

Mountain Views News

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Duarte

Monrovia

Pasadena

Altadena

South Pasadena

San Marino

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2021

VOLUME 15 NO. 41

THE WEBB-MARTIN GROUP

Two new Bills, effective January 1, 2022, will impact single-family zoning in California.

The first, Senate Bill 9, makes it possible to build more than one housing unit on land that was previously designated for only one unit.

The second, Senate Bill 10, allows for denser development near public transit corridors, such as bus and train lines.

Zoning regulates how land can be used, or what can be built where. Can a business be built on a given plot? That area is zoned for commercial use. Can a home or condo complex be built there? That is residential zoning. In a downtown area, you might have mixed-use zoning — say, ground-floor retail businesses and residential units in the high-rise above.

Single-family zoning refers to a residential area where only one housing unit can be built on a given parcel of land. Think of the Southern California suburban staple of a home with no shared walls — in other words, not a duplex, triplex or multiunit complex. If you live in a house with a driveway, garage, three bedrooms, two bathrooms, and front, back and side yards, it's almost certainly a single-family home.

Info Reported from The LA Times
For full Prop details, Contact Us

JUST SOLD



The Hoover Estate Sold at \$3,715,000
500 North Michillinda Avenue 7 Beds | 5.5 Baths | 6,588 sf | 50,113 sf lot
Sierra Madre, 91024 500NorthMichillinda.com

IN ESCROW



IN ESCROW WITH MULTIPLE OFFERS
1921 Spanish Listed at \$629,000
650 North Holliston Avenue 2 Beds | 1 Bath | 960 sf | 5,200 sf lot
Pasadena, 91106



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BREAKING NEWS

SIERRA MADRE POLICE AND INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN TASK FORCE MAKE SECOND ARREST IN LESS THAN 12 MONTHS

22 Year Old Sierra Madre resident arrested and charged with possession of child pornography.

On Thursday morning, the Sierra Madre Police Department and the Federal Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force arrested Jared Ryan Mason. He was transported to the Pasadena Police Department for booking.

According to sources familiar with the arrest, several charges are pending, however at press time, the District Attorney's Office had only charged him with Section 311.11(a) of the California Penal Code which reads, "Every person who knowingly possesses or controls any matter, representation of information, data, or image, including, but not limited to, any film, filmstrip, photograph, negative, slide, photocopy, videotape, video laser disc, computer hardware, computer software, computer floppy disc, data storage media, CD-ROM, or computer-generated equipment or any other computer-generated image that contains or incor-

porates in any manner, any film or filmstrip, the production of which involves the use of a person under 18 years of age, knowing that the matter depicts a person under 18 years of age personally engaging in or simulating sexual conduct, as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 311.4, is guilty of a felony..."

The arrest was made at Mason's home in the 00 block of W. Laurel Avenue in Sierra Madre.

At press time, Mason was released from custody on a \$20,000 bail by the District Attorney's office. The date of his next court appearance has not yet been set.

Last year, Robert Nesler, a longtime Sierra Madre resident was also arrested on similar charges. Nesler, also out of custody, is awaiting trial. His next court appearance is scheduled in November.

MVNNews

FORMER SMPD OFFICER FACING CHARGES FOR SHOOTING OF A YOUNG MOTHER IN LONG BEACH

Eddie F. Gonzalez, who was a member of the Sierra Madre Police Department from September 2019 until July, 2020 has been fired from his position as a Long Beach Unified School District Safety Officer for violating district policy on the use of force according to LBPUSD. The Long Beach Police Department has also announced murder investigation into the incident.

On September 27th, Gonzalez shot 18 year old Mona Rodriguez, mother of a 5 month old son. According to videos and various other news reports the incident occurred after Gonzalez attempted to 'break up a fight between Rodriguez, who was not a student, and a 15-year-old girl near campus when Rodriguez fled with her boyfriend—20-year-old Rafeul Chowdhury—and his 16-year-old brother, who were also allegedly involved in the fight. Gonzalez fired as the trio tried to flee the scene in a gray sedan,



officials said.

On October 6, Ms. Rodriguez was taken off life support and her organs were donated to help others.

Interim Sierra Madre Police Chief Jim Hunt hired Gonzalez and his employment ended a few months after the arrival of current Police Chief Rodrick Armalin. He also worked for a brief period for the Los Alamitos PD before coming to Sierra Madre.

The reasons for the departure are not public knowledge,

PLANNING COMMISSION TABLES ZONE CHANGES; PUSHES HOUSING ELEMENT TO CITY COUNCIL

Community steps up to stop Monastery project

By Kevin McGuire

In a meeting continued from September 16, 2021, the Planning Commission was not only met with the arduous task of deciding whether to adopt updates to the Housing Element, which would include changes to land use and zoning affecting many Sierra Madre residents, but on top of that, were met with more community push-back against the large housing project contemplated for the Monastery grounds.

During the September meeting, the Commission discussed and reviewed proposed updates to the Housing Element. This included the state mandated Regional Housing Need Assessment (RHNA) which pinpoints sites across the city for potential new housing and proposed rezoning sites after inconsistencies were found between the General Plan and the Zoning Map set in 2015. Everything needs to match, and the deadline to meet obligations for the Housing Element is creeping up on October 15, 2021, though there is a grace period of 120 days which would push the deadline to February 2022. In addition, new text is recommended to be added to the Municipal Code for Religious Housing Overlay and certification of the Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (EIR) was also on the table.

Chair William Pevsner led the October 7, 2021 meeting. Senior Planner, Clare Lin gave an initial presentation.

The 42-house contemplated project on the Monastery grounds has been one of the top concerns of Sierra Madre residents for more than a year now. The Preserve Sierra Madre Steering Committee has reviewed the EIR for 2700-4000 square-foot project and has brought up many of the same concerns the community has brought before the podium time and time again. These concerns include removal of many trees including 10 protected Oaks, traffic impacts, water usage, and fire and earthquake concerns. The public was given a 45-day review of the EIR which topped out over 1,000 pages, and yes, some residents trudged through the entire document.

THE SAFETY ELEMENT

The Safety Element Updates had some folks crying "foul" over language

changes and interpretation. Objective Hz-7 on the development in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone in the Safety Element states: Avoid expanding development into undeveloped areas in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones. Some have interpreted this to mean the open spaces surrounding the grounds at the Monastery. But, Curtis Zacuto of Eco Tierra Consulting presented new language (Objective Hz-5b) before the Commission which reads: Avoid construction of new development on land currently unimproved and abutted by natural open space areas in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones. According to Zacuto, the new language captures the original "intent" of the authors which was assumed to mean not adding development to land above the Monastery, as land below the Monastery is "abutted" by houses. Zacuto's comments were met with gasps and muffled objections from the audience and the Commission persuaded Zacuto to reevaluate his definitions of "abutted" and "unimproved."

ZONING

Switching topics back to the Housing Element, Philip Burns of the Arroyo Group discussed potential residential development at the 200 block of Mariposa Ave (20 proposed units) and the Park Avenue Apartments at 491 W. Sierra Madre Blvd (18 proposed units). Talk of changing height allowance to 3-story homes diminished as a study found that 2-story homes were sufficient to meet density requirements. Proposals offer sufficient parking and garden fronts. Pictures of the proposed projects were also shown.

Other proposals imagine affordable housing on several church parking lots in town, up to 91 units on three lots, but just because the City is required to show proposed housing spots doesn't mean all or any projects will come to fruition. They are "aspirational," as Commissioner Bob Spears put it. But, the fears from community members is that the small-town feel of Sierra Madre is slowly, but surely diminishing.

Furthermore, the rezoning as a result of 2015 inconsistencies would change land use designations on a number (continued on page 3)

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2021

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ATTENTION ALL PRESCHOOL FAMILIES:

ROAR!

You're invited to explore
Alverno Heights Academy Lower School
at our TK and Kindergarten Playdate!

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 10
3 TO 4 P.M.

200 N. MICHILLINDA AVE., SIERRA MADRE
Park in the Michillinda lot and
meet at the Alverno pop-up.

RSVP: JJukic@AlvernoLS.org



SIERRA MADRE PD GOES PINK

Raymond and Lily are all ready to participate in the 2021 #pinkpatchproject during the month of October. Stop by the station to purchase T-shirts, patches or key rings, to support the research and treatment of cancer. Proceeds go to the City of Hope

#smpdcares #cohcares
#pinkpatchproject







*Join Us!
and meet*

PATRICK LeBRUN
Past President, Rotary Club of San Gabriel Valley

We are excited to welcome Patrick LeBrun, a founding member of the San Gabriel Valley New Generation Rotary Club. In 2019, Patrick went on a two week Rotaplast Trip to Tanzania, Africa as a representative from Rotary District 5300. He will share his experience and photos from the trip. Rotaplast is a program that helps children and families worldwide by providing surgeries to individuals with cleft lips and/or palates and burn scarring. District 5300 has sponsored six missions and treated over 400 patients. Come hear about this life changing program!



The community is invited to
attend our meeting
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12th
The Hart House
in Memorial Park, Sierra Madre.
The non-host breakfast begins at
7:00am with the meeting at
7:30am.

SierraMadreRotary.org



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REMEMBRANCE

THOMAS MCCARTHY, JR.

Thomas McCarthy, Jr. of Sierra Madre, California passed away on Tuesday, September 7, 2021, at the age of 74. After suffering a short illness, he died with Jerri, his wife and best friend of nearly 47 years, and their children by his side.

Tom was born in Altadena in 1946 to parents Thomas and Marjorie McCarthy. Tom attended Mission Grammar School, Don Bosco Technical Institute, and went on to study electrical engineering at Cal Poly Pomona. He and Jerri were married at the San Gabriel Mission and settled in Sierra Madre in 1975, where they raised their three children.

A devoted son, husband, father, grandfather and dear friend, he loved life and lived every day to the fullest. He enjoyed a very successful career with the Department of Water and Power in Los Angeles for over 36 years, supporting the Power division in numerous engineering capacities. After retiring, he continued to consult in the field for another 16 years at Lindsey Systems in Azusa. His community activities included the Cal Poly Rose Float Association, Water and Power Associates, Boy Scouts – St. Rita's Troop 110, the Los Angeles Live Steamers at Griffith Park, serving as a member of the financial council and a Eucharistic minister at St. Rita's, and volunteering in the restoration and preservation of the facilities at Mt. Wilson. It was also well known that he was an avid fan of the Notre Dame Fighting Irish and the Los Angeles Dodgers. He will be remembered for, among other things, his curious mind, his love of people, his constant smile and his consistently happy disposition. Tom is survived by his wife Jerri, children Tom (Katie, and grandchildren Ellie and Olivia), Diane, and Matt (Laura), and many friends. Mass was celebrated at St. Rita Catholic Church on Saturday, September 18. Tom is resting in peace at the Pioneer Cemetery in Sierra Madre.

People wishing to honor Tom's lifelong commitment to family and community may make a donation to the Cal Poly Rose Float Association. Please send all donations to 3801 W. Temple Ave., Pomona, CA 91768 and reference Thomas J. McCarthy, Jr.



WALKING SIERRA MADRE - The Social Side

by Deanne Davis

"Bittersweet October. The mellow, messy, leaf-kicking perfect pause between the opposing miseries of summer and winter!"
Carol Bishop Hips

"Listen! The wind is rising and the air is wild with leaves. We have had our summer evenings, now for October eves."
Humbert Wolfe

"Welcome October! New month, new chapter, new pages, new wishes. May the month give you courage, strength, confidence, patience, self-love and inner peace. May every day in October fill your days with Hope, Love, Sunshine and Energy. Let there be Joy, Fun and Laughter!"

Those quotes pretty much say it all! But I thought I'd add an October offering of my own to the mix:

O...Oh please, please, let it cool off! Oh please, let the temperatures hover around those nice high 70's and low 80's! Oh please, let the nights be cool enough to think of pulling up the covers!

C...Cider! I'd love some hot apple cider. If you buy a gallon of apple cider, put it in an old percolator type coffee maker, add five or six cinnamon sticks broken in half, an orange cut in quarters, a bunch of whole cloves and whole allspice in the basket, then turn it on so the cider perks through the spices, you will end up with a big pot of happiness. Hot apple cider on a cold day is pure joy. A cold day would be pure joy!

T...Total change of wardrobe! Wouldn't it be nice to wear jeans, boots, socks and...oh bliss! A sweater! Wouldn't it be nice to put all the shorts you've been living in since June into a drawer and forget about them till next June!

