santa Catalina Branch Library  
- Monday, Oct. 25 • 2-4:30 p.m. • Hill Avenue Branch Library  
- Wednesday, Oct. 27 • 2-4:30 p.m. • Allendale Branch Library

Pasadena Public Library offers a free flu shot clinic in partnership with Huntington Hospital Community Outreach. Vaccine supplies are limited to only 100 flu shots and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Masks are required. Please wear short sleeves.

For more information visit: [cityofpasadena.net/public-health](http://cityofpasadena.net/public-health) or call (626) 744-6000.

## Gamble House Appoints New Executive Director

The Gamble House Conservancy Board of Trustees announced Friday that Alexandra Rasic (pictured) has been selected as the next Executive Director of The Gamble House Conservancy, the non-profit organization that administers The Gamble House in Pasadena. Rasic succeeds longtime Executive Director, Edward (Ted) Bosley, who is retiring next month. Rasic will begin as Director on October 11.



Alexandra Rasic

According to Gamble House officials, Rasic comes to The Gamble House with more than 25 years of experience in roles of increasing responsibility at the Workman and Temple Family Homestead Museum in the City of Industry. Most recently she served as Programs and Audience Engagement Director (since 2019) and Director of Public Programs (2009-2019).

Her demonstrated skills in developing public programs and keen focus on emerging trends in the historic house world are an ideal fit for The Gamble House. Her first visit to The Gamble House, as a high school student, inspired a History Day presentation focusing on reactions to the Industrial Revolution as seen through architecture, a presentation that advanced her to the state level of competition. That first visit incited a life-long love for The Gamble House, further solidified by driving past it routinely while living in the neighborhood and while her children attended preschool next door.

"Few museum experiences are as intimate as visiting a historic house museum, let alone one that stands alone as a complete work of art like The Gamble House," explains Rasic. "While it's not a home that most people could aspire to own in their lifetime, the opportunity to experience a visit, and be inspired by the craftsmanship, passion, and ideas that went

into creating it - and still go into caring for it today - are relatable and inspiring to a wide audience."

Retiring director Ted Bosley commented, "I've been tremendously privileged to have had a long and fulfilling career at The Gamble House and I am thrilled that Alex Rasic emerged as the top candidate to succeed me. She has her finger firmly on the pulse of house museum audiences, and I know she will do a terrific job leading The Gamble House into the future." Following his retirement, Ted has agreed to serve on The Gamble House Conservancy Board of Trustees as Executive Director Emeritus.

The Gamble House was designed by architects Charles and Henry Greene in 1908 for David and Mary Gamble, heirs to the success of the Procter & Gamble Company. Greene & Greene are internationally recognized as among the greatest architects of the Arts & Crafts movement. The Gamble House opened to the public in 1966 following the gift of the house and its contents from Gamble-family heirs to the City of Pasadena in a joint agreement with the University of Southern California (USC) School of Architecture. In 2020, USC transferred its administrative responsibility to the newly formed Gamble House Conservancy. Visit [gamblehouse.org](http://gamblehouse.org) for more information on touring and programs.

## Authors & Their Journeys Series

*William Deverell: Kathy Fiscus: A Tragedy That Transfixed the Nation*

Thursday, Sept. 23 • 5 p.m. • Zoom

Kathy Fiscus tells the story of the first live, breaking-news TV spectacle in American history. At dusk on a spring evening in 1949, a three-year old girl fell down an abandoned well shaft in the backyard of her family's home in San Marino. Across more than two full days of a fevered rescue attempt, the fate of Kathy Fiscus remained unknown. Thousands of concerned Southern Californians rushed to the scene.



William Deverell is professor of history and director of the Huntington- USC Institute on California and the West at the University of Southern California. He is the author of numerous studies of the nineteenth- and twentieth-century American West, including *Whitewashed Adobe: The Rise of Los Angeles and the Remaking of Its Mexican Past*. To attend sign up at: [pasadena.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=4753](http://pasadena.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=4753).

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## Help Name Pasadena's Playhouse Area New Park

*The voting survey is now open and will remain open until 4:00 pm, Friday*

The park, located at 701 East Union Street (between El Molino Avenue and Oak Knoll Avenue), will have open space for informal recreation, relaxation, and community gatherings; children's playground with shade structures; public restrooms; a 48-space parking plaza; and a dog run.

Now through Friday, the City is accepting recommendations for the park's official name.

Votes will be tallied and presented to the Recreation and Parks Commission for discussion and, subsequently, a recommendation of the park's official name will be

presented to City Council for its consideration.

Park Naming Criteria: The City will adopt a name for the new park that meets at least one of the criteria established in the City's Public Park and Recreation Facility Naming Policy:

- Geographical location of the park of facility;
- Natural or geological features proximate to the park or facility;
- Cultural or historical significance to the City or surrounding neighborhood;
- Name of an individual who has made a significant contribution to the community, country, state, or field of parks and recreation.

For more information and the form visit: [cityofpasadena.net/public-works](http://cityofpasadena.net/public-works).

## Take a 3D Spin on Mars and Track Perseverance Rover

It's the next best thing to being on Mars: Two online interactive experiences let you check out Jezero Crater – the landing site and exploration locale for NASA's Perseverance rover – without leaving our planet.

One new experience, called "Explore with Perseverance," allows you to follow along with the rover as though you were standing on the surface of Mars. Another interactive – "Where Is Perseverance?" – shows the current location of the rover and Ingenuity Mars Helicopter as they explore the Red Planet. It's updated after every drive and flight and allows you to track the progress of Perseverance and Ingenuity, in their journeys on and above the Red Planet.

Explore with Perseverance is made mostly with images taken by the rover from various vantage points, with additional images from the HiRISE (High Resolution Imaging Experiment) camera aboard NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter overhead.

"It's the best reconstruction available of what Mars looks like," said Parker Abercrombie, a senior software engineer who is leading the software development at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Southern California. The agency's Mars Public Engagement team recruited Abercrombie and his colleagues, who work on similar tools for the mission team, to develop a public-friendly experience by stitching together and reconstructing the Perseverance and HiRISE images.

The team plans to update the site regularly with new views from the spacecraft and the rover and some new points of interest, as they are found. For example, says Abercrombie, "we can highlight scientifically interesting rocks and other features, or the Ingenuity helicopter flight locations."

Abercrombie believes the site will help people understand the perspective as if they were on Mars. "It's sometimes hard for people to grasp location and distance from Mars images. It's not like here on Earth, where you can get your bearings by looking at trees and buildings. With the Martian terrain, it can be really hard to wrap your head around what you're seeing."

The dashboard makes it easy for parents and teachers to share the 3D views with kids, bringing them along as Perseverance explores.

The 3D tool is based on the Advanced Science Targeting Tool for Robotic Operations (ASTTRO) that the rover's science team uses to select interesting targets for the rover to study – but has been modified to make it more user-friendly.

"It's a unique challenge to set things up so people can browse in a way they'll understand, since users have varying experiences in using 3D environments," Abercrombie said. "This is

a great opportunity for the public to follow along with the mission, using the same type of visualization tools as the mission scientists."

The Curiosity mission has a similar experience built by the same team also based on the Curiosity rover 3D experience.

### A Mars Map of the Rover and Helicopter Journeys

"The Where Is Perseverance? map allows you to see more of what we're doing and where we're going," said JPL Mapping Specialist Fred Calef. It, too, is based on ASTTRO, and Calef notes that you'll get the data almost as fast as the engineers and scientists do. Plus, you're using practically the same software the team uses, "so everyone can explore the way we explore in almost the same way," Calef says, zooming in, zooming out, and panning around.

The map shows the rover's route and its stopping points with markers indicating the Martian day, or sol, and you'll get the overview of where Perseverance and Ingenuity might head next. Terrain maps like this one allow scientists to spot interesting places to look for possible evidence of ancient life, and you'll be able to share in the journey.

When Ingenuity flies, it's usually a burst of activity and then a lull for a couple of weeks. The rover, says Calef, "drives more often, though not as far, traveling around 130 meters [142 yards] on its longest drive (sol) to date. When we find a geologically interesting spot, we'll stop for a week or so to check it out."

#### More About the Mission

You can get more news about the activities of Curiosity on Mars at the Mars Science Laboratory/Curiosity website, and follow the latest about Perseverance at the Mars 2020/Perseverance website.

A key objective for Perseverance's mission on Mars is astrobiology, including the search for signs of ancient microbial life. The rover will characterize the planet's geology and past climate, pave the way for human exploration of the Red Planet, and be the first mission to collect and cache Martian rock and regolith (broken rock and dust).

Subsequent NASA missions, in cooperation with ESA (European Space Agency), would send spacecraft to Mars to collect these sealed samples from the surface and return them to Earth for in-depth analysis.

The Mars 2020 Perseverance mission is part of NASA's Moon to Mars exploration approach, which includes Artemis missions to the Moon that will help prepare for human exploration of the Red Planet.

JPL, which is managed for NASA by Caltech in Pasadena, California, built and manages operations of the Perseverance rover.

For more about Perseverance: [mars.nasa.gov/mars2020](http://mars.nasa.gov/mars2020) and: [nasa.gov/perseverance](http://nasa.gov/perseverance).

## Rescheduled: City to Finalize Lincoln Ave. Specific Plan



The city council is again set Monday afternoon to vote on adopting a resolution approving the recommended Lincoln Avenue Specific Plan that would radically enhance Lincoln Ave. near the Rose Bowl Stadium. The item was rescheduled at their last meeting.

According to the city staff report, The specific plan area is located a half-mile east of the Arroyo Seco in north Pasadena and generally consists of properties fronting Lincoln Avenue between Forest Avenue on the south and the northern City boundary, just north of Montana Street.

If approved, the recommended Lincoln Avenue Specific Plan (LASP) vision includes:

- A horizontal and vertical mix of uses unified by complementary development standards; dotted with modest community gathering spaces, public art, and a continuous tree canopy; leveraging access to the Arroyo Seco and visitors to the Rose Bowl; and encouraging multi-modal connectivity including walking, biking, and transit along an enhanced public realm throughout Lincoln Avenue;
- A main street providing local amenities and small business opportunities within walking distance of residential neighborhoods and the PUSD community; a pedestrian-focused commercial core that builds upon, rather than replaces, the existing character of historic storefronts and local businesses; as well as increased ground floor

transparency, shading, through both trees and awnings, and lighting to improve comfort, safety, and the overall experience of north Lincoln Avenue; and

- An eclectic variety of residential, commercial, office, and incubator shared spaces for south Lincoln Avenue; related by common building heights and landscaped setbacks; new vertical mixed-use on the west side with housing, smaller spaces for retail and commercial services; and creation of a hub for research and development/commercial flex uses on the east side, building off of existing uses providing jobs to local residents.