O...Outdoors! Wouldn't it be nice to actually enjoy being outdoors! To sit out on your patio in the morning with a cup of coffee and watch the sun come up? To sit outside with dear friends and enjoy a glass of wine or two and something simple like Triscuits and Humus or some veggies and ranch dip? And watch the moon appear in the sky. Be sure to spray yourself with mosquito spray and light that romantic citronella candle.

B...Blessed! Yes, we are blessed to see another fall season come around. To see the scarecrows all over town, to know that kids are going to create wonderfully creepy art to place in all the downtown windows; to know there will be a costume parade and that your own personal children are going to have a wonderful time trick or treating in a safe environment.

E...Excitement! The air is filled with excitement. Fall is a new beginning. It is the month of glory, of ripeness. It is the picture-month. It's the month when we buy pumpkins and put them out on our front porch. The month when we decorate inside with fall leaves and yellow chrysanthemums. The month when I put out my spider-adorned sign that says, "The Witch Is in!" The month when we start thinking of pumpkin goodies, like pumpkin cookies and pumpkin cheesecake. The month when persimmons are ready to eat!

R...Rejoice! Your electric bill is going to be less! Rain might be on the way! October is red and golden over town. Carve a pumpkin, donate candy to one of the churches doing Trunk or Treat, and rejoice because you are alive! You are loved and this could very well be your best month of the year.

"I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers!"
Anne of Green Gables, L.M. Montgomery

Here's a fun fact you might not know: Why is candy corn called candy corn? OK, if you imagine yourself taking a whole bunch of them and stacking them in a circle with the pointy end toward the middle, when you've stacked enough of them, they look like a corn cob! Which, of course, brings me to Lewis Black's candy corn rant:

"The worst thing about Halloween is, of course, candy corn. It's unbelievable to me. Candy corn is the only candy in the history of America that's never been advertised. And there's a reason. All of the candy corn that was ever made was made in 1911. And so, since nobody eats that stuff, every year there's a ton of it left over. And the candy corn company sends guys to the villages and they collect out of the dumpsters all the candy corn we've thrown away. They wash it and put it away till next Halloween and out it comes again!"

The Mt. Wilson Trail Race is next Saturday. This is so great to have this happening again! Be sure to read the "Preserve Sierra Madre" column. Valuable information there.

Watch for scarecrows! They're everywhere and so clever. Like this absolutely perfect "Luca" created by Rocio Austin. (Photograph by Leah Davis) As Rocio says, "he's come all the way from his Italian town of Portorosso to enter our scarecrow contest." In case you haven't seen it, "Luca" is a new animated feature from Disney and Pixar. One of their best ones yet. Find "Luca" by taking a nice walk up into the canyon. Scarecrows are where you least expect them to be!

Have a great week, dear friends and neighbors. Treat yourself to a Pumpkin Spice Latte and don't think about the calories. Pumpkin spice anything is one more reason to Rejoice!

"Sunrises & Sunflowers Speak Hope"
is a great gift for yourself or someone you love!
Look for it on my book page: Amazon.com: Deanne Davis
"A Tablespoon of Love, A Tablespoon of Laughter"
is also available on my Amazon book page.
Emma Gainsworth fans...the new one is almost ready to release on Kindle!



ONE DOWN.....MORE TO GO!

Preserve Sierra Madre submitted our response to the draft Environmental Impact Report for the proposed sale of 20 acres of the Monastery property to New Urban West Development for the development of 42 luxury homes of 2700 to 4000 square feet. We submitted our response/rebuttal consisting of 28 pages on Monday, October 4th, before the 5pm deadline after having 60 days to review the 500+ page DEIR.

If you read last week's column, you will recall that our main areas of concern are: Trees (removing 100 irreplaceable mature trees); Traffic (about 400+ vehicles a day travelling through the side streets of Sunnyside, Grove, Lima and Carter); Water (we're in year two of another drought – lakes and rivers are at an all-time low, "net zero" water usage for the next 50 years doesn't seem to be possible); Fire (building in a designated very high severity fire zone); Earthquakes (the 1991 Sierra Madre quake destroyed one of the Monastery's buildings and resulted in \$12.5 million in damage).

In the meantime.... Last Thursday, October 7th, the Planning Commission reviewed the proposed changes to the General Plan to accommodate the State's mandate to come up with 208 potential sites to build our share of new housing units in the next eight years. The City hired Karen Warner Associates (KWA) and paid her over \$225,000 to come up with a solution, which includes –

1. A very important safety element objective that states: 'Avoid expanding development into undeveloped areas in Very High Fire Severity Zones.' It has been changed by staff who proposes replacing it with: 'Avoid construction of new development on

land currently unimproved and abutted by natural open space areas in Very High Fire Severity Zones.' This language replaces a key Safety Element with one that does not apply to any property in Sierra Madre.

2. Building apartment buildings, which will require a new "religious overlay zone" on church parking lots of the Methodist, Old North and Bethany Churches. Where might the parishioners park, you might ask. We asked that very question at the previous Planning Commission meeting.

What's next....Once the Final Environmental Impact Report comes out, possibly in November, December, January (?), it will first go to the Planning Commission where there will be an opportunity to comment at two public meetings. The Final EIR will include comments that were submitted before the deadline. Whether they will be adequately addressed remains to be seen.

The Planning Commission will send their recommendation to the City Council, which will also review this at two meetings. Again, the general public (us) will have our opportunity to comment. At that time the Council must make a decision. State law prohibits more than five public meetings.

Having spent time reviewing the Specific Plan and the Draft EIR for the Monastery Property and the Draft S (Supplemental) EIR for the changes to the General Plan, as well as touring the portion of the Monastery property in question, a number of statements have been made that need further clarification and information.

As promised, our efforts will be on going to keep you informed regarding the latest details on this evolving Project. *Stay tuned.....*

PLANNING continued from page 1
of properties causing them to move from R3 (Multi-Family Residential) to R2 (Two-Family Residential). City Council plans to hear on a case-to-case basis any resident who has been negatively affected by these redesignations.

STOP THE HOUSING PROJECT
You don't have to travel far within Sierra Madre before you come across a "Stop the Housing Project" sign on a front lawn. It's been a red-hot topic of discussion and this meeting was met with concerned community comments both before and after the Housing Element discussions took place at Thursday's meeting which started promptly at 7 p.m. "The Housing Element and SEIR is a flat-out fraud," stated resident Tricia Cerski. "It's divorced from reality. The city has cavalierly disregarded the comments and concerns of residents. The EIR is a stunning betrayal of the community on so many fronts," she said.

"It's to me somewhat disingenuous that the [Safety Element] wording was changed to make it OK to build in a very high severity fire zone," said Susan Neuhausen. "It's really sad looking at those pictures of what we could be facing," said Heather Allen, a 49-year

resident. It leaves me with a really heavy heart to see the possible permanent changes that are going to happen to this town, that I loved, that I grew up in," she said.

But, despite the continuing concern over the Monastery project, this meeting was about the Housing Element and meeting the state's requirements to avoid repercussions to the city.

THE END RESULT
The Planning Commission will recommend to City Council to adopt the General Plan Amendment 21-03 to adopt the 2021-2029 Housing Element Update, including updates to Circulation Elements, Land Use and Safety Element, but taking out "abutted by natural open space." The Commission will recommend that the City Council table Municipal Code Text Amendment 21-04 and 21-05 and Zone Change 21-03 to allow further analysis by the Planning Commission. They do recommend the certification of Subsequent Environmental Impact Report.

There will be two more City Council Public Hearings on October 26, 2021 and November 9, 2021 on this topic. The full Planning Commission Staff report is available on the city website at cityof-sierramadre.com.

SIERRA MADRE POLICE BLOTTER

September 26, 2021 to October 3, 2021 During this period the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to 190 calls for service.

Robbery
On 9-27-21 at 3:38PM a male subject walked into a business in the 100 block of W. Sierra Madre Blvd. and forcibly took a cell phone from his girlfriend, who is an employee of the business then left the business. Officers later spoke with the subject and convinced him to return to the business with the cell phone. The subject was arrested then taken to the Pasadena Jail and booked for the robbery and domestic violence. Case to the DA's office.

Disturbance
On 9-28-21 at 4:00PM, a male was arrested for causing a disturbance, for public intoxication and for an outstanding warrant at a restaurant in the 300 block of W. Sierra Madre Blvd. The subject was taken to the Pasadena Jail for booking. Case to DA's office

The City of Sierra Madre & Community Services Department bring to you:

THE MADRE MENAGERIE

Saturday, October 30th, 2021

TRICK OR TREATING: DOWNTOWN SIERRA MADRE 3:30pm – 5:00pm
Downtown Sierra Madre Businesses will be handing out treats!
Participating businesses will have a sign in the window indicating involvement
Registration for costume contest will happen in Kersting Court and at Memorial Park from 3:30-5:00pm ONLY
All contestants must fill out a waiver in order to participate.

NO LATE ENTRIES ARE ACCEPTED
COSTUME PARADE: 5:00 PM KERSTING COURT
Follow the Sierra Madre Fire Department Engine down Sierra Madre Blvd.
Costume Parade is offered to all ages and registration is required to participate
COSTUME CONTEST: 5:30PM MEMORIAL PARK
Categories: Group (All Ages – Must include 1 youth under 17 years of age), Infant to 2 years old, 3 to 4 years old, 5 to 7 years and 8 to 13 years old
Prizes will be given to the top three group and age category winners
Strong efforts are being made to keep the contest to under an hour.
Please arrive at 5:30pm promptly

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Weather Wise



6-Day Forecast Sierra Madre, Ca.

Sun	Sunny	Hi	70s	Lows	40s
Mon	Sunny	Hi	60s	Lows	40s
Tues	Sunny	Hi	60s	Lows	40s
Wed	Sunny	Hi	70s	Lows	40s
Thur	Sunny	Hi	70s	Lows	40s
Fri	Sunny	Hi	70s	Lows	40s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

October 26, 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 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 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.

WISTARIA THRIFT SHOP at the Sierra Madre Woman's Club

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SIERRA MADRE WOMAN'S CLUB

**Collage/
Photomontage
Workshop
October 20
6 - 7:30 PM
INDOORS. MASKS
REQUIRED.**

Our own Dr. Patricia Woodlin will be leading us in a hands-on workshop. Supplies provided.

Dr. Woodlin holds both a Master's and Doctoral degree in Art Education

RSVP TO 626-429-2454



Proud member of the Federation of Womens Clubs

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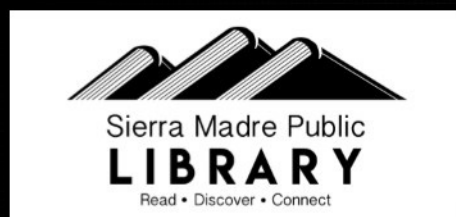
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This week at the
Sierra Madre
Public Library

October 11-16

Monday

Holiday—No Library Services

Tuesday

Story Adventure at Memorial Park—
Available all week!

Wednesday

Teen Snackchat—In-person at 4:00 pm

Thursday

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

Tails & Tales—Online at 1:00 pm

Saturday

Music & Mindfulness—In-person from
2:00-4:00 pm

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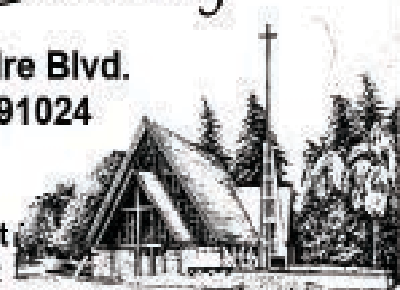


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Pasadena Altadena

News From Your Community For Your Community

Celebrate Halloween Responsibly



The Pasadena Public Health Department (PPHD) joins the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in offering advice on celebrating Halloween in a lower-risk environment to help reduce the spread of COVID-19. As children under age 12 years are not yet eligible for COVID-19 vaccination and COVID-19 is still widespread in our community, precautions are highly recommended at this time. Recommendations include:

Wear a face mask that fits well and covers the nose, mouth, and chin. Masks must be worn indoors in accordance with the health officer order, and should be worn outdoors in crowded situations when it's not possible to maintain 6 feet of physical distancing. A costume mask is not a substitute for a protective mask. If you are sick, or you have been in contact with someone who is sick with COVID-19 or has symptoms of COVID-19, stay home and away from others. Activities should take place outdoors. Avoid confined spaces; stay away from indoor spaces that do not allow for easy distancing of at least 6 feet between you and others. Stay at least 6 feet away from anyone who doesn't live with you, especially while talking, eating, drinking, and singing. Wash or sanitize your hands often. The City reminds residents of Halloween fire safety tips, including using battery-operated candles or glow sticks in jack-o-lanterns and keeping exits and escape routes clear of decorations. It is also a good time to make sure that all smoke alarms in your home are working.