Monday's votes would adopt then Environmental Impact Report and approve the General Plan Map and Text Amendments, Specific Plan Amendment, and Zoning Code Map and Text Amendments for the project.

In 2018, the City initiated the "Our Pasadena - Putting the Plan in Motion" program to review and update Pasadena's specific plans and implement the General Plan Land Use Element. The update to the LASP is the first of eight plans to be presented for consideration to the City Council.

The council meets at 4:30 p.m. both in the Council Chamber, Pasadena City Hall, and by videoconference/teleconference. During the meeting, members of the public may provide live public comment by submitting a speaker card prior to the start of public comment on that item, at: [cityofpasadena.net/city-clerk/public-comment](http://cityofpasadena.net/city-clerk/public-comment).

## Tournament to Hold Dia de los Muertos Art Competition

*Submissions due by noon Friday, October 8 with the winners bining announced Saturday, October 30*

The Pasadena Tournament of Roses announced Thursday the second annual Dia de los Muertos art competition, a celebration of art. In partnership with the Mexican Consulate in Los Angeles and the Lucille & Edward R. Roybal Foundation, winners will be awarded scholarships and gift cards in three age categories: 4 to 8, 9 to 13 and 14 to 18.

A tradition in Mexico and Central America that goes back more than 3,000 years, Dia le los Muertos is an annual holiday that is now celebrated around the world. A celebration of life and death, the holiday spans two-days, during which it is believed that the spirit world and the real world become one, even if only for a moment.

"When it comes to traditions, festivities and flowers – we get the appeal," Tournament officials said. "As an organization that's all about a rose, the Pasadena Tournament of Roses can appreciate that the marigold holds such a prestigious



place in this celebration.

According to event organizers, to enter, you must be between the ages of 4 and 18. Your masterpiece can take any shape or form, as long as it celebrates, reflects and honors the traditions of Dia de los Muertos.

These are few ideas of what you can create and submit: Construct an ofrenda (altar) Build a visual art presentation Create a floral arrangement Make and decorate a Sugar Skull Make a traditional Dia de los Muertos costume Write a literary calavera Paint a face with traditional Dia de los Muertos makeup Create an art piece featuring marigolds and/or monarch butterflies

For more information and submission details visit: [tournamentofroses.com/about/diadelosmuertos](http://tournamentofroses.com/about/diadelosmuertos).

## Portantino's Mental Health Education Bills Head to the Governor's Desk

Senate Bills 14 and 224, authored by State Senator Anthony J. Portantino (D – La Cañada Flintridge), were approved by the Legislature with strong bipartisan support and are headed to the Governor's desk. SB 14 and 224 address the growing mental health crisis among California's youth by implementing mental health education and training in schools.

"As students return to school this month, families, teachers, and school administrators are faced with mental health challenges," stated Senator Portantino. "California is in the midst of a youth behavioral health crisis exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The impact of distance education has increased isolation and disengagement. Depression symptoms and other behavioral health concerns are at an all-time high. Although the bills don't nearly go as far as they should and are not what I hoped would be sent to the Governor, I am pleased to be making these important steps to help our students in need," he concluded.

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, nearly 1 in 3 California high school students surveyed reported feeling sad or hopeless almost every day for two or more weeks in a row. Nearly 1 in 5 reported that they have seriously considered attempting suicide. The Center for Disease Control reports that from March 2020, when the pandemic was declared, to October 2020, emergency department visits were up 24% for children 5 to 11 years of age and 31% for those 12 to 17 years of age, when compared with the same period in 2019. In the fall of 2020, the number of kids with suicide attempts coming to the emergency room at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital had doubled since the fall of 2019.

SB 14 ensures that student absences for behavioral health concerns are treated the same as excused absences for physical health concerns. In addition to expanding excused absences for students, SB 14 requires the California Department of Education to recommend best practices and evidence-based mental health trainings to address youth behavioral health, including training for teachers, staff, and students on how to recognize, appropriately respond, and seek help for mental health concerns.

The measure is sponsored by a coalition of behavioral health professionals and mental health advocates led by the California Council of Community Behavioral Health Agencies, and supported by the California Behavioral Health Directors Association, Lady Gaga's Born This Way Foundation, Disability Rights California, NextGen California, and importantly, the voices of students including GenUP, California Association of School Councils, and California Student Board Member Association.

"The California Council of Community Behavioral Health Agencies (CBHA) and our coalition partners applaud the California Legislature for passing SB 14 authored by Senator Anthony Portantino," said Dr. Le Ondra Clark Harvey, CBHA's Chief Executive Officer. "As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, youth behavioral health needs to be a primary focus to protect and promote the well-being of our students. While this legislation provides a blueprint for training teachers and students with vital knowledge and skills needed to support their students and peers who are experiencing a behavioral health challenge, the work is not done. CBHA looks

forward to continuing to work with our elected leaders to equip our school communities with the tools needed to destigmatize behavioral health care and create supportive learning environments critical to our students' ability to lead healthy and happy lives."

With no state-mandated health education course at the middle or high school level in California, a vast majority of California students do not receive any instruction in mental health. Mental health education is one of the best ways to increase awareness and empower students to seek help, while reducing the stigma associated with mental health challenges.

SB 224 would require that local educational agencies and charter schools which currently offer one or more courses in health education to middle or high school students also include mental health content in those courses. Educational topics would include but are not limited to the overarching themes and core principles of mental health. SB 224 would also require that the California Department of Education develop a plan to expand mental health instruction in California public schools on or before January 1, 2024.

The measure is supported by a coalition of mental health advocates, including the National Alliance on Mental Illness – California, California Alliance of Child & Family Services, California Association of Student Councils, California Youth Empowerment Network, National Center for Youth Law, and the Children's Partnership.

"The National Alliance on Mental Illness-California strongly urges Governor Newsom to sign into law Senate Bill 224," said Jessica Cruz, CEO of the National Alliance on Mental Illness. "Every week, we learn more about the toll that the pandemic has taken on our youth. As the Little Hoover Commission pointed out in their recent report on COVID-19 and Children's Mental Health, in order to address COVID's impact on children's mental health, California needs to center schools as hubs of mental well-being. SB 224 will serve as the map that our children can use to navigate these hubs and access the help that they need. The Governor, who has always offered compassion and support to those who live with a mental illness or developmental disability, will advance the needs of children's mental health with implementing this new law."

"California students are returning to in-person education, and with that return is the stress that still continues from the ongoing pandemic," said Christine Stoner-Mertz, CEO of the California Alliance of Child and Family Services. "With the impacts of COVID-19 still reeling, we must empower students to seek help while reducing the stigma associated with mental health challenges. The CA Alliance applauds the State Legislature for supporting SB 224 and recognizing that mental health is critical to overall well-being and academic success. We now urge Governor Gavin Newsom to prioritize student mental health and sign SB 224!"

SB 14 and SB 224 were introduced earlier this year and reflect the Senator's dedication to improving mental health outcomes for youth. The Senator previously authored SB 972, which required schools to print the suicide hotline on student identification cards. Additionally, the Senator dedicated three years to pass SB 328, which pushes back school start times for middle and high schools.

## Dollar Book Sale

Friends of the South Pasadena Public Library Bookstore

## Books • DVDs • CDs

For children and adults • All items \$1 or less

A large selection of gently used books, many art books, and many DVDs

All proceeds benefit the South Pasadena Public Library

**Saturday, September 25, 2021**  
**10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**  
Library Community Room  
1115 El Centro Street  
South Pasadena, CA 91030

Cash, credit cards and checks accepted.  
Masks required.  
[www.friendsofsopaslibrary.org](http://www.friendsofsopaslibrary.org)



## ARCADIA UNLAWFUL SEXUAL ACTS WITH A CHILD ARREST



On September 7, 2021, a representative of Max Aquatics contacted the Arcadia Police Department to report an inappropriate relationship between an adult Max Aquatics swim coach and a juvenile athlete. Max Aquatics is a private swim club that uses the pools in the cities of Arcadia, El Monte, and Monrovia.

Max Aquatics immediately suspended the coach, and his employment was subsequently terminated. Arcadia Police Detectives conducted an investigation, obtained an arrest warrant for the suspect, and a search warrant for the suspect who is 25-year-old Marco Antonio Flores from Arcadia, pictured below.

On September 16, 2021, Detectives served the search and arrest warrants at Flores' residence. Flores was arrested for violations of unlawful sexual intercourse with a minor, lewd and lascivious acts involving children, and other sex crimes. Flores is being held in the Arcadia Police Department's jail with a bail of \$25,000.

Marco Flores was a swim coach at Max Aquatics since 2017, and detectives are concerned there may be additional victims. The case is currently under investigation. Anyone with information regarding this investigation, or may have been a victim, are encouraged to contact the Arcadia Police Department Detective Bureau at (626) 574-5160, case number 2103509.

## ARCADIA POLICE BLOTTER

For the period of Sunday, September 5th through Saturday, September 11th, the Police Department responded to 1,047 calls for service, of which 120 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of some of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

Sunday, September 5:

1. At 12:38 a.m., an officer responded to the 700 block of Southview Road regarding a grand theft report. The victim discovered all four of her rims and tires were removed from her Dodge Challenger sometime between 12:05 a.m. and 12:38 a.m.

2. At 5:31 p.m., an officer responded to a residence in the 1400 block of Rodeo Road regarding a burglary investigation. The officer concluded that the unidentified suspect(s) broke a rear window, stole a laptop, and destroyed the security system.

Tuesday, September 7:

3. At 11:01 a.m., an officer responded to the 700 block of West Orange Grove Street regarding a stolen vehicle report. Sometime between 9:00 a.m. on September 6th and 10:30 a.m. on September 7th, unknown suspect(s) stole the victim's Ford Econoline van. The vehicle was recovered later that day by California Highway Patrol in San Bernardino, but the suspect(s) had fled.

Wednesday, September 8:

4. At 3:42 p.m., an officer responded to a residence in the 1000 block of West Huntington Drive regarding a fraud report. The victim discovered someone used her personal information to open a fraudulent bank account and then transferred more than \$18,000 out of the victim's actual bank account and into the fraudulent one. The victim does not know how the suspect(s) obtained her personal information, nor does she know the identity of the suspect.

Thursday, September 9:

5. At 12:00 p.m., an officer responded to Cabrera's Restaurant, located at 625 East Live Oak Avenue, regarding a theft. Surveillance footage captured the suspect steal the victim's cellphone from the podium. The suspect is described as a Hispanic or White female with dark hair, and seen wearing a white t-shirt, a dark-colored skirt, white shoes, and a large bag.

Friday, September 10:

6. At 5:37 a.m., an officer responded to Ready Pawn Shop, located at 42 East Live Oak Avenue, regarding a commercial burglary report. An investigation revealed unknown suspect(s) smashed a rear window, ransacked the location, and fled with jewelry and currency.

7. At 4:38 p.m., an officer responded to a residence in the 1800 block of Anita Crest Drive regarding a burglary report. The officer discovered the suspect(s) entered the home through an unlocked rear window and once inside, they ransacked several rooms and fled with miscellaneous jewelry and a pocket watch.

Saturday, September 11:

8. At 6:46 a.m., officers responded to the intersection of South Baldwin Avenue and Fairview Avenue regarding a hit and run traffic collision with multiple victims involved. The suspect was located with the help of witness statements and after conducting a series of field sobriety tests, the officer concluded the suspect was likely under the influence of an alcoholic beverage. He was transported to the Arcadia Methodist Hospital for medical clearance. The 25-year-old male from Arcadia was cited and released in the field due to existing medical issues.

9. At 10:33 a.m., an officer responded to the 900 block of North 1st Avenue regarding a vandalism report. The officer discovered the victim's mailbox had been pried open and may have been a victim of mail theft. The investigation is pending a review of the surveillance footage.

## News & Notices

### MONROVIA CITY COUNCIL REPEALS URGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 2020-05U

On September 7, 2021, the Monrovia City Council adopted Urgency Ordinance No. 2020-08U. Urgency Ordinance No. 2021-08U repeals the emergency moratorium on the eviction of commercial tenants for non-payment of rent due to COVID-19 financial hardships and "no-fault" commercial evictions. This action affects only the commercial eviction moratorium and does not change the residential eviction moratorium.

In March and April of 2020, in conjunction with other state, County and local emergency actions, the City Council recognized the potential threat to public health and safety that could occur if residential and commercial tenants were evicted during the pandemic as a result of financial hardships associated with COVID-19. The City Council adopted urgency ordinances to impose moratoria on such evictions.

Approximately 17 months later, it has become apparent that a local moratorium on commercial evictions may no longer be necessary to protect public health and safety. City staff and Councilmembers have heard from local business owners, property owners, and a representative of the Chamber of Commerce that, in most cases, impacted commercial tenants and landlords in the City have been able to work out payment arrangements or deferrals. More important, on September 1, 2020, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors amended the County's commercial eviction moratorium to make it the baseline protection for unincorporated territory and incorporated cities in the County. The County's protections extend to businesses with fewer than 100 employees, and not to multi-national or publicly traded corporations.

### DUARTE CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS RETURN TO VIRTUAL FORMAT

Given the rise in Delta variant coronavirus cases, Duarte City Council meetings will be held via teleconference for the health and safety of our residents starting on August 24 through the end of September, possibly longer. Although public access to the meeting in-person will not be allowed, the public may wish to watch or listen to the meeting from home.

To be able to speak in the meeting on specific agenda items and/or during oral communications, residents will need to register for a Zoom link to access the meeting. The registration link is in the header of the City Council agenda which is posted no later than the Friday preceding the Tuesday Council meeting. You can find the agenda by visiting the City's website [accessduarte.com](https://www.accessduarte.com). All comments are limited to three minutes per topic, per speaker.

Public comment will also be accepted by email to [duarteinfo@accessduarte.com](mailto:duarteinfo@accessduarte.com) before or during the meeting, prior to the close of public comment on an item. The City Council will receive a copy of all written public comments and the topic of the public comment will be announced on the record. The subject line of your public comment email must contain the Agenda item number and/or title.

If you wish to view the meeting without the ability to make a public comment, residents can view the livestream of the meeting on the City's website under "Agendas and Minutes." Questions about City Council meetings and agendas should be directed to the City Clerk's Office at (626) 357-7931.

### DINE ARCADIA TO CELEBRATE LOCAL EATING AND QUAFFING SCENE

*Dine Arcadia, a two-week-long party of fine local cuisine and good times kicks off on Sunday, Sept. 19 and continues through Oct. 2.*

Dozens of restaurants will once again open their doors to all their neighbors, offering special menus and discounts, and highlighting their delicious flavors, unique recipes and refreshing beverages from around the world.

"There's no better time than now to celebrate all the wonderful dining experiences in all the great venues we offer in this part of the San Gabriel Valley," said Karen Mac Nair, CEO of the Arcadia Chamber of Commerce, which is staging the event.

Headlining the festivities are seven special nights when lovers of fine dining and quaffing will gather to sample the best that their hosts can offer:

**Sept. 21 – Wine and Appetizer Night at Bella Sera.** The popular modern Italian restaurant in Monrovia will serve an assortment of Italy-inspired bites paired with tastings of a chardonnay, Pinot, a rosé and a white wine.

**Sept. 22 – Coffee and Tea tasting at Goki.** The winners of Beacon Media's latest "Best New Restaurant" award, the Webster-Cabrera family will offer samplings of homemade teas including a spectacular Poleo Tea and a selection of desserts prepared by pastry chef Patricia Cabrera.

**Sept. 23 – Whiskey Dinner at The Derby in Arcadia.** The fabled dinner house once owned by legendary jockey George Woolf will present a five-course dinner, with each course paired with cocktails featuring Woodford Reserve bourbon, from one of the great old distilleries in Kentucky. The entrée will be an 8-ounce prime top sirloin.

**Sept. 25 – Beer tasting at Wingwalker.** Monrovia's unique brewpub will set out a selection of its popular offerings, sure to include its acclaimed California Common and some its delicious craft beers that can't be found anywhere else.

**Sept. 26 – Five-course Wagner Family Wine Dinner at Bella Sera.** Diners return to Monrovia for a special night of Italian cuisine created by host Joe Borelli, served al fresco, featuring award-winning Caymus Wines.

**Sept. 27 – Tequila tasting at Max's Mexican Cuisine.** This promises to be a genuine fiesta at the popular East Monrovia cantina, with a sampling of fine spirits and live music.

**Oct. 1 – Beer tasting at Mt. Lowe Brewing Co.** The usually-crowded North Arcadia brewpub will host a private party for Dine Arcadia guests in its back patio for a Happy Friday event. A selection of new beers and longtime favorites will be on tap.

Dine Arcadia was launched last year to fill in for the immensely popular Taste of Arcadia, held for many years at the Los Angeles County Arboretum. Ms. Mac Nair said the Chamber hopes the event may return there next year, assuming group activities return to normal.

Here are the other participating restaurants; be sure to mention "Dine Arcadia" to receive special menu items and/or discounts where available (asterisk indicates vegan menu):

\*Acai Bar, \*Baja Cali Fish & Tacos Arcadia, Bella Bottega, \*Burger IM, \*Cabrera's Mexican Cuisine, \*Cafe Fusion, Casa del Rey, Chick-fil-A, City Cafe, Claro's Italian Markets, Dickey's Barbecue Pit, El Pollo Loco Arcadia, \*Fat Burger, The Four Seasons Tea Room, \*Handel's Ice Cream, Hyper Coffee, Le Meridien Hotel – Melange Restaurant, Matt Denny's Ale House, May Mei Restaurant, Moffett's Family Restaurant, Mo-Mo-Paradise, Nothing Bundt Cakes, Outback Steakhouse, Paco's Mexican Restaurant, Reborn Coffee, \*Sesame Grill, Shabu Lin, Villa Catrina, \*White Springs Cafe.

## Chris Young No There There

Opening Event September 11, 5pm to 7pm

On display from September 1st to October 23rd

## Creative Arts Group

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

[CreativeArtsGroup.org](https://CreativeArtsGroup.org)



# AROUND SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

## A LOOK BACK IN TIME WHEN VACCINES WERE EMBRACED



Picture Courtesy of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services

In 1954, polio was a terrifying reality. The vaccine began as a large clinical trial of 1.3 million kids around the country. They called themselves Polio Pioneers, the first to try a new vaccine in the hopes of ending a grave threat. Nine months after the trial ended, the vaccine was declared safe and effective. In 1955, mass inoculation against polio began. 25 years later, domestic polio transmission had all but vanished. Polio is now a mandated vaccination in all 50 states. The kids you see pictured made this a reality for us all.

## CITY OF BRADBURY REDISTRICTING PUBLIC INPUT SCHEDULE

Bradbury, California – What is the City of Bradbury’s (‘City’) redistricting and why is it so important? Every ten years, the City of Bradbury’s City Council is responsible for redrawing the City’s Council Member district boundaries based upon census data, and is informed by community input and understanding of critical communities of interest.

The Bradbury City Council’s goal is to promote more citizen participation in government and to make the government of Bradbury more transparent and responsive to the community’s needs. The Bradbury City Council encourages participation from the public through an outreach effort to engage the community at several virtual Public Input Hearings and a Public Input Workshop. The Bradbury is invested in ensuring that underserved and underrepresented communities are engaged in the redistricting process.

For more information about the City of Bradbury’s redistricting, please visit: [https://www.cityofbradbury.org/government/city\\_council/redistricting.php](https://www.cityofbradbury.org/government/city_council/redistricting.php). For information regarding the upcoming meetings, please contact Kevin Kearney, City Manager, at [kkearney@cityofbradbury.org](mailto:kkearney@cityofbradbury.org) or call Bradbury City Hall at (626) 358-3218, Monday through Friday from 8:30am – 5:00pm.

All redistricting meetings will be held virtually or at the Bradbury Civic Center, located at 600 Winston Avenue, Bradbury, CA 91008. These Public Workshops and Public Input Hearings will be held on:

- Pre-Draft Map Public Hearing September 21, 2021 @ 7:10pm
- Public Workshop \*October 4, 2021 @ 6pm
- Draft Map Adoption/Pre-Final Map Public Hearing \*October 19, 2021 @ 7:10pm
- Final Map Adoption (First Reading) \*November 16, 2021 @ 7:10pm
- Final Map Adoption (Second Reading) \*December 7, 2021 @ 7:00pm

\*NOTE: These meeting dates and times are tentative and can be changed. It is expected that tentative dates/times will be finalized during the September 21, 2021 meeting.