During the holiday season, it is especially important to avoid driving under the influence. Remember that "DUI Doesn't Just Mean Booze." If you take prescription drugs, particularly those with a driving or operating machinery warning on the label, you might be impaired enough to get a DUI. Marijuana can also be impairing, especially in combination with alcohol or other drugs, and can result in a DUI. The City also urges drivers to plan routes in advance and avoid texting or otherwise using a cell phone while driving.



LeVar Burton Picked as TofR Grand Marshal

Beloved actor, director, educator and lifelong children's literacy advocate, LeVar Burton has been selected the 2022 Grand Marshal after Tournament of Roses President Bob Miller revealed Tuesday the closely guarded secret with fanfare on the front steps of Tournament House.

"LeVar Burton perfectly epitomizes this year's theme," Miller said. "The 2022 theme is 'Dream. Believe. Achieve.' and celebrates education and the determination of those who travel the path from dream to reality. I am proud to represent the 935 volunteer members in welcoming LeVar to share in the joy of promise and healthy possibilities for a new year."

Burton has entertained generations; as former host and executive producer of PBS's "Reading Rainbow," starring as Kunta Kinte in the acclaimed television mini-series "Roots" and as Lt. Commander Geordi La Forge in "Star Trek: The Next Generation" television series Miller announced.

"Never underestimate the power of a dream," Burton said. "The theme is, Dream, Believe, Achieve and that is the process, there is an absolute link between that which we dream and that which we achieve and the middle connector is imagination, to be here

and represent my family the Burton's... we thank you for this high honor. We are so excited for New Years Day." Miller ended the announcement with a story, "In 1989 Stephanie [Stephanie Cozart Burton] worked for Avon, the Tournament and Avon had a deal, and she was one of the makeup artists that took care of our court, in that year. So now we come full circle... there is always a plan. I'm going to end this my saying, we want to welcome LeVar and Stephanie to the Tournament of Roses family for live."

Burton has been nominated for three Primetime Emmy Awards along with 27 Daytime Emmy nominations, culminating in 21 wins. During its 26-year run, 1983 to 2009, "Reading Rainbow" was not only one of the longest running children's television shows in history but won more than 25 awards including 10 for outstanding series and the prestigious George Foster Peabody Award. LeVar has also been nominated twice for the Spoken Word Grammy Award and won in 1999, for narrating "The Autobiography of Martin Luther King Jr."

Currently, he hosts his own podcast, "LeVar Burton Reads" now in Season 9, sharing the best short fiction and handpicked by the best voice in podcasting and

Bonds Approved for New Hope Center Apartments

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisor, on Tuesday, approved \$18.7 million in Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds for the Salvation Army Pasadena Hope Center to develop and construct a 66-unit apartment complex, further supporting the County's previous financing of the Hope Center project.

The revenue bonds are in addition to County funding for the project, which includes nearly \$4.5 million from the County's Notice of Funding Availability and \$350,000 in Fifth Supervisorial District Homeless Services Center funding.

"By providing housing and supportive services in a centralized location, we can uplift people experiencing homelessness in Pasadena as they get back on their feet and on the pathway to stability and success," Supervisor Barger said. "I'm grateful to our partners at the Salvation Army for their dedication and thoughtful approach to providing housing, help, and hope."

The complex will be four stories and 47,200 square feet and will provide 65 studio apartments of permanent supportive housing for single adults experiencing homelessness, plus one two-bedroom manager's apartment. With support from the Home

Depot Foundation, 16 of the units will be reserved for veterans.

"This is much more than a building—it is a way to offer housing to those most in need and help feed working families right here in this community who cannot make ends meet," said Pilar Buelna, Divisional Director of Development for the Salvation Army. "We will be able to expand our services for those who already depend on us every day for their stability and survival. We want to thank Supervisor Barger for helping us take one more step towards doing the most good here in Pasadena."

Amenities include a library, courtyard, yoga room, and multiple outdoor decks for residents. Additionally, the apartments will be complemented by a new food bank and office space for service providers to offer onsite supportive services in the 9,000 square-foot Social Services Center on the bottom floor of the four-story building.

The Apartments will be located at 1000 East Walnut Street. An existing two-story office building currently onsite will be demolished. There will be a groundbreaking ceremony on Oct. 12. Construction is expected to take about 14 months.

has a YouTube Series 'This Is My Story' which highlights racism in America.

LeVar will ride in the 133rd Rose Parade and join in the pre-game celebration of the 108th Rose Bowl Game both are held on Saturday, January 1, 2022.

Story and photo by Dean Lee

Disability Employment Awareness

The City of Pasadena is observing National Disability Employment Awareness Month, an annual awareness campaign that takes place each October. National Disability Employment Awareness Month aims to educate the public about disability employment issues and celebrate the many and varied contributions of America's workers with disabilities.

This year's theme is "America's Recovery: Powered by Inclusion." The Pasadena City Council proclaimed October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month in Pasadena, and Mayor Victor Gordo will join Pasadena Civitan, a local service group whose current mission includes increasing employment for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, to present an award to local employers of people with disabilities.

The history of National Disability Employment Awareness Month traces back to 1945 when Congress enacted a law declaring the first week in October each year "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week." In 1962, the word "physically" was removed to acknowledge the employment needs and contributions of individuals with all types of disabilities. In 1988, Congress expanded the week to a month and changed the name to National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

"The city of Pasadena is proud to be a part of this year's National Disability Employment Awareness Month," said Brenda Harvey-Williams, Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Director. "We want to share the important message that we value all perspectives in the workplace, including those of individuals with disabilities."

Employers and employees in all industries can learn more about how to participate in National Disability Employment Awareness Month and ways they can promote its messages — during October and throughout the year — by visiting: dol.gov/NDEAM.

2022 Royal Court Revealed



Pictured From left to right: Jeannine Briggs, John Marshall Fundamental High School; Abigail Griffith, Pasadena High School; Nadia Chung, La Cañada High School; Jaeda Walden, La Cañada High School; Pasadena Mayor Victor Gordo; Swetha Somasundaram, Arcadia High School; Ava Feldman, South Pasadena High School; McKenzie Street, Flintridge Sacred Heart Photo by D. Lee MVNews

The Tournament of Roses announced Monday the seven members of the 2022 Royal Court that will serve as ambassadors of the Tournament of Roses, the Pasadena community and the greater Los Angeles area. Each will receive a \$7,500 educational scholarship. The Rose Queen and Royal Court are iconic traditions, steeped in the Pasadena Tournament of Roses' history and continue as a treasured legacy.

Applicants from 24 Pasadena area schools participated in the interview process, and volunteer members of the Tournament of Roses' Queen and Court Committee selected the Royal Court based on several criteria, including public speaking ability, academic achievement, youth leadership; and community and school involvement.

Royal Court members experience countless benefits; becoming part of an organization dedicated

to hands-on volunteerism, discovering opportunities to connect with and give back to the local community, developing public speaking skills and growing self-confidence.

The 2022 Royal Court will ride down Colorado Blvd. on the Royal Court float in the 133rd Rose Parade and attend the 108th Rose Bowl Game, both on Saturday, January 1, 2022.

The seven members of the 2022 Royal Court are (in alphabetical order): Jeannine Briggs, Nadia Chung, Ava Feldman, Abigail Griffith, Swetha Somasundaram, McKenzie Street and Jaeda Walden.

For complete biographies of the 2022 Royal Court, please visit tournamentofroses.com.

The Announcement and Coronation of the 103rd Rose Queen and Presentation of the 2022 Royal Court presented by Citizens Business Bank will be held on Tuesday, October 26, on the front lawn of Tournament House.

Kidspace Museum is set to Celebrate Halloween

It's pumpkin time. And as our special treat, from October 12-31 Kidspace Children's Museum is hosting the most adorable Halloween event ever for you and your little pumpkin.

Everyone is invited to march, dance, and strut the orange catwalk in our fanciful Halloween parade—costumes encouraged. We'll have free pumpkin decorating, silly story times, and up-close visits with our hairy-not-scary spider friends every day starting October 12. Get creative making costumes, masks, crowns, and accessories out of cardboard in Ye Olde Costume Shoppe, a free family program at Imagination Workshop.

As an extra-special treat, on Halloween weekend October 30 and 31st, Bob Baker Marionette Theater presents HaLoWeeN SpoOkTaCuLaR!, a spirited Halloween puppet show featuring Dracula and Vampira, the infamous BLACK CAT, the Invisible Man, and the sweetest sourpuss, Grumpy

Pumpkin. You can join the Kidspace Halloween parade weekdays at 11:15 a.m. and 3:15 p.m., and on weekends at 11:15 a.m., 2:15 p.m. and 4:15 p.m. For more information about celebrating Halloween at Kidspace, to buy tickets online, visit kidspacemuseum.org. Don't forget to stop by our Nature Exchange to visit our Sssensational Ssnakes every day through Halloween.

All Halloween activities and access to Kidspace exhibitions and outdoor spaces are included with general admission, which is \$14.95 for adults and children over the age of 1. Tickets must be reserved online at kidspacemuseum.org.

In order to allow for social distancing and protect the safety of visitors and staff, availability of indoor spaces is subject to capacity. Some features, including indoor climbing towers, remain off exhibit in compliance with health and safety guidelines.

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PASADENA CRIME BLOTTER

The critical events Sept. 15 through Sept. 30 detailed below are merely a snapshot of the calls received to the Police Communications Center every day. Your police department strives to better serve the Pasadena community. Under Police Chief John Perez, the principles of the “Pasadena Way” will forever have a lasting impact on all employees who serve in the organization, as we continue to police with compassion and best intentions.

September 15, 2021 at 7:32pm: Pasadena Police Officers responded to the area of Cordova St. and Shoppers Ln. regarding a purse snatch robbery. The victim was walking to her vehicle when the suspect pushed her from behind causing her to fall face down in the parking lot. The suspect grabbed the victim's purse and fled on foot. The victim was not seriously injured and did not require medical treatment.

September 15, 2021 at 10:40pm: Pasadena Police Officers responded to the 1000 Block of San Pasqual St. in regards to a suspicious person. The victim was walking her dog in the area and bent down to tend to her dog when she noticed the subject standing within inches of her. She stood up and the subject distracted her with a comment about her dog. The victim glanced at her dog while the suspect reached across her body and pulled on her purse. The victim screamed and the subject ran to a parked car and drove away. The victim was not injured.

September 18, 2021 at 10:32pm: Officers responded to the 900 block of Summit regarding a music complaint associated with a family party. Two party guests became hostile with the responding officers and as officers attempted to detain the subjects, but they resisted. A struggle ensued and the suspects were detained however, several other partygoers became hostile and officers quickly determined they needed assistance from other officers. Additional officers responded and the party crowd was eventually dispersed. One officer sustained minor injuries as a result of being struck in the face by a beverage can.

September 22, 2021 at 8:48pm: Pasadena Police Officers responded to a report of shots fired near Lincoln Ave. and Orange Grove Bl. Upon arrival, a victim was located with

gunshot wounds, but was conscious and able to speak. The victim was transported to a local hospital where he underwent surgery for non-life threatening wounds. Evidence of the shooting was located. The investigation is ongoing.

September 23, 2021 at 3:45pm: Pasadena Police Officers responded to a report of an assault with a deadly weapon in the 2200 block of Colorado Bl. The victim confronted the subject after he removed a flag from the victim's parked truck. The victim was able to recover his flag but the subject continued to confront the victim, making threats while displaying a knife. The victim was unharmed and the subject left the area on a skateboard. The subject was located by officers a short time later and was taken into custody.

September 24, 2021 at 10:21am: Pasadena Police Officers responded to the area of Raymond Ave. and Hammond St. regarding a shots fired call. Witnesses told officers they saw two vehicles chasing one another prior to the shots. Evidence of a shooting was located in the 900 block of N. Raymond Ave. and it does not appear anyone was injured as a result of this incident. The investigation is ongoing.

September 27, 2021 at 07:23pm: Pasadena Police Officers responded to the area of Howard St. and Sunset Ave. regarding a shots fired call. Officers canvassed the area and located evidence of a shooting in the area however, no victims or suspects were located.

September 28, 2021 at 11:33pm: Pasadena Officers responded to the 1900 block of Navarro Ave. regarding reports of a single gunshot heard. Upon arrival, officers located evidence of a shooting. No victims were identified.