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

## THE BEST OF THE BEST

My friend, and super car salesman Chris McCarty, says "top shelf" or "third floor" when he wants a good brand-name drink when he is at a bar. Reader Manny “The Cuban” Almeida might think I have lost my mind, but friends and readers, we are moving to the high rent district today. It took me a few years to figure out (and maybe just in time now) that when you are at a supermarket looking for your favorite wine and frustration sets in, you should search by price - the most expensive wines are on the “top shelf” and the bottom shelf is usually where you’ll find lowest prices. You’ll find me somewhere in the middle. Please let me, just for this one week, introduce you to the top shelf at your local wine department because that is where I found the Storm Watch 2015 by San Simeon. Yes indeed, the technology of blends and business is all a part of the STORMWATCH story of San Simeon - is a family-run business since 1917.

As we have learned over the last couple of years, I do believe in “blends”, and this Stormwatch is “top shelf”. The grapes are sourced from vineyards in the area including cabernet from their Vineyard in Paso Robles. I am told that Black Bart used to rob the stagecoach that ran from St. Helena to Paso Robles. If Bart could have gotten his hands on some San Simeon wines, he would have appreciated the fruitiness of the first taste. The tannins are very smooth, and like many blends that include petit verdot (regardless of the price) has a touch of boldness and a bit of spice. This blend is perfectly balanced, and I recommend a pairing it with spare ribs, chicken or steak. No BBQ sauce, though, as that will take away some of the natural flavors from your wine. Price is \$50 - top shelf, indeed, but when it’s time to treat yourself, stormwatch is a great option.

Dills Score 90  
Retail Around \$60 on sale \$45 limited distribution throughout So Cal Vons

Each week I will give you my Dills Score. I have added points for value. I’m starting with a base of 50 points; I added 8 points for color, 7 points for aroma or “nose”, 8 points for taste, 8 points for finish, and 9 points for my overall impression, which includes my value rating. Email Peter at [thechefknows@yahoo.com](mailto:thechefknows@yahoo.com) and follow me on Twitter @KINGOFCUISINE, listen to my radio show on Sundays at 5Pm on AM 830

## L.A. COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER ORDER ON VACCINATION VERIFICATIONS

The Los Angeles County Health Officer Order was modified Friday to require vaccination verification or a negative test prior to entry to all mega events and event venues by October 7; children under 12 years of age are exempt. The Health Officer Order also requires vaccination verification for customers and employees at indoor portions of bars, lounges, nightclubs, breweries, wineries, and distilleries.

The requirement for vaccine verification or a negative test within 72 hours prior to attending an out-door mega event aligns with the recently announced national strategy and includes venues and events with more than 10,000 attendees that are ticketed and/or have controlled points of entry to a well-defined area, such as sport and music arenas and theme parks. This is similar to the requirement for vaccination verification or a negative test prior to entry at all indoor events and arenas with more than 1,000 participants; this requirement has been in place since August 18. Many mega event venues established verification systems during the spring in response to previous capacity restrictions and Public Health will offer large venues and organizers of mega events technical assistance to assist with implementation.

The requirement for vaccine verification for customers in the indoor portions of bars, wineries, brew-eries, distilleries, nightclubs, and lounges and their employees applies to drinking establishments with either no restaurant permit or a low-risk restaurant permit and requires that all customers and employees have at least one dose of the vaccine by October 7 and full vaccination by November 4. These establishments primarily serve adults and already require patrons to show proof of age; and while children do not usually enter these establishments, children under 12 are exempt from these requirements. Full vaccination verification for services in the indoor portions of restaurants is strongly recommended.

This modified Order aligns with the continued need to reduce risk for transmission and increase vaccination coverage offering a reasonable path forward.

Increasing the proportion of the population that is vaccinated remains one the County’s highest priorities. As of September 12, 91% of L.A. County residents 65 and over have received at least one dose of the vaccine, 77% of residents 16 and over and 76% of residents 12 and over. Sixty-seven percent of residents 12 and over have been fully vaccinated. Sixty-five percent of L.A. County teens between the ages of 12 and 17 received at least one dose and 56% are fully vaccinated. Out of the nearly 10.3 million L.A. County residents, including those who are not yet eligible for the vaccine, 65% have received at least one dose, and 58% are fully vaccinated. Countywide, nearly 68,000 third doses have been administered to immunocompromised people.

Among the more than 5.4 million fully vaccinated people in L.A. County, Public Health identified 47,276 people fully vaccinated who tested positive for COVID-19 as of September 14. While this is an increase of 8% from last week, less than 1% of all those vaccinated have become infected with COVID-19. Of those who tested positive, 1,359 were hospitalized, up from 1,243 the week prior. This translates to 0.03% of all fully vaccinated people being hospitalized. Deaths in this group over this interval increased, from 165 to 199, to 0.004%. While not 100% perfect, the data provides reassurance that the COVID-19 vaccines provide excellent protection from COVID-related hospitalizations and deaths. And because the vaccines don’t provide 100% protection, we need to continue to layer in other protections where there is high risk of transmission and vulnerable residents.

To find a vaccination site near you, make an appointment at vaccination sites, and much more, visit: [www.VaccinateLACounty.com](http://www.VaccinateLACounty.com) (English) and [www.VacunateLosAngeles.com](http://www.VacunateLosAngeles.com) (Spanish). If you don’t have internet access, can’t use a computer, or you’re over 65, you can call 1-833-540-0473 for help finding an appointment, connecting to free transportation to and from a vaccination site, or scheduling a home-visit if you are homebound. Vaccinations are always free and open to eligible residents and workers regardless of immigration status.

COVID-19 Sector Protocols, Best Practices, COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard, COVID-19 Surveillance Interactive Dashboard, Recovery Dashboard, and additional actions you can take to protect yourself, your family and your community are on the Public Health website, [www.publichealth.lacounty.gov](http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov).

## LOCAL STATISTICS 09/10/2021 vs. 09/18/2021

TOTAL LA COUNTY CASES AS OF 09/10/2021			
Cases:		1,425,806	
Deaths:		25,563	
CITY	POPULATION	CASES	DEATHS
Altadena	43,260	3,920	80
Arcadia	57,754	3,221	143
Bradbury	1,069	41	0
Duarte	22,016	2,667	98
Monrovia	38,800	3,759	80
Pasadena	141,371	12,891	356
Sierra Madre	10,989	580	13

TOTAL LA COUNTY CASES AS OF 09/17/2021			
Cases:		1,440,721	
Deaths:		25,799	
CITY	POPULATION	CASES	DEATHS
Altadena	43,260	3,954	80
Arcadia	57,754	3,266	145
Bradbury	1,069	42	0
Duarte	22,016	2,689	99
Monrovia	38,800	3,839	81
Pasadena	141,371	13,018	359
Sierra Madre	10,989	594	13

## FIRST WEST NILE VIRUS DEATH REPORTED IN LA COUNTY FIRST DEATH OF 2021 REINFORCES NEED FOR ALL RESIDENTS TO TAKE PRECAUTIONS AGAINST MOSQUITOES

LOS ANGELES – The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) has confirmed the first death due to WNV, we send you our deepest sympathies,” said Muntu Davis, MD, MPH, Los Angeles County Health Officer. “West Nile virus can be a serious health threat to people who get infected. People should regularly check for items that can hold water and breed mosquitoes, both inside and outside their homes, and to cover, clean or throw out those items. I encourage everyone to protect themselves from diseases spread by mosquitoes by using EPA-registered mosquito repellent products as directed, and wear clothing that covers your arms and legs.”

Humans get WNV through the bite of an infected mosquito. Most mosquitoes do not carry the virus; therefore, most people bitten by a mosquito are not exposed to WNV. Those who do get WNV may experience mild symptoms including fever, muscle aches, and tiredness. In some cases, especially in persons over 50 years of age and those with chronic medical conditions such as cancer and diabetes, severe WNV infection can occur and affect the brain and spinal cord causing meningitis, encephalitis, and paralysis. There is no specific treatment for WNV disease and no vaccine to prevent infection.

A total of 10 cases have been documented in Los Angeles County so far this year (excluding Long Beach and Pasadena as cases identified in those cities are reported by their local health departments). WNV-infected mosquitoes, dead birds, and sentinel chickens have been identified across Los Angeles County. Public Health monitors cases of WNV infection and collaborates with local vector control agencies to reduce the risk of WNV to humans by promoting prevention and mosquito reduction.

**Decrease your risk of exposure:**  
**PROTECT YOURSELF:** Mosquito repellents can keep mosquitoes from biting you. EPA-registered repellents containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535, 2-undecanone, and oil of lemon eucalyptus are the longest lasting and most effective. They are available as sprays, wipes, and lotions. Find the repellent that’s right for you here. Consider wearing long-sleeved clothes and pants when outside.  
**MOSQUITO PROOF YOUR HOME:** Make sure that your doors and windows have tight-fitting screens to keep out mosquitoes. Repair or replace screens with tears or holes.  
**REDUCE MOSQUITOES:** Mosquitoes lay their eggs on standing water. Check for items that hold water inside and outside your home once a week. Cover water storage containers such as buckets and rain barrels. If no lid, use wire mesh with holes smaller than an adult mosquito. Clear standing water in flower pots, saucers, birdbaths and other containers. Clean and maintain swimming pools, spas and drain water from pool covers. Cast out (throw away) old items in your patio or yard that can hold water, e.g., old car tires and children’s toys. Call 2-1-1 or visit [www.socalmosquito.org](http://www.socalmosquito.org) to report persistent problems to your mosquito control district. More information and resources:

West Nile virus in LA County: <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/acd/VectorWestNile.htm>





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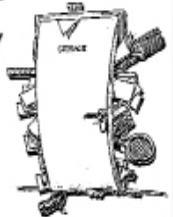
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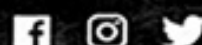
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As we approach the beginning of our 16th year, the challenges remain. Tariffs continue, costs are escalating and the economic impact of the Pandemic is not over - things are not 'back to normal'.

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THE FOLLOWING IS SOME IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING WEEKLY COVID TESTING AT SMMS

**What kind of COVID-19 test is given?**  
The COVID-19 test is a nasal swab PCR test that the students can self-administer under the supervision of a PUSD nurse. Testing materials are provided by Valencia Lab and results will be received within 24-48 hours.

**Who will be tested?**  
Students with informed consent will be tested. Any interested staff can be tested.

**How can parents give informed consent?**  
Parents can provide informed consent through two ways:  
• Register through the online platform: <https://home.color.com/covid/sign-up/start?partner=cdph094>  
• Complete the hard copy registration forms in English or Spanish which will be provided for you by the COVID-19 Response Team.

**What do parents and staff need to do prior to testing?**  
We encourage parents and staff to register with the COLOR system prior to arriving for testing. If the student or staff member has tested with PUSD before, they will not have to register again. To register for COVID-19 testing, please use this link: <https://home.color.com/covid/sign-up/start?partner=cdph094>  
The COVID-19 Response Team will also bring posters of the QR code that connects directly to the testing link.

**When does the COVID-19 Response Team come to my school?**  
Multiple COVID-19 Response Team members are organized to go to each school one time per week. As resources increase, teams will begin to go to each site for more than one scheduled visit. Testing will take place at SMMS on Fridays from 7:45am - 3:30pm

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ACROSS

1. Locker room infection?  
6. Vow at #41 Across  
9. Smoke plus fog  
13. Veranda in Honolulu  
14. Salmon on a bagel  
15. Hindu religious teacher  
16. To the left, on a boat  
17. Hula dancer's necklace  
18. Cheryl Strayed on the Pacific Crest Trail, e.g.  
19. \*Winningest World Series team  
21. \*Infield shape  
23. Acronym, abbr.  
24. Make or break, e.g.  
25. Repellent brand  
28. Minimal distortion  
30. Loathes  
35. Make children  
37. Low-\_\_\_\_\_ diet  
39. Cry of the Alps  
40. Swarm like bees  
41. Location of #6 Across vow  
43. Tiny piece  
44. Lack of intestinal movement  
46. Siren's song  
47. Buffalo lake  
48. Makes sense, 2 words  
50. "Aid and \_\_\_\_\_"  
52. "Game, \_\_\_\_\_, match"  
53. Like time with Bill Maher  
55. Road, in Rome  
57. \*Current baseball champions  
61. \*Won in NLCS or ALCS  
65. Mode of communication  
66. "\_\_\_\_\_ Now or Never"  
68. Styluses  
69. \*\_\_\_\_\_ Martin, 5-time World Series champion  
70. Bad-mouth  
71. Upright in position  
72. Let it stand, to proofreader  
73. Is, in Paris  
74. Rodeo rope

DOWN

1. Kill  
2. Spanish appetizer  
3. Any minute, arch.  
4. Winter cover  
5. Of advanced technology, colloquially  
6. Bad wishes  
7. Buck's partner  
8. Nitrous \_\_\_\_\_, a.k.a. laughing gas  
9. Sink or this?  
10. Type of shark  
11. Damien's prediction  
12. To put a girdle on  
15. Showing signs of wear and tear  
20. Writer \_\_\_\_\_ Jong  
22. Retirement plan acronym  
24. Like a Zoom session  
25. Port of old Rome  
26. \*\_\_\_\_\_ of dreams?  
27. Let out of jail  
29. \*\_\_\_\_\_ Classic  
31. \*Runner's destination  
32. Frankincense and myrrh, but not gold  
33. Adjust, as laces  
34. Between rain and snow  
36. Outback birds  
38. Prickle on a wire  
42. "Super" Christopher  
45. Definitely  
49. p in mpg  
51. Glittery decoration  
54. Digression  
56. Bone hollows  
57. Young female socialites, for short  
58. Fail to mention  
59. Earnhardt of racing fame  
60. Coating of aurum  
61. Attention-getting sound  
62. Pirates' affirmatives  
63. \*ALCS counterpart  
64. \*Nickname of Red Sox manager who won two World Series  
67. "\_\_\_\_\_ the season ..."

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](mailto: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](mailto:inquiry@acsliions.com)  
Principal: Cindy Harmon  
website: [www.acsliions.com](http://www.acsliions.com)

**Arcadia High School**  
180 Campus Drive Arcadia, CA 91007  
Phone: (626) 821-8370, Principal: Brent Forsee  
[bforsee@ausd.net](mailto: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](mailto:pclarke@arroyopacific.org)

**Barnhart School**  
240 W. Colorado Blvd Arcadia, Ca. 91007  
(626) 446-5588  
Head of School: Tonya Beilstein  
Kindergarten - 8th grade  
website: [www.barnhartschool.org](http://www.barnhartschool.org)

**Bethany Christian School**  
93 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024  
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Principal: Dr. William Walner  
website: [www.bcsliions.org](http://www.bcsliions.org)

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(626) 799-4354 •  
Transitional Kindergarten - 8th Grade  
Principal: Mrs. Jennifer Garzia  
Website: [www.school.holyfamily.org](http://www.school.holyfamily.org)  
Email: [info@holyschool.org](mailto:info@holyschool.org)  
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**Foothill Oaks Academy**  
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Principal: Nancy Lopez  
[www.foothilloaksacademy.org](http://www.foothilloaksacademy.org)  
[office@foothilloaksacademy.org](mailto:office@foothilloaksacademy.org)

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Head of School: Jenny Janetzke  
Email: [jenny@frostig.org](mailto:jenny@frostig.org)

**The Gooden School**  
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(626) 355-2410  
Head of School, Jo-Anne Woolner  
website: [www.goodenschool.org](http://www.goodenschool.org)

**High Point Academy**  
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Pasadena, Ca. 91107  
Head of School: Gary Stern 626-798-8989  
website: [www.highpointacademy.org](http://www.highpointacademy.org)

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3880 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Pasadena, Ca.  
(626) 351-8951 website: [www.lasallehs.org](http://www.lasallehs.org)  
Principal Jamal Adams

**Monrovia High School**  
325 East Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016  
(626) 471-2800 Principal Darvin Jackson  
Email: [schools@monrovia.k12.ca.us](mailto:schools@monrovia.k12.ca.us)

**Odyssey Charter School**  
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Principal: Adela Solis (626) 355-6114  
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**Sierra Madre Elementary School**  
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(626) 449-7390 Principal: Ruth Esseln  
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FAMILY MATTERS

By Marc Garlett

ESTATE PLANNING MUST HAVE FOR SINGLE PARENTS

If you are a single parent, life for you probably couldn't get any busier. You are likely being pulled between work, school activities, and home - and the inevitable emergencies that fill the lives of all parents everywhere.

Being a single parent is a huge responsibility, even if you do share time with a parenting partner, and especially so if you don't. Regardless, as a single parent, your children's lives are largely in your hands alone. So, what would happen to your children if something happened to you? Who would take care of them? Who would pay for their housing and food? Who would pay for their education? These are questions you need to get answered, and the only sure way to get those answers is through estate planning.

Having an estate plan that covers the care of your children in case you should be in a severe accident, fall ill, or die brings peace of mind for the single parent knowing everything and everyone they love is taken care of. Here are the must-haves that can protect your children if something were to ever happen to you:

Will

A will lets you name the person responsible for your estate and belongings as well as who will inherit your assets. Most importantly this is the legal vehicle you use to name a guardian for your children. Without a will, the state will decide their fate. The greatest risk you leave behind when ignoring this piece of your estate plan is that your children could be taken into the care of strangers at any time.

Revocable Living Trust

There are so many benefits of a living trust for single parents. First, a trust enables you to still control your money and property while you're able, but if you die or become incapacitated, it transitions that decision-making authority immediately to the person you have named as your trustee (obviously someone you can trust and count on to do what you would have wanted). If your children are still minors or even young adults their inheritance can be handled for them until the time comes when they are capable (and you decide that time). Plus, if you have a trust, your estate doesn't have to go through probate, which can be costly and time-consuming. Without a trust, you risk draining your hard-earned money on probate costs.

Durable Power of Attorney

As a single parent, you are likely the only signatory on your mortgage, bank accounts, and other financial instruments. What would happen if you became incapacitated and there

was no one to pay the mortgage or the bills? That is why it is important to have a durable power of attorney in place. When choosing your power of attorney agent, it should be someone you trust to manage your financial affairs and make legal decisions on your behalf if you are unable to do so yourself.

Advance Medical Directive

An advanced medical directive gives legal power, to the person you choose, to make your health care decisions in case you are not capable of doing so yourself. This is especially important if you are not married or do not have immediate family members nearby.

Beneficiary Forms

Your life insurance policy, retirement accounts, and brokerage accounts all require beneficiary designations. Those you designate to receive the assets in these accounts will only receive them if you execute the proper beneficiary forms! They cannot pass to your heirs via a will or trust. And minor children should never be named as beneficiaries as they are not legally able to own assets. Talk to an experienced estate planning attorney about strategies to leave these assets to your children without court intervention.

Kids Protection Plan\*

A Kids Protection Plan\* provides parents with the legal planning tools they need to make sure there is never a question about who will take care of your kids if you are in an accident. The plan includes legal documents to name short- and long-term guardians, instructions for those guardians, medical powers of attorney for your minor children, and more.

As a parent – especially a single parent – you need to be informed and empowered so you can protect what matters most. Don't leave your estate planning on the "to do list". Take care of it now to ensure your children are taken care of in the future.

MARC

A local attorney and father, Marc Garlett is on a mission to help parents protect what they love most. Schedule an appointment to sit down and talk about ensuring a legacy of love and financial security for your family by calling 626.355.4000 or visit [www.CaliLaw.com](http://www.CaliLaw.com) for more information.

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THE STORY OF HYKE FARMS

When one is driving along the suburban streets of Duarte, you're close to the mountains, but not that far from the 210 Freeway. Clearly, you know you're not in farmland.

And as one approaches the Hyke residence, there's no lawn – just lots of native plants – but still no indication that you're entering a little farming operation.

“Welcome to Hyke Farms,” shouts Daniel Hyke with a smile, welcoming me to a short tour of his backyard farming operations. “Hyke Farms may be the tiniest farm in America,” according to Hyke. What’s the difference between a “farm” and a “garden”? Who knows?

“I don’t call it a garden,” explains Hyke, “because gardens are for amateurs who want a distraction from their daily routines. What we’ve got going here is serious business.” He continues, “I’d had this micro-farm going for over 20 years, mostly growing just tomatoes,” he explains. Then, on a fluke, Hyke decided for the first time to plant a winter garden, something which can be done in Southern California because of the mild winters. “I planted four varieties of lettuce, spinach, cilantro, radishes, broccoli, turnips, carrots, peas, and kept a couple of bushes of cherry tomatoes going,” he explains, pointing to the raised beds. “It was a real experiment,” says Hyke, smiling.