September 30, 2021 at 05:38am: Pasadena Police Officer responded to the 800 block of E. Walnut St. regarding a female walking around with a gun in her hand. Officer checked the area and located the female on the 100 block of N. Lake Ave. with the gun still in hand. Officers contained the area and de-escalated the incident by giving verbal orders to the female to drop the firearm. The female cooperated and was taken into custody. The firearm was identified as a replica firearm and the female was arrested for brandishing a replica firearm.

Celebration for the Bob Lucas Library in Altadena

Celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the re-opening of the Bob Lucas Memorial Library and Literacy Center in Altadena on Saturday, October 16.

Attendees of all ages will enjoy free carnival style games, prizes, crafts, music, balloon art, a raffle and a family-friendly performance by Birdie's Playhouse. The Hustle 'N Dough donut truck will provide a free sweet treat for the first 150 attendees, and Tacos 210 will have traditional and veggie tacos and burritos available for purchase. A member from Bob Lucas' family will give a brief talk. Street parking available. 10:00 a.m. All-day fun starts! Carnival games & prizes Crafts, Raffle (to win a bike & giftcards), Balloon art by Annie Banannie, Tacos 210

Food Truck will have tacos & burritos available for purchase Hustle 'N Dough donut truck will provide a free sweet treat for the first 150 attendees. 11:30 a.m. Welcome/Remarks from the Lucas Family 1:30 p.m. Birdie's Playhouse (entertainment)

About Bob Lucas: Over the course of his long career, he worked as a journalist, photographer, producer and editor for newspapers, magazines, radio and television. A local resident, he served as president of the Board of Trustees for the library district and strongly advocated for the branch library on the west side of Altadena. The library is located 2659 Lincoln Avenue & Altadena. For more info call (626) 798-8338.

Prepare For Wildfire Season by Conducting Brush Clearance



Are your family and your home prepared for wildfire season? While San Marino is mostly shielded by the San Gabriel mountains, now through December, San Marino is more vulnerable to wildfires.

Homes in San Marino's High Fire Hazard Severity Zone, and the surrounding area, are required to conduct annual brush clearance. Brush clearance, the removal of dry and dead vegetation and other fire mitigation, helps to clear the area around homes of flammable material that can further fuel a wildfire.

To conduct brush clearance: Clear dry and/or dead vegetation, hazardous brush, or hazardous refuse away from structures, buildings, or flammable fences. Remove all flammable vegetation or other combustible growth within 30 feet of any structure. Hazardous vegetation must be maintained less than 3" high. Maintain hazardous grass/weeds/shrubs/trees within 100 feet of any building or structure. Grass will not exceed 18". Remove dead foliage, twigs, or branches within 3 feet of the ground. Maintain hazardous grass/weeds located within 10 feet of any combustible fence to less than 3 inches. Maintain 5 feet of vertical

clearance between roof surfaces and overhanging vegetation. Remove any portion of a tree or shrub that extends within 15 feet of the outlet of a chimney or stovepipe. All chimneys attached to any appliance or fireplace that burns solid fuel shall be equipped with an approved spark arrester. Clear leaves/needles/twigs/other combustibles from roof. Woodpiles or stacked wood shall not be allowed within 20 feet of a structure. Flammable vegetation shall not be allowed within one foot of woodpiles or stacked wood. Maintain trees and shrubs within 10 feet of any street, alley, or driveway so that no leafy foliage, twigs, or branches are within six (6) feet of the ground (but no more than 1/3 of the crown). Brush clearance creates a defensible space around your home and keeps your residence in compliance with the Fire Code.

The San Marino Fire Department conducts annual brush inspections starting in June. If you've received a yellow notice, you need to review the Brush Clearance Checklist and make changes to comply. If you've received a pink notice, then you are in compliance. For more information visit: cityofsanmarino.org.

Vaccine Proof To Be Required at Events, Bars and Nightclubs

A Pasadena Health Officer Order was issued last week, requires proof of COVID-19 vaccination or a pre-entry negative test for outdoor mega events; children under 12 are exempt. The Health Officer Order also requires vaccination verification for customers and employees at indoor portions of bars, breweries, nightclubs and lounges.

The requirement is for vaccine verification or a negative test within 72 hours prior to attending an outdoor mega events with more than 10,000 attendees that are ticketed and/or have controlled points of entry to a well-defined area, such as sporting and music events. Customers receiving indoor service in bars, breweries, nightclubs and lounges, and employees must provide proof of at least one dose by Oct. 7 and full vaccination by Nov. 4. Although the new order does not apply to restaurants, vaccination proof for customers dining indoors is strongly recommended.

The order puts in place safety measures to address the continued need to reduce community transmission of COVID-19, which is still at a substantial level in Pasadena, For more information visit: cityofpasadena.net.

Dine at Mijares Restaurant to Support the Senior Center

Print out flyer from Pasadena Senior Center website to give to server Oct. 13.

Pasadena Senior Center officials announced Friday they are set to hold a fundraising event next month to support the Senior Center by eating out at Mijares Mexican Restaurant.

Anyone who dines at Mijares, 145 Palmetto Dr. in Pasadena on Wednesday, Oct. 13, from 3 p.m. to closing time at 9 p.m. will have an opportunity to help support the Pasadena Senior Center.

The restaurant, family-owned since 1920, will donate 15 percent of that afternoon's and evening's profits to the center on

behalf of everyone who prints out the flyer from the PSC website and hands it to their server.

To download the flyer, visit: pasadenaseniorcenter.org and click on Dine Out & Benefit PSC. Diners may eat at the restaurant or order takeout.

"This donation has the potential for making a great impact on Pasadena Senior Center programs and services," said Akila Gibbs, executive director of the center. "I encourage everyone to be part of this effort."

Anyone who cannot dine at Mijares that day and evening will still have an opportunity to support the center by visiting: pasadenaseniorcenter.org and clicking on the orange Donate button.

In addition to online classes, onsite events and other activities, members and nonmembers of the Pasadena Senior Center are encouraged to visit the PSC website regularly for a weekly blog, monthly magazine, COVID-19 updates for older adults, ongoing activities throughout the year and more.

The center, at 85 E. Holly St., is an independent, donor-supported nonprofit organization that has served older adults for more than 60 years.

Caltech Alumnus Wins 2021 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine

Caltech alumnus Ardem Patapoutian, Presidential Endowed Chair in Neurobiology and Professor at Scripps Research in La Jolla, California and a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator, has been awarded the 2021 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, along with David Julius of UC San Francisco. The two were honored for their "discoveries of receptors for temperature and touch," according to the award citation.



Patapoutian

Touch is a major sense through which we perceive the world: we are comforted by a gentle hug and our hands are pleasantly warmed by the heat and heft of a cup of coffee, but we pull away in pain from the stinging prick of a thorn or a hot flame. These perceptions are shaped by sensory information related to both temperature—hot or cold—and pressure.

Patapoutian and Julius were recognized for their major contributions that helped to uncover how these processes work in the body and to elucidate how temperature and pressure stimuli from the external world are converted into electrical impulses in our nervous systems. Their work is now leading to new treatments for chronic pain, including the development of non-opioid painkillers.

For his half of the prize, Julius was lauded for research that made use of compounds such as capsaicin (the compound responsible for spiciness in chili peppers) and menthol to identify temperature-sensitive sensors in cells.

Patapoutian was honored for his discovery of the cellular sensors in the skin and internal organs that respond to mechanical stimuli such as touch. He and his collaborators first cultured a cell line that gave off a measurable electrical signal when individual cells were poked with a tiny pipette. The team systematically knocked out individual genes in these pressure-sensitive cells, which allowed them to identify the genes that encode for the receptor or receptors that respond to pressure.

Patapoutian and his team identified two genes that each encode for previously uncharacterized ion channels that open up in response to mechanical pressure; ion channels are a kind of tunnel connecting the inside and outside of a cell. The two channels, which were named Piezo1 and Piezo2 after the Greek word for pressure (piesi), have since been shown to sense body position and motion (known as proprioception), and regulate important physiological processes such as blood pressure, respiration, and urinary bladder control.

As a biology graduate student

at Caltech from 1990 to 1996, Patapoutian worked in the laboratory of Barbara Wold (PhD '78), Bren Professor of Molecular Biology. In the Wold lab, Patapoutian studied how individual genes specify cell-type identity, specifically the ones that make muscle.

"This is a joy to see," says Wold, who also serves as the Allen V. C. Davis and Lenabelle Davis Leadership Chair and director of the Richard N. Merkin Institute for Translational Research. "Ardem was wonderful to work with from the day he arrived at Caltech. He came with a great love of biology, zest for discovery, and capacity for fine experimental design. And he was always willing to go an extra mile when it required pure work. The project that led him and his students to the Piezos showed all of that. It was a bold scientific risk, hitched to a fine design and tons of work, ultimately achieving beautiful biological insights."

Patapoutian was born in 1967 in Beirut, Lebanon. He received his BS in molecular, cellular, and development biology from UCLA. After his PhD research at Caltech, Patapoutian was a postdoctoral fellow at UC San Francisco from 1996 to 2000, and then joined the faculty of Scripps Research and the staff of the Genomics Institute of the Novartis Research Foundation.

When asked about the secret of his success in his Nobel interview, Patapoutian noted the importance of nurturing surroundings: "I think it's the environment, the people around you, and just to focus on big questions that can be answered," he said. "In science, many times we focus on the big questions but you have to ask it at the right place and the right time where the tools are present to answer those questions."

In 2020, Patapoutian and Julius shared the Kavli Award for Neuroscience. He is an elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the National Academy of Sciences, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

To date, 45 Caltech faculty, alumni, and former postdoctoral scholars have won a total of 46 Nobel Prizes.

Senior Citizen Dumpster Day

Week of October 11-15, 2021
Senior Citizens ages 60 and over
(Verification of age may be asked at the time of pick up.)

No hazardous waste will be accepted.
(No TVs, computers, electronics, etc.)

Senior Citizen residents can have large furniture or appliances picked up from their homes for FREE.

Seniors are asked to have all items collected and readily available in an OUTDOOR area near trash containers.

Items will be picked up on the same day as regular rubbish pick up the week of October 11-15, 2021.

SPACE IS LIMITED

NOTE: Delinquent Athens customers are not eligible.

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED.

Please call the South Pasadena Senior Center at (626) 403-7360 Monday through Friday; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

DEADLINE FOR ALL RESERVATIONS: Friday, October 8, 2021 by 12:00 p.m.

All other residents can participate in the drive thru service on Saturday, October 16, 2021 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (on Arroyo south of Mission)

For questions or concerns with pick up, please contact:
Leonna DeWitt, Public Works Department
(626) 403-7240 or LDewitt@southpasadenaca.gov

Athens Services
1-888-336-6100

GARDENING 101

A SOUTH PASADENA COMMUNITY GARDEN TALK AND HERB DEMONSTRATION

Free, in-person talk followed by a tour of the South Pasadena Community Garden and hands-on activity.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2021

PRESENTATION AT THE LIBRARY	1:00-1:30 P.M.
WALK TO THE GARDEN	1:30-1:45 P.M.
TOUR AND HANDS-ON ACTIVITY	1:50-2:30 P.M.

ARCADIA POLICE BLOTTER

For the period of Sunday, September 26th through Saturday, October 2nd, the Police Department responded to 1,322 calls for service, of which 119 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of some of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

Sunday, September 26:

- At 12:47 a.m., an officer responded to the Westfield Santa Anita parking lot, located at 400 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding a theft from vehicle report. Sometime between Saturday, September 25th at 3:45 p.m. and Sunday, September 26th at 12:20 a.m., someone stole the rear passenger tire and rim off of the victim's Nissan Altima.
- At 7:51 a.m., an officer responded to Arcadia Methodist Hospital, located at 300 West Huntington Drive, regarding a stolen vehicle report. During the previous night, the victim's 2000 Honda Accord was stolen from the parking lot.

Monday, September 27:

- At 4:00 p.m., an officer responded to the intersection of Baldwin Avenue and Huntington Drive regarding a robbery that had just occurred. The victim stated there was a road rage incident between he and the suspect. Both the driver and a passenger of the suspect's vehicle exited and approached the victim's vehicle. The passenger then hit the victim's windshield causing it to shatter and proceeded to reach into the victim's vehicle and steal his cellphone. The driver is described as a 35-year-old Hispanic male, approximately 5'8" tall, 180 pounds, with black hair and brown eyes. The passenger is described as a 30-year-old Asian female, approximately 5'6" tall, 120 pounds, with black hair, and brown eyes. The suspects were driving a 2016 Chevrolet Malibu. The investigation is ongoing.
- At 6:41 p.m., an officer responded to CVS, located at 9952 Las Tunas Drive, regarding a battery investigation. The officer discovered a domestic dispute turned physical when a boyfriend pushed and hit his girlfriend resulting in visible injuries. The suspect, a 51-year-old male transient from Arcadia, was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking. Arcadia Fire responded to evaluate the victim.