He started the winter garden in mid-November of 2019. Three months later the worst pandemic in over a 100 years hit. “Suddenly, my wife Thuy (pronounced too-we) and I were afraid to leave the house. We were not about to head out to the local supermarket,” he explained. “Luckily, a year before, we had stockpiled a 50 pound bag of rice and two 30 pound bags of pinto beans in the garage.” Hyke’s face lights up when he adds that “that first winter garden had been a huge success and was already producing ingredients for a large salad every night for the two of us. I couldn’t believe my luck in planting it just fourteen weeks before Covid hit.”

When the Hykes began their backyard farm, they had just four small plots. The farming operation has since expanded to 13 plots ranging in size from one square meter to three square meters. Now they have 23 square meters under cultivation, not including four fruit trees and two herb pots. That’s 250 square feet, or a square 16 feet on a side. According to Hyke, that’s the tiniest farm in America.

“I use high-intensity farming, which means I plant my crops much closer together than most professionals recommend. I get away with it because of my soil. Soil is everything when it comes to growing food. I probably have the most productive, per square foot, farmland in the country,” declares Hyke.

Hyke began his gardening career when he was in the fourth grade in Dallas, Texas. “My father let me plow up half of the backyard. I was only 10 years old and I was growing corn, cantaloupe, beans, everything! I loved it. Buying the seeds and looking at the little maps on the back. Plowing the soil and getting dirty. Watering. Watching the baby seedlings pop up. Harvesting the food that I had grown and watching my family eat it,” he fondly recalls.

COMBATTING PESTS

Pesticides are not allowed or used on the Hyke Farm. Hyke uses 100% biological controls in stopping pestilence. Lizards, multiple species of insect-eating birds, ravenous ladybugs, and hard-working spiders all keep down the population of undesirable bugs and insects. He believes that 99% of his crops remain undamaged at harvest time.

THINK GLOBAL, ACT LOCAL

Hyke is a retired school teacher who likes to think globally as he points out the environmental benefits of his operation. “When I want to make a salad, the food moves a few feet to my kitchen, not hundreds or thousands of miles across states or continents. Just think about the reduction of CO2 emissions – its huge! I am not relying on manufactured inorganic fertilizers or pesticides and all the mining, energy, and fossil fuels it takes to produce them.

HOURS SPENT

On the Hyke Farm, all the green waste from the mini farm is recycled on site, and therefore doesn’t end up in a landfill or at a municipal composting facility requiring the heavy use of fossil fuels. Once he got his farming operation well established, Hyke pointed out that it requires a lot less work and effort than he expected. He spends about 50 minutes per week hand-watering his plants. One hour a week is spent weeding, and two hours digging new compost pits and preparing newly-cleared plots for planting.

During the recent pandemic, Hyke found that their efforts at sharing food was helpful in maintaining everyone’s mental and physical health. “We never made a penny from the farm, but we did a ton of bartering.

Dan Hyke estimates that his little farm produces about 25% to 30% of all the food that him and his wife eat depending on the season. Hyke’s father served in World War II at Pearl Harbor when it was attacked and in the Battle of Midway. Says Hyke, “I am very proud of my little farm, it’s the American way you know – self-reliance. I hope my dad is watching.”

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Katnip News!



MEET COSMO!

Cute COSMO! We are looking for a home for this VERY FRIENDLY cutie, age 5 monshs! He loves to be held and is very energetic! Take him into your home and see yourself start

laughing more and stressing less! We are quite positive Cosmo will make your life more fun and entertain-ing! Even better if you have another young cat! We are currently pairing him with another one his age, so maybe you'd like the two of them. That's double cuddles and kisses for you!



Pet of the Week

One-year-old MJ is an active and playful cat who still has that kitten energy! MJ would do best with an adopter who can give her lots of enrichment, mental stimulation, toys, and scratchers. She especially loves wand toys. MJ loves to be the center of attention, and would do best as the only pet in the home. This tabby girl is confident and adventurous, and can't wait to have lots of fun with you!



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 an adoption appointment at [pasadenahumane.org](http://pasadenahumane.org). Adoptions are by appointment only, and new adoption appointments are available every Sunday and Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.

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



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## OUT TO PASTOR

A Weekly Religion Column by Rev. James Snyder

### READY OR NOT, HERE I QUIT!

I do not quit easily. When I start a project, I like to work until it's finished. I hate to quit before something is completed.

One thing I have learned through the years is not to start something unless I have the time and resources to finish it. How many projects I started in the past and somehow ran out of steam or resources and never got to finish it.

When I start a project, I am obsessed with finishing it on time.

My problem is I have difficulty planning, scheduling and balancing certain projects. I often take on more than I could possibly do.

Such is not the case with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Whatever she takes on and how much she takes on can always be finished on time. How she does it is beyond my understanding.

The only project I can finish on time is eating. I have no problem finishing this project every day.

The thing that bothers me is that many times I take on several projects and get them confused. I see a project I want to do and I jump at it. It doesn't matter if I have half a dozen other projects on the table, if I like it, I want to do it.

One time I thought I would partner with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage for several projects. As I looked at her project list, they all had something to do with crafts. I may be a lot of things, but I certainly am not crafty.

I can go into her craft room, look at all of her tools, and not know what in the world they are or what they are for. I'm not a tool kind of a person like my wife is.

Last summer, for example, we had the air conditioner guy come to fix our air conditioner. He looked at it and said he knew exactly what was wrong, but he didn't have the right tool to fix it and so he had to go back to his office and get it.

"What tool," my wife said to him, "do you need to fix it?"

He looked at her, laughed, and said, "Ma'am, I'm sure you don't have anything near the kind of tool that I will need."

"Tell me what it is?"

He looked at her, smiled, and then describe the tool that he needed to fix the AC problem.

"Oh," my wife said as she made her way back to the garage. "I think I have that tool in my garage."

He laughed until she came back from the garage with the exact tool he needed to fix the problem. He just stared at her and didn't know what to say.

If she doesn't have the tool, there is no problem and nothing to fix.

It's one thing to have a project, but it's another thing to have the tools to finish the project on time.

There is one project that I have been working on for years. Maybe it's about time I quit that project.

The project is, to understand how my wife manages to do all of those things?

I good go and ask her but you know what that would mean. I wouldn't understand anything she was saying.

Where she got all that skill to work with all the tools that she has is far beyond me.

I must say she has saved me a lot of money through the years. If I had something sound wrong with my vehicle, she would immediately go out, lift the hood, and in a few moments determine what the problem was and then commence to fix it.

One time the back bumper of my truck broke and I didn't quite know how to fix it. I was planning to take it to the garage and get them to fix it when my wife came out and asked what was wrong.

I told her about my rear bumper and she went to look at it.

I had one of those "aha" moments where I thought here was a project she couldn't fix. It needed a professional.

In a few minutes, she went into the house and I thought she had given up. I didn't blame her because I didn't quite know how to fix it myself.

Then she came back outside with one of those large universal paper clips. When I saw her with it I started to laugh. She just looked at me, grinned and went over to the rear bumper and in a few moments, she had it fixed.

That was four years ago and it's still fixed.

So, I have come to that point in my life where I am ready to quit. Ready to quit trying to figure out how she knows so much of everything associated with tools.

I am ready to quit trying to understand the other side of our marriage.

Every man that thinks he understands a woman has never yet been married.

There are so many mysteries in life and I have come to the point where I have quit trying to figure out most of those mysteries.

A verse of Scripture came to my mind, "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" (Amos 3:3).

Sometimes that agreement is simply a mutual understanding of the differences between each other. The secret to this is not to quit but to keep moving forward.

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

# SENIOR HAPPENINGS



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

Clem Bartolai, Pat Hall, Donna Anderson, Teresa Chaure, Cathy Gunther, Esther Macias, Sheila Pierce, Nancy Sue Shollenberger, Patti O'Meara, Judie Cimino, Mary Steinberg, Geri Wright, Parvin Dabiri, Denise Reistetter and Nehama Warner, Virginia Mullaney, Gwen Robertson.

\* 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

### THE HART PARK HOUSE SENIOR CENTER IS OPEN!!!!

IN HOUSE LUNCH DINING SERVICE WILL NOT RESUME AT THIS TIME.  
ACCESS TO THE COMPUTER/CLASSROOM IS TEMPORARILY UNAVAILABLE.

All Classes and programs will maintain a distance of 6 ft between participants. All equipment used will be sanitized after each use before it is stored. Each participant is responsible for providing their own water, masks and additionally needed supplies for each class.

Please call the Community Services Department at 355-7394 with any questions or concerns.

### SENIOR CINEMA – 2ND AND 4TH WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

**ANASTASIA, Wednesday 9/8** Could an amnesiac refugee named Anna Anderson truly be the Grand Duchess Anastasia, purported sole survivor of the execution of the Tsar Nicholas II and his family during the Bolshevik Revolution of 1918, and therefore the rightful heir to the Czar's fortune? Backed by a group of White Russian exiles led by General Bounine, she faces her possible grandmother, the imperious Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna, and the fortune hunting Prince Paul.

### QUEEN BEES, Wednesday 9/22

Helen is an independent widow who moves into the Pine Grove Senior Community and discovers it's just like high school—full of cliques and flirtatious suitors. What she initially avoids leads her to exactly what she's been missing: new friendships and a chance at love with newcomer Dan.

### TEA AND TALK, SENIOR BOOK CLUB 2nd and 4th Wednesday, 9:00 am

Staff has launched a new book club series, Tea and Talk, which meets twice a month to discuss the fun, suspense, intrigue, love and so much more that each selection will have in store!

### FIBER FRIENDS Every Friday, 10-10:45 am

Bring a lei, your flower skirt or just your desire to dance! Hula in the Park is back and waiting for you to join in on all the fun! Memorial Park Pavilion.

### TEA AT THREE WITH CHIEF BARTLETT AND THE SMFD

Friday, October 8th, 3:00-5:00 pm

Stop by for some bingo, tea and conversations with Sierra Madre Fire Chief Bartlett and crew. Reserve your spot with Lawren.