Tuesday, September 28:

- At 12:14 p.m., an officer responded to Motel 6, located at 225 Colorado Place, regarding a dog bite incident. An investigation revealed a dog of one of the occupants accidentally escaped his kennel, ran out of the motel room, and attacked a fellow motel resident. Arcadia Fire transported the victim to Arcadia Methodist Hospital for treatment.
- At 4:59 p.m., an officer responded to Bank of America, located at 180 North Santa Anita Avenue, regarding a fraud report. The reporting party discovered someone had installed a skimming device in one of the bank's ATMs. The skimming device was removed.
- At 5:58 p.m., an officer responded to LA Fitness, located at 1325 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding a commercial burglary report. The officer determined someone cut the locks of two male patron's lockers and stole their property. Similar burglaries were reported at 24-Hour Fitness, located at 125 North First Avenue, and at Gold's Gym, located at 400 South Baldwin Avenue on the same day. The investigation is ongoing to determine if the same suspect(s) burglarized all three locations.

Wednesday, September 29:

- At 10:54 a.m., an officer initiated contact with a subject walking in the area of Baldwin Avenue and Fairview Avenue for drinking from an open container of beer. The suspect, a 49-year-old male transient, was cited and released in the field.

Thursday, September 30:

- At 8:02 a.m., an officer responded to the 400 block of California Street regarding a vandalism report. The officer discovered a community mailbox had been damaged. It is unknown if the suspect responsible for the vandalism stole mail from the residents. There was a similar incident of vandalism a few addresses away and a third incident in the 100 block of Alta Street. The investigation is pending a review of the available surveillance footage.
- At 2:45 p.m., an officer responded to a residence in the 00 block of West Lemon Avenue regarding a theft from vehicle report. Sometime during the previous evening, an unknown suspect entered the victim's unlocked vehicle and stole a card holder containing the victim's credit and debit cards. A suspect then used the victim's credit card to complete fraudulent purchases.

Friday, October 1:

- At 11:29 a.m., an officer responded to Gold's Gym, located at 400 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding a petty theft report. An investigation revealed an unknown suspect removed the victim's lock from his locker, stolen his property including a car key, and then stole additional property from the victim's vehicle.
- At 12:57 p.m., an officer responded to the parking structure of 24-Hour Fitness, located at 125 North First Avenue, regarding a petty theft report. The victim stated he left his bicycle secured to the bike rack at 11:00 a.m. on October 1st. Later that afternoon, at 12:46 p.m., the victim discovered his bicycle had been stolen from the location. The loss is a grey and green Hyper mountain bike.

Saturday, October 2:

- At 4:01 p.m., an officer responded to Nordstrom, located at 400 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding a petty theft report. The victim accidentally left his wallet behind in the dressing room and when he returned to locate it, he saw someone exiting the room he was just in. When the victim confronted the suspect, the suspect fled. The suspect is described as a Hispanic male, approximately 5'6" tall, with a medium build and a light complexion.
- At 6:13 p.m., an officer responded to Dan's Auto Body, located at 124 Wheeler Avenue, regarding a commercial burglary report. Sometime between 3:00 p.m. on Friday, October 1st and 6:13 p.m. on Saturday, October 2nd, unknown suspect(s) broke three windows and fled with an unknown amount of property.

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ANITA MAY BALDWIN STATUE TO BE UNVEILED AT LE MÉRIDIEN HOTEL

The Anita May Baldwin Statue at the Le Méridien Hotel will be unveiled on Monday, October 25, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.

Anita is the daughter of the City's founder, Elias Jackson "Lucky" Baldwin. Famed artist Alfred Paredes, who created the Elias Jackson "Lucky" Baldwin statue on the corner of Huntington Drive and Holly Avenue, has finished sculpting his daughter Anita, where she will be featured on the opposite end of the Huntington Drive islands' hotel property.

"We are very excited to be bringing Anita back to Arcadia," said Mayor Sho Tay. "I would like to thank the Shen, Liu and Chen Families, Jeff Lee, the Dextra Baldwin McGonagle Foundation, Heather D. Gibson and Margaux L. Gibson, and the Arcadia Historical Society, for their generous donations."

"I am honored to have the opportunity to recognize one of the founding women of Arcadia, not only for her role in the development of Arcadia but also for her charitable contributions to the San Gabriel Valley," said Council Member April A. Verlatto. "I am grateful to the City Council for unanimously supporting my motion to dedicate the artwork on this corner to the legacy of Anita Baldwin and for all the generous donations from the community that made this dream a reality."

The Anita statue was sculpted by local artist and southern California native, Alfred Paredes, and is aptly named, "A Legacy of Charity" in honor of Anita's contributions to life in early Arcadia and throughout California. (Pictured above).

"On behalf of the Baldwin family, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the Arcadia City Council, the Arcadia Historical Society, the Le Méridien Hotel and all those who have supported this effort to pay homage to my great-great grandmother, Anita May Baldwin," said Ms. Margaux Gibson. "This magnificent statue of Anita will showcase a strong woman who was ahead of her time. I am proud to call Anita May Baldwin my great-great grandmother, and I am truly proud to be a part of this historic project."

The Le Méridien Hotel's Grand Opening Celebration is also being held on October 25, 2021. For more information about the Anita Statue, please contact the City Manager's Office at (626) 574-5401.



More News & Notices

SCHEDULED POWER OUTAGES IN THE NORTHEASTERN SECTION OF MONROVIA

Southern California Edison (SCE) has planned power outages to take place in the northeastern section of Monrovia. SCE will continue to upgrade aging infrastructure, make needed improvements, and complete other repairs.

SCE and their contractors will perform work in the following locations:

- Sunday, October 10 (9 a.m. – 2 p.m.)
900 Block of East Greystone Avenue
- Sunday, October 10 (10 p.m. – 6 a.m.)
2000 Block of South Myrtle Avenue

- Monday, October 11 (8 a.m. – 2 p.m.)
700 Block of Wildrose Avenue

Customers that will be impacted by this outage have received notifications from SCE.

During a power outage, SCE customers can view current information regarding the outage and the estimated restoration time by visiting SCE Online. Should you have any questions, please call SCE outage phone number at 888-759-6056.

CITY OF HOPE'S 2021 WALK FOR HOPE



City of Hope, a National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer center in Duarte, will host its 25th anniversary Walk for Hope on Sunday, November 7 to find a cure for breast and gynecologic cancers. The annual Walk for Hope began in 1997 and is the largest public event City of Hope produces – with approximately 12,000 attendees and \$1.6 million raised in 2019. In 2020, City of Hope held its first-ever virtual Walk for Hope, raising \$1.3 million, and was a leader of revenue retention among peer-to-peer fundraising campaigns across cancer hospitals nationwide.

The world has changed, but the reasons why we walk have not. Join 2021 Walk for Hope co-chairs Ryan Mahoney and Rick Powell – as well as cancer survivors, their friends and family, medical professionals and supporters from across the country – in the fight against breast and gynecological cancers. Register and fundraise today at walkforhope.org.

The Walk for Hope team is planning a hybrid event – one that includes a robust virtual experience and a possible live component. The campaign will feature Walk for Hope's celebrated unique elements, while ensuring the health and safety of its patients, volunteers, donors and staff.

Generated funds will support City of Hope's Women's Cancers Program. City of Hope breast cancer patients have access to a wide variety of clinical trials, including new chemotherapy and targeted therapies, novel surgical techniques, innovative radiation approaches and new prevention strategies—all aimed at improving prognosis and quality of life after cancer.

City of Hope gynecologic cancer patients need immediate and effective treatments. Current therapies work for a period of time, but strategies need to be developed to improve the effectiveness of drugs currently available. City of Hope researchers are conducting novel investigations to help close this treatment gap.

Cancer does not stop, and neither will City of Hope.

Register and donate at ourhope.cityofhope.org/event/walk-for-hope-2021/e321664.

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AROUND SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

TABLE FOR TWO by Peter Dills thechefknows@yahoo.com

ROE Fusion, welcome to the neighborhood!

Sushi honorable enough for a samurai warrior to defend, plus a variety of hot and cold dishes! First of all what is Japanese Fusion, or should I say, “what is Fusion”? Think of a bottle of red wine, a blend, it’s basically the best of Japanese cuisine and other foreign cuisine elements.

If you are familiar with the address of 120 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. you know that spot has had more than a handful different restaurants in the past 10 years – BBQ joint, hamburgers, and a wine bar come to mind - they say the real estate is cursed. Well, I think we have a restaurant that will have staying power – it just needs a few tweaks to succeed. I visited this place solo, so don’t pick on me if I didn’t try your favorite dish restaurant. Reviewing restaurants has its limits (budget) too!!

Here is what I did try!! The Baked Crab and Avocado Handroll (\$8) comes on soy paper (as opposed to seaweed) is absolutely out of this world. I could have ordered three of those and been quite content. Next up was the miso glazed black Cod (\$26) - another great choice though not as exciting as the smoky seared salmon or the baked crab mac n’ cheese. The restaurant offers a full bar with some incredible offerings of whiskeys and Bourbons. At first glance my eyeballs popped out at the Yamazaki for \$70 and the Blanton’s for \$55, but owner Edward explained that these are very hard to get. As a Vons shopper I know that to be true, but my suggestion would be to have those hand-sold (off the regular menu). All said, this truly great dining experience might even give Parkway Grill a run for their money.

Fun fact: Owner Edward Weng started cooking because he wanted to impress his high school girlfriend. No, I didn’t ask if they got married.

When friends ask me to go to the Westside to get Fusion, I yawn and say “no thanks”. Invite your Westside friends to Sierra Madre – it’s well worth the trip!

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LA COUNTY COVID-19 CASES AMONG HEALTHCARE WORKERS DECLINED 60% SINCE INCREASING IN AUGUST.

Los Angeles County continues to see a downward trend in cases, hospitalizations, and deaths.

On September 27, the County’s 7-day daily case average was 1,050 new cases – a decrease of more than 57% from a month earlier. Over the same period, hospitalizations and deaths both declined by 45%. And while the declines are promising, the County continues to see, on average, 14 deaths a day, a particular tragedy because so many of them could have been prevented by vaccination.

Today, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) confirms 35 new deaths and 964 new cases of COVID-19. Of the 35 new deaths reported today, six people who passed away were over the age of 80, 10 people who died were between the ages of 65 and 79, 12 people who died were between the ages of 50 and 64, five people who died were between the ages of 30 and 49, and one person who died was between the ages of 18 to 29. One death was reported by the City of Pasadena. To date, Public Health identified 1,464,793 positive cases of COVID-19 across all areas of L.A. County and a total of 26,195 deaths.

There are 768 people with COVID-19 currently hospitalized and 30% of these people are in the ICU. This is a decrease of 122 daily hospitalizations over the past week.

Testing results are available for nearly 8,704,000 individuals with 16% of people testing positive. Today’s test positivity rate is 0.9%, a slight decrease from last week’s same day rate of 1.2%

The slowing of community transmission is also reflected in the number of new cases at schools. The overall case numbers in schools continue to decrease across the entire county. There were only 559 student cases the week of September 26 through October 1, while staff cases decreased to 82 over the same period. This is a 54% decrease from the prior week for students, and a 51% decrease for staff.

Most K-12 cases are not associated with outbreaks, but when three or more cases are linked at a school or school-based activity, they are considered to be part of an outbreak, and are met with additional resources dedicated to investigating and stopping transmission among students, staff, and communities. The number of school outbreaks also decreased by more than half between the prior week and last week, from 12 outbreaks the week ending September 26 to five outbreaks the week ending October 2. This past week, there was one outbreak in youth sports, and two outbreaks each in elementary and middle schools. With more than 3,000 schools now open county-wide, these are astonishingly low numbers, and this is possible only because of the hard work of our school community members: staff, students, and families.

Multiple vaccination verification requirements now affect L.A. County residents and workers. As of September 20, proof of vaccination status or a negative test result at indoor events in L.A. County with more than 1,000 attendees is required. September 30 was the deadline for healthcare and homecare workers across L.A. County to be fully vaccinated, while L.A. County employees had until October 1 and L.A. City employees have until today, October 5.

On October 7, proof of full vaccination or a negative test result will be required to enter outdoor mega events, and proof of at least one dose of the vaccine will be required to enter or work in indoor portions of bars, lounges, nightclubs, breweries, wineries, and distilleries in L.A. County. On November 4, bars and similar establishments throughout L.A. County will be required to verify full vaccination of all patrons and employees prior to entry to indoor portions of their establishments. To help businesses through all stages of implementation, which

includes an overview of vaccination and testing requirements, Public Health created toolkits that are available online, at: <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/business-verification.htm>

Under a state order, K-12 school staff across the county are required to be vaccinated by October 15 or test weekly. LAUSD students participating in extracurricular activities must be fully vaccinated by October 31, and Culver City students are required to be vaccinated by November 19. All LAUSD students 12 and over must be fully vaccinated by December 19. Last week, Governor Newsom announced the state’s plan to require COVID-19 vaccination of all students and staff at private and public schools statewide as a condition of in-person attendance. The requirement will be effective for each student beginning the term following full FDA approval of the vaccine for their grade span, beginning with students in grades 7 through 12, followed by students in grades K through 6. Depending on the timing of approvals, this likely means the requirement will go into effect beginning either January 1 or July 1 of 2022. There are also federal requirements, including President Biden’s executive order requiring federal workers to be fully vaccinated by November 22.

Helping organizations and businesses comply with targeted vaccination requirements over the next few months will be a focus for Public Health teams. Over the course of the pandemic, the County has seen high rates of compliance with other safety measures, and we anticipate similar cooperation as we work together to add the additional powerful protection of vaccinations for workers, customers, students, and families.

Public Health encourages everyone unvaccinated for COVID-19 to get vaccinated ahead of time to be fully protected for the holidays. For those not yet vaccinated, you are only considered fully protected two weeks after all doses are complete. For the one-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine, you’re considered fully protected two weeks after your one shot. For the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, which both involve two shots several weeks apart, you’re only considered fully protected two weeks after your second dose.

If you’re unvaccinated today, you could walk into one of our county-run vaccination sites and get a Johnson & Johnson vaccine, then two weeks later, be considered fully vaccinated. That means you’d be fully protected by Halloween.

Anyone 12 and older living or working in L.A. County can get vaccinated. Vaccinations are always free and open to eligible residents and workers regardless of immigration status. Boosters are available for eligible individuals at all sites offering the Pfizer vaccine. Many vaccination sites across the county, including all the County-run sites, are also offering third doses of vaccine to eligible immunocompromised people. Appointments are not needed at many sites and all Public Health vaccination sites where first, second, and third doses are available.

Visit: www.VaccinateLACounty.com (English) and www.VacunateLosAngeles.com (Spanish) to find a vaccination site near you, make an appointment at vaccination sites, and much more. 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.

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.

LOCAL STATISTICS 10/01/2021 vs. 10/08/2021

TOTAL LA COUNTY CASES AS OF 10/01/2021

Cases:		1,459,182	
Deaths:		25,972	
CITY	POPULATION	CASES	DEATHS
Altadena	43,260	4,013	81
Arcadia	57,754	3,315	147
Bradbury	1,069	42	0
Duarte	22,016	2,725	99
Monrovia	38,800	3,936	82
Pasadena	141,371	13,205	361
Sierra Madre	10,989	607	13

TOTAL LA COUNTY CASES AS OF 10/08/2021

Cases:		1,468,634	
Deaths:		26,284	
CITY	POPULATION	CASES	DEATHS
Altadena	43,260	4,013	81
Arcadia	57,754	3,330	147
Bradbury	1,069	42	0
Duarte	22,016	2,740	99
Monrovia	38,800	3,955	82
Pasadena	141,371	13,294	363
Sierra Madre	10,989	623	13

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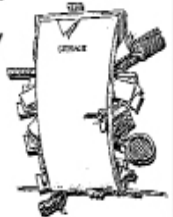
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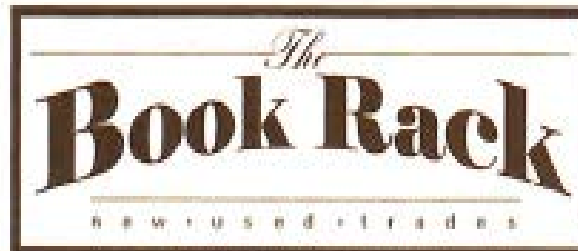
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BETHANY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL PRESENTS FREEDOM FROM BULLYING SEMINAR



Bethany Christian School hosted Paul Coughlin, author of *Freedom From Bullying*, on September 30, 2021 for a community seminar on strategies to reduce bullying in our communities and schools. Paul focused on several key strategies which research has proven effective. One strategy is known as “the power of two” in which two students covenant to speak up together against bullying. Studies have shown that children are much more likely to change from bystanders watching a bullying event to standing alongside the victim if they have a friend to stand with. Another strategy is to carefully define bullying as repeated, one way harassment to distinguish it from the normal disagreements that can happen among children. It is also important to distinguish reporting from tattling and to have multiple means of reporting. Research shows that children are more likely to tell a trusted friend or older child than a parent or teacher. Thus creating buddy programs in schools between older and younger children can be an effective strategy to provide a safe environment for reporting.

Paul spent time at Bethany Christian school training teachers, students and the community. Bethany Christian School will be implementing the Protectors curriculum throughout the school to train students how to stand up for those being bullied and help reduce bullying in our society. For more information on this and other programs, please contact Bethany Christian School at 626-355-3527 or info@bcsllions.org. You may also visit www.bcsllions.org for general information about the school.

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19. *Corpse
21. *Bobbing for what?, pl.
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25. General Post Office
28. Actuary's concern
30. Named, in bygone era
35. Not easy
37. Accepted behavior
39. Kitchen floor layer?
40. Northern European capital
41. *Overly consumed on Halloween?
43. Actress Spelling
44. Nature's rage
46. Bangladeshi currency
47. Colossal
48. Bowling prop
50. Famous Himalayan
52. Bugling ungulate
53. Valedictorian's spot
55. Possessive of "it"
57. *Pennywise and Joker, e.g.
60. *Traditional Halloween garb
64. Honolulu greeting
65. Costa del ____
67. Plant fungus
68. Mild and pleasant, weather-wise
69. E.T. transporter
70. Popular spring flower
71. Hole-making tools
72. Young newt
73. Country singer ____ Hill

DOWN

1. Coalition
2. Corn Belt state
3. Drink garnish
4. Cheerlessness
5. Offered on a platter
6. *Door-to-_____
7. George Gershwin's brother
8. Plural of seta
9. Cain's biblical brother
10. You, in bygone era
11. Uh-oh
12. Wife's title
15. Facet
20. Actress Linda of "Dynasty" fame
22. Be nosy
24. South American wild cats
25. *Bedsheet with holes?
26. Command that follows "cut"
27. Acrylic fiber
29. Show off
31. Low-cal
32. Skip the wedding hoopla
33. State of danger
34. *As opposed to treat
36. Small town or hamlet
38. Manufacture
42. 2:3, e.g.
45. Carnie's domain
49. Grandmother, for short
51. Reflexive of "it"
54. Question in dispute
56. Parallel grooves
57. *Raven's grabber
58. Take it easy
59. Electrical resistance units
60. Blood-related problem
61. Tangerine grapefruit hybrid
62. Castle protector
63. Carve, as in stone
64. Lawyers' league
66. "_____ with their head!"

SCHOOL DIRECTORY

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

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

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

Arroyo Pacific Academy
41 W. Santa Clara St. Arcadia, Ca,
(626) 294-0661 Principal: Phil Clarke
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Barnhart School
240 W. Colorado Blvd Arcadia, Ca. 91007
(626) 446-5588
Head of School: Tonya Beilstein
Kindergarten - 8th grade
website: www.barnhartschool.org

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

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

Holy Family Catholic School
1301 Rollin Street South Pasadena Ca 91030
(626) 799-4354 •
Transitional Kindergarten - 8th Grade
Principal: Mrs. Jennifer Garzia
Website: www.school.holyfamily.org
Email: info@holyfamily.org
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Foothill Oaks Academy
822 E. Bradbourne Ave., Duarte, CA 91010
(626) 301-9809
Principal: Nancy Lopez
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office@foothilloaksacademy.org

Frostig School
971 N. Altadena Drive Pasadena, CA 91107
(626) 791-1255
Head of School: Jenny Janetzke
Email: jenny@frostig.org

The Gooden School
192 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
(626) 355-2410
Head of School, Jo-Anne Woolner
website: www.goodenschool.org

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Duarte Unified School District
1620 Huntington Dr., Duarte, Ca. 91010
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CHRISTOPHER Nyergeres THOUGHT ON COLUMBUS



[Nyergeres is the author of "How to Survive Anywhere," "Foraging California," and other books. He can be reached at Box 41834, Eagle Rock, CA 90041, or www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance.com.]

Every school child in America has learned that a man named Columbus managed to sail across the Atlantic with a ragtag crew and made it to North or Central America and back home to tell the queen all about what he found. And no one debates that part of the story.

The new politically-correct posture is to say that, "hey, Columbus didn't discover America, he just shipwrecked into the Carribean, and there were already people there...." Yes, of course, all more or less correct. Many now call this Indigenous Peoples Day. OK with me....

Every country has dates and years that are integral to its mythology, and in the U.S., the two most important years that every schoolchild memorizes in rhyme is 1492 and 1776. So let's look at the Columbus story from a different angle.

Columbus Day in the U.S. was loosely commemorated since colonial times. It began to be commemorated unofficially in New York as early as 1866, and because of pressure from Catholic Italians, it was declared an official holiday in 1934. It had a lot to do with Italian-pride because Italians were the then discriminated new kids on the block.

Columbus has always been embroiled in controversy. Did he treat the natives well, or not? Certainly his voyages opened the door for a flood of invaders into the New World which eventually devastated and obliterated the indigenous cultures.

In the book "1491" by Charles Mann, the author states that apparently a plague or disease spread across north America, in advance of the Europeans. Mann believes that at least 80% of the indigenous population of North America died from various diseases, not by an intentional genocidal effort. And most of those who died in this die-off never even saw Europeans!

Plus, Columbus was not the first to get here. He was only celebrated because he was the one who went back home and told everyone what he found. Columbus' own writings talk about "other maps" that were made by those who went before him, though he does not name who these others are.

In 1976, author Barry Fell released the first of his bombshell trilogy of books, "America B.C." where he claims to have interpreted writings on stone throughout the Americas in written languages from such far away places as the British Islands, various parts of Europe, and Northern Africa. When I read Fell's books, I wondered how it was that such epigraphic evidence could be overlooked by so many. In part, this was because the archaeologists weren't looking for linguistic evidence in foreign languages. But Fell sought out such evidence, because he believed – as did Thor Heyerdahl before him – that the oceans were not barriers to travel by ancient man, but rather the highways where someone traveling on the trade winds could live off the sea and travel around the globe. I thought that if even 10% of what Fell wrote was correct, it would revolutionize our view of history.

Fell had many followers, and many detractors, and it turns out that maybe he was very loose with transliterations and translations, along with some wishful thinking. Maybe only 10 to 20% of his writing is solid. But because he made mistakes in his unique efforts, traditional academic archaeologists more or less threw Fell out with the bath water, lock, stock, and barrel, including that very solid 10%!

Fortunately, others following in his footsteps have confirmed via epigraphy that someone with knowledge in writing systems that were used in Europe about 2000 to 3000 years ago left spotty evidence all over the U.S., but mostly in the Colorado-Oklahoma area, and along the east coast. Who were these people? You can and should read all about them in some of the research that has followed Fell, such as "Ancient American Inscriptions: Plow Marks or History?," which is perhaps the single best book which attempts to approach linguistic evidence on rocks in a strict scientific manner. The evidence shows that there were indeed Celtic people here, who were master mariners. There were many others too, a little here, a little there, nearly always an extreme minority among the Siberian-rooted Plains Indians who were numerous in at least the eastern half of the country.

In fact, according to another controversial author, "Advanced Civilizations of Prehistoric America" by Frank Joseph (subtitled "The Lost Kingdoms of the Adena, Hopewell, Mississippians, and Anasazi"), not only were there other people here before Columbus, there were four distinct "civilizations" in North America that rose and fell long before Columbus was even born.