### TISSUE PAPER HANGING ART

Lawren is making a colorful and artistic piece to brighten up the Hart Park House! We will have fun with tissue paper, coffee filters and food coloring. All supplies will be provided for you and we will meet in the Hart Park House. Please wear clothes you don't mind getting messy. To reserve your spot or ask questions please call Lawren Heinz at (626) 355-7394 or email at lheinzn@cityofsierramadre.com.

### PAINT AND SIP

Wednesday, 9/22 and Wednesday, 9/29 5:30-7:30 pm—Hart Park House

Have you wanted to join in on one of these fun and popular classes but didn't know where to go? Well look no further...Paint and Sip has come to the Hart Park House! Select one of the two choices available and enjoy this fun paint by number with a glass of red or chilled white wine. We will spread the fun over two days to ensure we are not rushed and have more time with our art and like minded friends. The cost is \$10 per person, space is limited so make sure to reserve your spot with Lawren today!

### POKER DAY - Tuesday, 9/7, 1:00-3:00 pm—Hart Park House

Interested in a game of Texas Hold'em or 5 Card Draw? Bring your best poker face and join us in a friendly bout of card savvy competition. If this doesn't suit your card playing desires then help introduce your fellow seniors to a new and exciting card game. Cards and poker chips will be provided.

### BINGO - Tuesday, 9/14, 1:00 pm—Hart Park House

Hart Park House Senior Bingo is back by popular demand! Come on down to enjoy this time honored game with some old and new friends. We are trying a new spin on your BINGO fun so please bring your good luck charms and BINGO markers!

## METRO MICRO— TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

Micro is Metro's new on-demand rideshare service, offering trips within several zones in L.A. County. The new service is for short local trips and uses small vehicles (seating up to 10 passengers). Micro is part of Metro's family of services and has been designed hand-in-hand with Metro's NextGen Bus Plan. The service is meant to be a fast, safe and convenient option for quick trips around town, Monday-Sunday, 5:30 am-9:30 pm. At this time, a promotional fare of \$1 will run six months from the date of service launch. The \$1 will not include a transfer to Metro bus and rail. Customers can pay using their TAP Card/account (stored value only) or with a credit card (no cash). Metro staff will return to the Board at the end of the six-month introductory period to consider potential fare adjustments.

Service hours of operation are:  
Monday—Sunday between 5:30 am-9:30 pm.  
Download the Metro Micro App: visit:  
book.metro-micro.netor  
call 323-GO-METRO (323) 446-3876

## HOW TO MANAGE AN INHERITED IRA FROM A PARENT

*Dear Savvy Senior:*

*What are the rules regarding inherited IRAs? When my mom died this year, I inherited her traditional IRA and would like to know what I need to do to execute it properly. Confused Daughter*

Dear Confused:

I'm very sorry about the loss of you mother. Inheriting an IRA from a parent has a unique set of rules you need to know, which will help you make the most of the money you inherit and avoid a tax-time surprise. Here are some basics you should know.

### Set-Up Inherited Account

Many people think they can roll an inherited IRA into their own IRA. But if you inherit an IRA from a parent, aunt, uncle, sibling or friend you cannot roll the account into your own IRA or treat the IRA as your own. Instead, you'll have to transfer your portion of the assets into a new IRA set up and formally named as an inherited IRA – for example, (name of deceased owner) for the benefit of (your name).

If your mom's IRA account has multiple beneficiaries, it can be split into separate accounts for each beneficiary. Splitting an account allows each beneficiary to treat their own inherited portion as if they were the sole beneficiary.

You can set up an inherited IRA with most any bank or brokerage firm. However, the easiest option may be to open your inherited IRA with the firm that held your mom's account.

### 10-Year Withdrawal Rule

Due to the Secure Act, which was signed into law in December 2019, most (but not all) IRA beneficiaries must deplete an inherited IRA within 10 years of the account owner's death. This applies to inherited IRAs if the owner died after Dec. 31, 2019.

There's no limit on when or how often you withdraw money from the account, as long as the account is empty by the end of the 10 years. That is, you can choose to withdraw all of the money at once, you can leave it sitting there for a decade and then take it all out, or you can withdraw distributions over time. But be aware that with a traditional IRA, each withdrawal will be counted as income and subject to taxes in the year you make the withdrawal.



### Exceptions to the Rule

There are several exceptions to the IRA 10-year rule, including for a surviving spouse, minor child, disabled or chronically ill beneficiary, or a beneficiary who is within 10 years of age of

the original IRA owner. These beneficiaries may be able to receive more time to draw down the account and pay the resulting tax bill.

For example, when you inherit an IRA from a spouse, you can transfer the IRA balance into your own account and delay distributions until after you turn age 72.

Minor children must start required minimum distributions from an inherited IRA but don't become subject to the 10-year rule until they reach the "age of majority," which is 18 in most states. Disabled and chronically ill beneficiaries, and those within 10 years of age of the original account owner have the option to stretch required withdrawals over their lifetime.

### Minimize Your Taxes

As tempting as it might be to cash out an inherited IRA in a lump-sum withdrawal, tread carefully. This option could leave you owing a hefty sum when it's time to file your taxes. Withdrawals from a traditional IRA generally are taxable as income, at your income tax rate.

For some people, it can be a smart tax move to gradually draw down the account over the 10-year period to avoid a large tax bill in a single year and potentially being bumped into a high tax bracket. Or, if you're approaching retirement, say in five years, you may want to wait to start withdrawing from the account until you are retired, and your income drops potentially putting you into a lower tax bracket.

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.



## MOUNTAIN VIEWS NEWS

**PUBLISHER/ EDITOR**  
Susan Henderson

**PASADENA CITY EDITOR**  
Dean Lee

### PRODUCTION

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

**WEBMASTER**  
John Avery

### DISTRIBUTION

### CONTRIBUTORS

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

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

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

mtnewsnews@aol.com



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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 PUT THE LIGHTS ON WHO PAYS THE COST?



about inflation and rent and housing prices?

There are other numbers documenting the number of deaths and hospitalizations nation-wide and world- wide resulting from the Corona Virus. I used to check out the numbers as if they were a baseball score of last night's game and wondered what the final score would be. The pandemic has been raging for eighteen months and nobody even talks about final estimates anymore. The talk is all about the new number of existing variants and the number of future possible mutations. What is the age appropriate for vaccine shots and how many shots are necessary? How close can we stand next to a masked or unmasked person and consider ourselves safe?

Lately we talk of hurricane and wind speeds and their death tolls while wild fires rage and numbers are presented indicating a percentage of containment... whatever that means. A number that I find particularly galling is the sole one passenger in over ninety per cent of the cars driving to and from work in the morning and late afternoon hours. We are given numbers, difficult to much understand predicting the end of human habitability on this planet connected to the use of fossil fuels and still every morning and afternoon gasoline powered automobiles make their way slowly back and forth on the freeways. What would happen if there were three carpool lanes instead of only one? Wouldn't that change people's driving habits?

These are all numbers and often there are just so many of them we forget that some have more significance than others. We all remember 9/11 (at least all of us that were around at that time and are still around. The attack on the World Trade Center (the reasons for which I have never heard explained) initiated a war that lasted twenty years and cost multiple trillions of dollars and thousands of lives. As to these trillions of dollars- whose money was it and who received it? An obvious answer, but one that is never discussed, is that it was OUR money. Taxpayer dollars were used to fund this twenty year war, now revealed as pointless and ineffective, and the money was paid largely to those who manufacture the weapons of war. War is always profitable for those in the business, a powerful and influential special interest that exercises control over legislators.

Shouldn't these trillions have been put to a better use such as discovering ways to allow for continuing human habitation? The answer is obvious as is the answer to what better uses could have been made by the State of California forced to waste hundreds of millions of state taxpayer dollars on the burlesque recall election in which, I believe, forty six candidates, including a billboard character, asked for the public's votes. Certainly many advertising agencies and television networks and all sorts of consultants profited from these shenanigans. The public, you and I, at least the almost two-thirds of Californians, who voted against the recall did not. The whole recall debacle demonstrates the need to allocate more funds to the necessity of adequately educating the public.

To me the present state of things indicates that this nation is crumbling from within. Science does not progress unless research institutions can predict great profits from their research. Important basic scientific inquiry is halted or not begun unless immediate profits can be predicted. All the numbers around us blind us to the simple fact that our nation has lost focus and is not doing what is necessary to survive. Is there a number of unnecessary deaths continuing avoidable illness that must occur before the cost is so high that a change in direction is demanded? We, or our children, and hopefully future generations, will be around to find out.

What was the score of the UCLA game today. I almost missed it because I forgot the time.

## DINAH CHONG WATKINS CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE WRONG KIND ANIMAL HOUSE



Reviewing the very diverse slate of candidates for the California governor recall, something or rather, someone is definitely missing. Could that be the reason for Newsom's landslide victory? The roster included career politicians, radio hosts, soft porn stars and college students, but where were all the animals? The four-legged kind?

One current candidate ran with the "Beast", Tag, a 1000 pound Kodak bear. Tag is a show business veteran with ad spots pushing home insurance, mortgages and cheesy burgers. Ironically, the bear is further ahead in the polls than the candidate, given his lumbering good looks, his imposing 7 1/2 foot stance, razor sharp bite and polite refusal to talk smack against his opponents. How can any middle-age, certified public accountant compare to that?

Senators, mayors, council members - through history, animals have taken their crate in office, a good many of whom are of the "Capra hircus" persuasion, in other words - goats. Dogs, cats, and pigs too have graced the honorable halls of democracy but the popularity of goats seem to give them an edge - maybe because they're easier to blame, naturally taking on the mantle of "scapegoat".

After decades of living abroad in a one-party political system, it's been exciting to be a part of a democratic system where every vote counts - the Electoral College system notwithstanding. What surprises me most are the requirements or rather lack of them for candidates.

This loophole has seen a run for the US presidential candidacy in 1968 by Pigasus the Immortal, of the Yippies party. Not only did Pigasus not win, he was last seen on the breakfast table served with a short stack of pancakes the morning after the election count.

In more recent times, Molly the dachshund was on the presidential ballot in 2008, she didn't make it to the White House, thanks to the overwhelming number of cat lovers who voted in Barack Obama.

Colossus the gorilla was denied a run in the 1980 New Hampshire Republican Presidential primary when his handlers tried to argue while he did indeed meet the requirement of a native-born candidate for the presidency, there was no specific rule he also had to be human. He returned to Benson's Wild Animal Farm in New Hampshire and consoled himself with a Goodyear tire and a bunch of bananas.