Joseph's book is a bit too much for most people if it's their first foray into the history of North America that you weren't taught in school. But his book is just the latest in many that have followed in the footsteps of Fell and tried to demonstrate that North America was far more diverse than we ever imagined.

I'll do a review of Joseph's book another day, but suffice it to say that killing and brutality are all too common human traits, and Columbus and his gang certainly didn't invent that. The Spanish who invaded Mexico a century later were far worse than Columbus ever was!

At the end of the day, do we still want to commemorate Columbus? I guess that's for everyone to decide. He did make a "discovery" for Europe, and no one disputes that, within the full definition of what we mean by "discovery." But he really should be viewed more honestly, in view of today's sensitivities. He was no saint, but he wasn't the almighty demon either.

In a similar vein, it troubles me that the current Pope chose to create a saint out of a priest who caused so much harm and disruption and destruction to the California natives and their way of life. Serra was no saint either, and shame on the Pope for not knowing this.

(Perhaps the standard is too low for sainthood. I've heard that two healing miracles must be documented in order for one to be regarded as a saint. Since I believe there were at least two "healings" from "praying" to my purebred pitbull Cassius Clay, shouldn't he be eligible for "dog sainthood"?)

Katnip News!



FRANKIE

Frankie is a cuddler and a snuggle-bug who loves to be the number one cat in the family. He demands your full attention and will hop aboard a shoulder for a ride to the next destination in the household. He would purrfurr to be an only cat as companionship is not something he was introduced to as a young cat. Once he feels safe and at home, he will find a chest to nap on and push himself into his person and close his eyes for a long nap. Please provide him plenty of moving string and fluffy balls to pounce and play with because those are his favorites. He can be entertained for hours with a string on a stick that moves like snake in the grass or a bug in the air. He loves his stuffed toys, kickers, play mat and springs and can entertain himself as well as be entertained. He will eat human food if you let him so guard your takeout – especially pizza boxes! He is a healthy cat who would be a great companion for a family without other pets or young children. He is easily overstimulated and needs a calm environment. He has strong hunting and pouncing instincts along with strong territorial instincts that do make him have a difficult time sharing the space in a home with other cats.

From Frankie's previous adopter: "Indeed he is a great cat and we have fallen in love with him. There is no better feeling than when he presses his body into my chest or my belly and snuggles up. Or purrs when he gets petted. Or gleefully plays with his favorite pink string and catnip toys."



Pet of the Week

One-year-old Koni is a little bit shy, but has been making such great progress with our staff and volunteers!

One volunteer said that although Koni is a bit scared of new people, she starts out by giving slow blinks. Then, with a little bit of patience, along with some treats, she'll let you pet her soft fur. Once she's comfortable, she'll even roll onto her back for more pets! Koni just needs a calm and understanding adopter to help her come out of her shell. Seeing her blossom is so rewarding!

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. 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

WHAT WOULD LIFE BE WITHOUT MISTAKES?

Let me be clear from the beginning. I have made a lot of mistakes during my life. I have made mistakes that I don't even know about to this day. Even the ones I do know about, I cannot remember very clearly.

Mistakes are a part of life. Unfortunately, some people believe they live their whole life without making any mistakes.

That's mistake number one.

I am where I am today because of the mistakes in my life. I have learned a lot from my mistakes, except I have not learned not to make any more mistakes.

If somebody has not made mistakes in life, I would have to give that award to the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Perhaps the closest she has ever come to making a mistake was in marrying me, but that certainly was not my mistake at all. Marrying her was the best choice I have ever made in life.

I suppose she does make mistakes, but she knows how to fix them before anybody notices them. I wish I knew how she does that.

Those who think they make no mistakes in life are just kidding themselves and are not really living.

I remember several years ago a mistake I made. I planned to fill up my truck with gas for the week. It was clearly on empty. I should never have let it get that low, but I did.

As I drove to the gas station, I thought of something I needed to pick up at Publix, which was on the way. So I stopped, went in and bought the item I wanted and then went out to get in my truck and go get some gas.

As I turned the key to start the engine, it did not start. I didn't know what to do at the time. I tried my best to start it, but nothing I did managed to start it.

Then, I looked at the fuel tank gauge and saw that it had passed empty, and according to that, the truck was out of gas.

That was a big mistake. That mistake brought me a terrible consequence.

I sat in the truck for a few moments staring at my cell phone. I knew what I had to do, but I didn't want to do it. In a few minutes, I tried to start it again, and I had the same result.

Quietly sitting in the truck, I continued staring at my cell phone. I had no option at the time. I had to do what I had to do.

So, I called the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage.

"My dear," I said as sweetly as possible, which is above my pay grade, "could you get a can of gasoline and bring it to me? I'm over here at Publix."

I heard silence on the other end, and then I heard chuckling.

"Are you telling me," she said, trying not to chuck-

le, "that your truck is out of gas?"

Of course, she knew the answer to that question, but she used it to poke me.

"No," I said sarcastically, "I just want to know if you can bring me a can of gasoline to Publix."

I think she could feel the frustration in my voice.

That certainly was another mistake added onto the first mistake.

"Oh," she said, "I might be able to get over there in about three hours."

I did hear her chuckling over the phone. I pretended I did not hear her chuckling, which was another mistake.

I hung up the phone and sat in my truck thinking that I had a three-hour wait until she got there with the gas for the truck.

On my fourth deep sigh, I saw my wife driving her van and park right next to my truck. I saw her through the window with the biggest smile I've ever seen her wear.

She got out of her van and said, "Is this the truck that's out of gas?"

At this point, I had exhausted all of my mistakes and just soberly nodded my head in the affirmative.

She got a can of gas out of her van and set it down next to my truck. I picked it up and emptied it into my truck's gas tank.

When finished, I put the can back in her van and closed the door. Then, I looked at her and simply said, "Thank you so much for your help."

She chuckled and said, "Do you think you ought to go and fill your truck up with gas now?"

Being all out of mistakes at this point, I told her, "I'm going right now and fill this truck up with as much gas as I can get."

I took my time going to the gas station and filling up my truck because I knew I would experience the next stage of my wife's giggling about my mistake as soon as I got home.

My biggest lessons have come from mistakes I've made. But the lessons only come when I deal with the error and make it right.

I like what David said, "Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults" (Psalm 19:12).

It's one thing to deal with the mistakes at hand, but it's another thing to be cleansed from secret faults. So I'm learning to deal with the mistakes that I don't know I'm making each day.

Dr. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, Ocala, FL 34472, where he lives with his wife. Call him at 352-216-3025 or e-mail jamesnyder51@gmail.com. The church web site is www.whatafellowship.com.

SENIOR HAPPENINGS



HAPPY BIRTHDAY! ...October Birthdays*

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

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

SENIOR ACTIVITIES IN SIERRA MADRE

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



FRANKENSTEIN (1931) – Wednesday, 10/13 at 2:00 pm

In James Whale's timeless adaptation of Mary Shelley's masterpiece novel, Boris Karloff stars as the screen's most tragic and memorable horror giant, when Dr. Frankenstein dares to tamper with life and death by piecing together salvaged body parts to create a human monster.



SOMETHING WICKED THIS WAY COMES –

Wednesday, 10/27 at 2:00 pm

Can two young boys overcome the worst the devil himself can deal out? Wishes are granted, but twisted as only the esteemed Mr. Dark can make them. Based on the Ray Bradbury novel.

CHAIR YOGA – Monday and Wednesday each week, 10-10:45 am

Please join us for some gentle stretching, yoga, balance exercise and overall relaxation with Paul. Classes are ongoing and held in the Memorial Park Covered Pavilion.

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 – Tuesday, 10/12 & 10/26 AT 10:00 AM

If you enjoy knitting, crocheting, embroidery, needlepoint, bunka, huck, tatting or cross stitch then we have a group for you! Bring your current project, sit and chat with like-minded fiber friends. We meet in the Hart Park House.

HULA AND POLYNESIAN DANCE – 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.

DOMINOES TRAIN GAME AT 11:00 AM ON 10/6

The object of the game is for a player to play all the tiles from their hand onto one or more trains, emanating from a central hub or "station". Call Lawren with questions that you may have.

BINGO - Tuesday, 10/12, 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!

SKELETON WREATH – Tuesday, 10/19, 10:00 am

What would Halloween be without a skeleton or a wreath? I invite you to join me in combining the two for a whimsical and fun door greeting. Space is limited to six participants so please call Lawren to reserve your spot.

METRO MICRO— TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

Micro is Metro's new on-demand rideshare service, offering trips within several zones in LA 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 FIND A BETTER MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN

Dear Savvy Senior:

Is it important to compare Medicare Part D prescription drug plans every year? My pharmacist highly recommends it, but it's such a hassle sorting through all those different plans. Is there an easier way to shop and compare Medicare drug plans? Lazy Beneficiary



Dear Beneficiary:

Because Medicare's prescription drug plans can change their costs and benefits from year-to-year, comparing Part D plans every year during the open enrollment season (which is Oct. 15 – Dec. 7) is always a smart idea.

Even if you're happy with your current coverage, there may be other plans out there that you're not aware of that offer better coverage at a lower cost. You never know until you look. Here are some tips to help you shop and compare Medicare drug plans.

MEDICARE ONLINE

If you have internet access and are comfortable using a computer, you can easily shop for and compare all Medicare drug plans in your area and enroll in a new plan online if you choose, and it only takes a few minutes.

Just go to Medicare's Plan Finder Tool at Medicare.gov/find-a-plan, and choose the type of coverage you're looking for, enter your ZIP code, financial assistance (if you receive any), select the drugs you take and their dosages, and choose the pharmacies you use. The plan finder does the math to identify the plan in your area that covers your drugs at the lowest cost.

This tool also provides a five-star rating system that evaluates each plan based on past customer service records and suggests generics or older brand name drugs that can reduce your costs.

When you're comparing drug plans, look at the estimated drug costs plus premium costs that shows how much you can expect to pay over a year in total out-of-pocket costs.

Also, be sure the plan you're considering covers all of the drugs you take with no restrictions. Most drug plans today place the drugs they cover into price tiers. A drug placed in a higher tier may require you to get prior authorization or try another medication first before you can use it.

Any changes to coverage you make will take effect Jan. 1, 2022. If you take no action during open enrollment, your current coverage will continue next year.

NEED SOME HELP?

If you need some help choosing a new plan, you can call Medicare at 800-633-4227 and they can help you out over the phone. Or contact your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP), which provides free Medicare counseling. They also conduct seminars during the open enrollment period at various locations throughout each state. To find a local SHIP counselor see ShiptaCenter.org or call 877-839-2675.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

If you're lower-income and are having a hard time paying your medication costs, you may be eligible for Medicare's "Extra Help" program. This is a federal low-income subsidy that helps pay Part D premiums, deductibles and copayments.

To be eligible, your income must be under \$19,320 or \$26,130 for married couples living together, and your assets (not counting your home, personal possessions, vehicles, life insurance policies or burial expenses) must be below \$14,790 or \$29,520 for married couples. For more information or to apply, call Social Security at 800-772-1213 or visit SSA.gov/extrahelp.

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

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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



COMPLAINTS - I TAKE THEM ALL BACK

I have had a tough week. Since last Saturday, it seems like I've done nothing but complain. It is true that I have been suffering from a toothache and haven't been able to eat or sleep much. On Saturday night I struggled to produce tickets on my cell phone that allows admission to the UCLA game. These displays have a name but I am unaware of it and don't really want to learn. Whatever happened to good old paper tickets? Yes, I know the answer is that money is saved by avoiding mailing

costs but for old folks, like me, it's stressful; so is having to produce my handicapped placard and DMV accompanying identification proving my entitlement to handicapped preference. (How lucky I must be.) Because of my friend's willingness to transport us both I always agree to pay the parking fee but thirty dollars still seems an exorbitant amount—doesn't it? Life can seem hard.

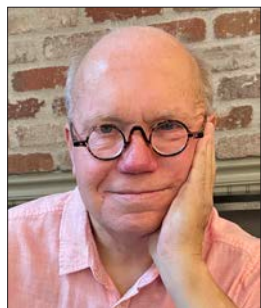
Finally, on Tuesday I went to the dentist and had my tooth pulled and was in considerable discomfort as I watched the Yankee/Red Sox one game playoff in the American League. (If you don't know one Baseball League from another and don't care much about College Football and are already bored I want you to know that I am not intending here to write about Sports but am trying to focus on the internal experience of going from one extreme feeling to another. Just stay with me). Anyway, as I watched the Yankee game it really got on my nerves that the Yankees were able to purchase or rent these already star players just because the Yankee ownership had huge resources. It all seemed unfair and I was glad the Yankees lost.

As the one game playoff time approached I was already mad about the whole system. A one game playoff after a 162 game season just for the right to remain in the playoff competition. Ridiculous! I started to hate the Dodgers for being another rich team purchasing free-agents who would be gone after the season. Max Scherzer, the best pitcher in baseball and Trea Turner, the fastest runner in baseball who lead the National League in batting and stolen bases. Also Albert Pujols the already acclaimed home- run hero who the Angels let go and the Dodgers picked up at mid-season. Who are these interlopers? I wanted Dodgers who stayed around for years like Don Drysdale, Sandy Koufax, Jackie Robinson, Roy Campanella, none of whom ever played for any other Major League team. I want Vin Scully calling the games and Tommy Lasorda managing and bleeding Dodger Blue. Where are Garvey, Cey, Russell, and Lopes, the "longest running infield" in history. I care about the Dodgers but sometimes it's easy to forget about the good times.

In 1959, when my Dad could still almost see, we went to an Exhibition game at the Coliseum, before the Dodgers ever played a regular season game in Los Angeles. There were 93,103 fans at this exhibition game held as a tribute to Roy Campanella and as a welcoming to the Dodgers. Being with my Dad, as the lights were turned off (yes my column is called Turn on the Lights) and matches and cigarette lighters were lit and wondering about my Dad's vision and our future—this is all a part of my own sacred past. Well, as you probably know already, last Wednesday night the Dodgers in a game with almost no action were tied one to one in the ninth inning. The great Sherzer had been taken out against his wishes. With the bases loaded earlier in the game the speedy Trea Turner had hit into a double play. In the bottom of the ninth inning, as part of a script meant for Hollywood, the aged hero Pujols pinch-hitting hit the ball hard but it was caught in centerfield. Next came another out in centerfield and then up came Chris Taylor, an unheralded slumping former utility infielder who entered the game as an outfield fielding replacement earlier in the game. As a batter he was slumping terribly but already has made a miraculous catch in left field. Up he came—two outs in the ninth and BAM—home run—ending a game that will be remembered by me and by all those who care for the rest of our lives.

Hooray for the Dodgers, and for baseball, and for me for allowing ourselves distraction enough in these confusingly desperate times to forget everything else and realize how much we enjoy our lives. GO DODGER BLUE and all the other colors and all the remembered good times. I watched the whole game with my wife which made it even better.

RICH JOHNSON NOW THAT'S RICH!



IF THEN AND IF ONLY

Do the following four words characterize much of the verbal interaction between you and your parents in your early years? "If...Then," and "Why? Because!"

I, like most reading this column, was flogged, metaphorically, by my parents with *if* and *then*. *If* you do that, *then* this will happen. And *if* you don't do that, *then* this will happen. The *why* and *because* was a bit different and shorter. The *why* uttered by me at the beginning of a string of words typically comprised an objection. The subsequent *because* uttered at lightning speed by my mother, was typically a one word answer with no further elaboration other than the occasional "...*I said so*."

The word "if" is often used in aphorisms. Aphorism: "a terse saying embodying a general truth, or astute observation." Let's take a look at several aphorisms. First out, some uttered, or at least attributed to famous persons:

"If it tastes good, it's bad for you." *Isaac Asimov*
"If the phone doesn't ring, it's me." *Jimmy Buffet*
"If you can't convince 'em, confuse 'em." *Harry Truman*
"If your ship doesn't come in, swim out to it." *Jonathan Winters*
"If you don't think too good, don't think too much." *Ted Williams*
"If your wife wants to learn how to drive, don't stand in her way." *Sam Levenson*
"If you don't say anything, you won't be called upon to repeat it." *Calvin Coolidge*
"If you aren't fired with enthusiasm, you'll be fired with enthusiasm." *Vince Lombardi*
"If you want to get rid of somebody, tell him something for his own good." *Kin Hubbard*

Then there are some anonymous aphorisms that bear repeating:

"If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you."
"If at first you don't succeed, try reading the instructions."
"If at first you DO succeed, try not to look so astonished."
"If a cow laughs, would milk come out of her nose?"
"If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

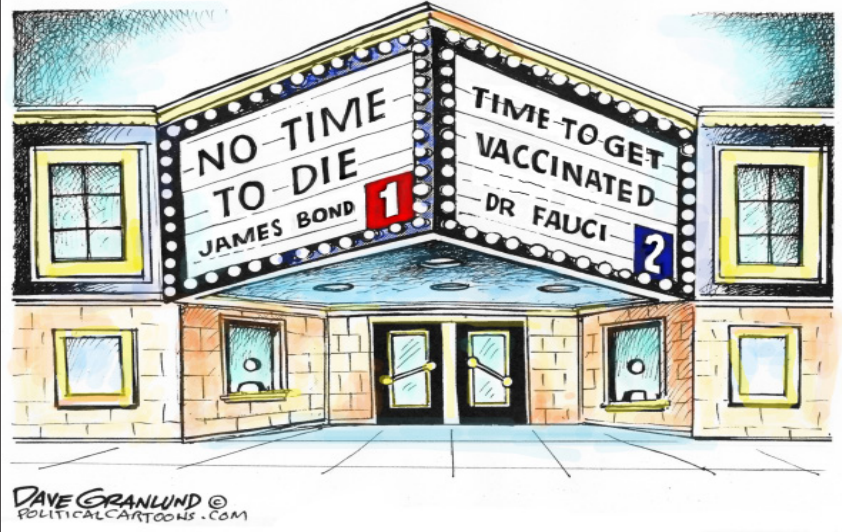
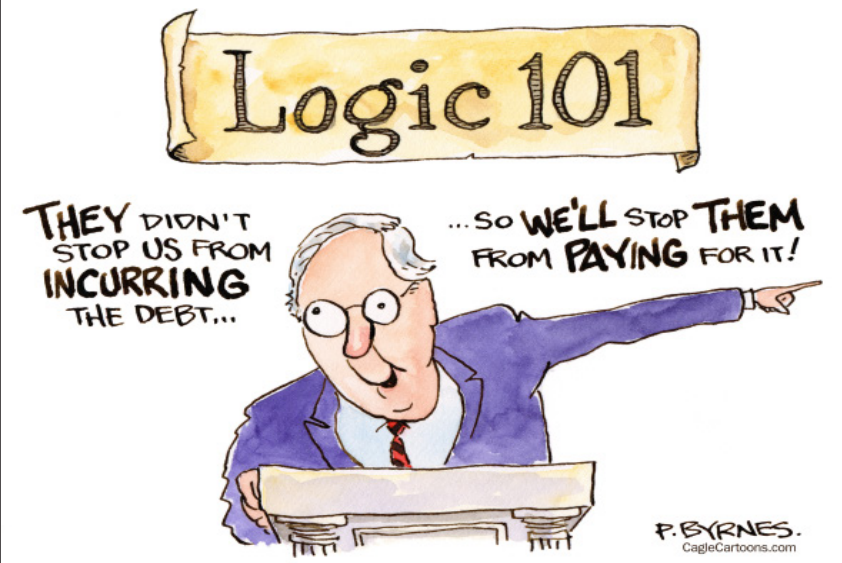
Finally, there is the sad word combination "if only". It has two applications. Neither good. First, the regret experienced living with the consequences of a really dumb action (we've all done 'em). "*If only I hadn't said or done that!*"

The first aforementioned use of "if only" pales in comparison to the devastating "if only" attached to a missed opportunity, motivated solely by fear of rejection or risk of failure. Not asking that special someone out on a date, or not taking the scary steps necessary to start that business you always wanted to build are two common examples of "if only" tragedies.

Success requires risk. It is no more evidenced than by this list of people: Walt Disney, Thomas Jefferson, Cyndi Lauper, Abraham Lincoln, Mark Twain, Henry Ford, J.C. Penney, Elton John.

Those mega-successful people all filed bankruptcy at one time or another. They took risks, failed but kept going and found success.

Take a risk. (*I did writing this column, lol!*)



JOHN MICEK

THE PANDEMIC, TIME, AND NOT LETTING THE MOMENTS GO



SARASOTA, Fla. — The Lyft driver pulled up to the curb at Sarasota-Bradenton

International Airport early in the afternoon on a late September day. I'd only been standing there for a couple of minutes, and my shirt already clung to me in the Florida heat. I threw my bags in ahead of me, and piled into the backseat, where I was hit by an arctic blast of air conditioning.

"What brings you here?" Will, my driver, asked. He was a wiry, well-tanned man, probably somewhere in his 70s. And like every ride-share driver, he was chatty. Really chatty. But after nine hours of travel that had started at 4 a.m. that morning, several hours of masked confinement on a pair of flights, and one seemingly interminable layover, I didn't really mind.

I was down there to visit my mother, who's lived alone in Sarasota for the past decade since my father died. It was my visit since before the start of the pandemic. You always figure there's going to be plenty of time, until there isn't. It was a trip that was equal parts vacation, long overdue catch-up, and a tag-up with the roots I never knew I'd planted in southwestern Florida.

The reunion was all that you might have expected it to be. Hugs. Laughter. Some tears. And because I'm Italian on my mother's side — don't let the Slavic surname fool you, I consider myself more Italian than anything else — plenty of food, and no small amount of wine. Now well into her 80s, my mom's as sharp as ever. And she can still talk the legs off of a donkey. I'm not sure which one of us finally called time. But I'm almost certain it was me.

Conversations with people into their ninth decade are, necessarily, more retrospective than they are prospective. Yes, she asked about work. Yes, she asked about my wife and daughter. But we talked more about our shared topography: parenthood, her childhood and young adulthood. Much of it was gauzy and nostalgic. But behind it all, there was the sense that there was a clock ticking, inexorably.

In the afternoons, with the Florida skies threatening, and often delivering, on rain before breaking into a lemonade yellow sun that inflicted a sunburn that slowly mellowed to a tan, I took long drives around Sarasota.

There were a new pair of traffic circles

along Main Street, a surviving piece of Old Florida, dotted with restaurants, boutiques and book stores. More than a few were new since my last trip. Some storefronts were dark and empty, victims of the pandemic-mandated shutdowns last year. But even at 2 p.m. on a weekday, the street hummed with life. I pulled into a parking space and paid at a kiosk — also new — and left a couple hours with some books under my arm.

The day before I left, I drove out of downtown, across the John Ringling Causeway, which stretches over a sparkling expanse of Sarasota Bay, and into St. Armands Key, a plush neighborhood of wildly expensive shops, restaurants of varying degrees of affordability, and implausibly large homes.

St. Armands was the first neighborhood I visited with my Dad when he and my mom moved down from Connecticut. It was my first Christmas with palm trees. We swam in the Gulf, and had lunch and beers at a now-shuttered local bar. An hour later, I was planted at the bar at one restaurant where we'd always had Cuban sandwiches. The memories came fast and furious. The years were blur. The sandwiches were every bit as good as I remembered.

Before I left, I walked up to the beach one more time. I left my sneakers on the sand and ventured out into the bathtub warm waters of the Gulf, the waves churned up by the recent heavy weather, slapped at the bottom of my shorts. This tag up with family, and the reminder of my ties to this very strange state, reminded me that, if there has been one good to come from the pandemic, it's that it's reinforced the importance of not wasting a moment, of maximizing every second with the people you love, because you don't know how long you're going to have them.

I walked deeper into the surf. The ocean water soaking me now. I didn't care.

"What brings you here?" Will, the Lyft driver, had asked me six days earlier. It's the pressing question we're all called to answer.

Standing in the Gulf, the sun warm on my back, wrapped in memories and family. I had all the answer I needed.

Don't let the moments go.

An award-winning political journalist, John L. Micek is Editor-in-Chief of The Pennsylvania Capital-Star in Harrisburg, Pa. Email him at jmicek@penncapital-star.com and follow him on Twitter @ByJohnLMicek.



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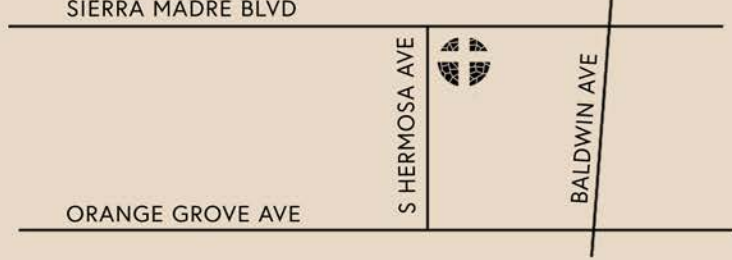


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