But there are success stories in the animal kingdom. During the 80's, in an overwhelming vote, Clay Henry of Lejita, Texas beat out a trading post wooden Indian, a dog named Buster and - oh yeah - Tommy Steele, the incumbent mayor. Clay Henry is a goat.

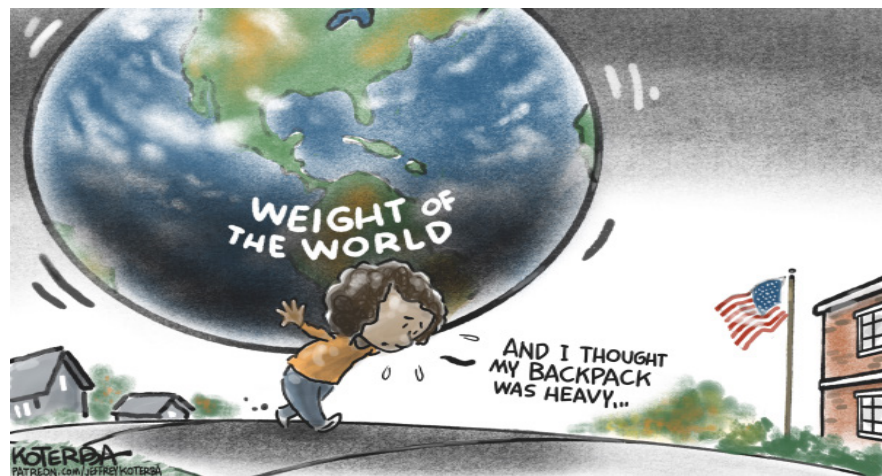
To prove that was no fluke, in Rabbit Hash, KY, 2008, Lucy Lou beat out a deep slate of mayoral nominees which included dogs, cats, a opossum and another misguided human. Lucy Lou is the third canine to win the mayor's seat and flea collars for life.

It may be that the attraction of animals as politicians is that they lead a life more conducive to the public's expectations. Loyal but friendly, nonjudgmental, not prone to biting the hand that feeds them, they work for peanuts or dry kibble, and they listen more than they talk. Most of all, hugging is allowed without the fear of impeachment down the line.

The Rhinoceros Party of Canada took its inspiration from a Brazilian rhinoceros named Cacareco. He beat out more than 500 city council members in San Paulo in 1959. The Canadian party notes that rhinos make the perfect politicians because they are "thick-skinned, slow-moving and not too bright, but can move fast as hell when in danger." Sounds just like the "Beast".

Email me at [dinah@letterfromabroad.com](mailto:dinah@letterfromabroad.com)

Read more at: <https://aletterfromabroad.wordpress.com>



## DEMS PLAY THE TRUMP CARD IN CALIFORNIA RECALL ELECTION

"A blow out." That's what I said Monday on Newsmax when I was asked what I thought would happen in Tuesday's gubernatorial recall election in California.

It didn't surprise me that in a state where Democrats outnumber Republicans by 3-1 the "No" vote for recalling Democrat Gavin Newsom won more than 60 percent of the vote.

I had been predicting for months that Newsom, no matter how awful he has been, would easily hold on to his job.

It's not that I had a crystal ball or I'm a political genius or anything.

It's just that unlike a lot of conservatives, I can recognize election fraud in California when I see it.

The fraud I'm talking about has nothing to do with any dirty tricks pulled by the Democrats.

The fraud in this week's recall election - just like the fraud in every recent and future election in California - was the Republican Party.

Republicans around the country still think they have a competitive party in the former "Golden State," but that hasn't been true for a long, long time.

Just 24 percent of the electorate are registered as Republicans, which is why Newsom won in a walk, Joe Biden crushed Donald Trump by 5 million votes and Democrats have controlled the state assembly for decades.

The last Republican governor Californians elected was Arnold Schwarzenegger, who was at heart a Democrat and only won because he was a global celebrity.

Since Arnold's era, the Republican Party here has had no leader, no message and no hope of ever electing a U.S. senator, governor or president.

The recall election just made things worse for the GOP in California - and around the country.

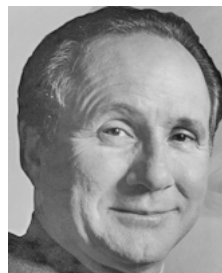
The Republican candidates to replace Newsom - a parade of losers and nobodies led by the great conservative L.A. talk show host and top vote-getter, Larry Elder - never had a chance.

What hallucinogenic drug made GOP bigwigs think they were going to win on Tuesday?

Because 2 million people in a state with 22 million registered voters supported a ballot measure to recall Newsom a year before a general election? I hope not.

Politically, during the recall election the

## MICHAEL REAGAN



Democrats went to school and got educated while the Republicans flunked out.

In the process of defending Newsom and smearing Elder the Democrats found a tactic that they can use nationally to keep control of Congress in 2022 - painting every Republican candidate as a Trump clone.

In every race next year Democrats will be tying their Republican opponents to the so-called "insurrection" of Jan. 6 in Washington and the Nov. 3 election Trump keeps saying was stolen from him.

The core Trump crowd may get all giddy about this, but the fact is, a Republican candidate will eventually get to a point where the only people who'll vote for her are the Trump people.

If you look at Tuesday's numbers, for example, the "yes" vote for recalling Newsom was about equal to the percentage of Californians who voted for Trump in 2020.

What the GOP did by putting their hopeless recall election together was to set up a launching pad for Newsom to run for president.

He can run for governor again next year and win, then leave Sacramento in 2026 in time to set up a campaign to run for president in 2028.

Before that happens, the Republican Party better wake up and find some fresh presidential horses for 2024.

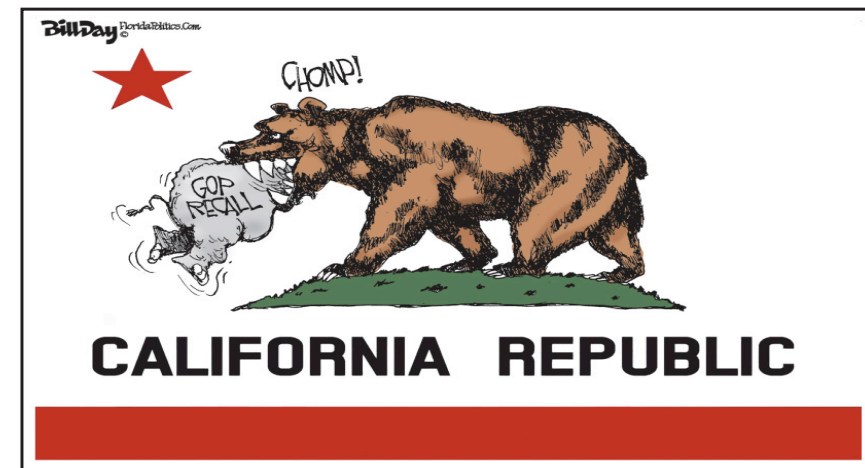
After what they learned Tuesday night about playing the Trump Card, I can hear Democrats across America praying that Trump runs in 2024.

It's not that President Trump didn't do many good things for the country. It's about how he went about doing them.

He'd almost certainly win the Republican nomination because of his base, but I predict he'd lose bigger in the general election in 2024 than he did in 2020 - to anyone.

As I tweeted this week, if the GOP wants to retake Congress next year and regain the White House in 2024, I hope they learned this week they have to become more like Ronald Reagan and less like Donald Trump.

Michael Reagan, the son of President Ronald Reagan, is an author, speaker and president of the Reagan Legacy Foundation.



## RICH JOHNSON NOW THAT'S RICH! PARAPROSDOKIANS, PART TWO



The below "cleverisms" are not all necessarily paraprostdokians in the truest sense, but they are fun. And worth having in your quiver of clever conversation starters or stoppers. (For those of you who missed last week's column, a paraprostdokian is a linguistic scrambler in which the latter part of the sentence isn't what you expected following the first part of the sentence)

One that applies to me: "He's a writer for the ages... ages four to eight." Dorothy Parker

The voices in my head may not be real, but they have some good ideas!

Where there's a will, I want to be in it.

If I could just say a few words...I'd be a better public speaker.

People say nothing is impossible...but I do nothing every day.

Why do Americans choose from just two people to run for president and 50 for Miss America?

Dolphins are so smart that within a few weeks of captivity they can train people to stand on the very edge of the pool and throw them fish.

To be sure of hitting the target, shoot first, and call whatever you hit the target.

If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit; Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

The early bird might get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.

Evening news is where they begin with 'Good evening', and then proceed to tell you why it isn't.

I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you.

A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.

When tempted to fight fire with fire, remember that the Fire Department usually uses water.

You're never too old to learn something stupid.

Concerts coming up:

Jane Fuller and Mike Gallegos are performing at Corfu Restaurant, Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:00. This versatile musical duo performs well known jazz and pop rock favorites from Peter Frampton to Frank Sinatra. Linda Ronstadt to Ella Fitzgerald. Perfect music to accompany a fine dining experience at Corfu Restaurant in Sierra Madre. Call (626) 355-5993 to make reservations. Corfu is at 48 West Sierra Madre Blvd in Sierra Madre.

JJ Jukebox is having a rare midweek concert this upcoming Wednesday evening, September 22<sup>nd</sup> at Nano Café. Same time, 6:30-9:30 A special evening. Please join us for dinner, and drinks and wonderful 60's and 70's music. Reservations can be made by calling the restaurant (626) 325-3334. Give your name and number in your party.

-Rich  
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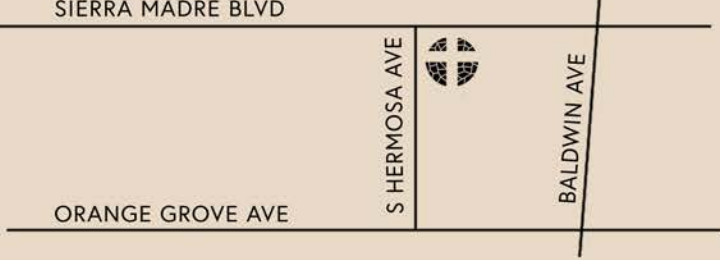


JOIN US THIS WEEKEND!



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Christ Church Sierra Madre is a community of people seeking to follow the way of Jesus together. We gather as a community to worship, be encouraged by the word of God, and to connect with each other. Join us this weekend - we'd love to get to know you! Visit [christchurchsm.org](https://christchurchsm.org) for more details.



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