

# Mountain Views News

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Duarte

Monrovia

Pasadena

Altadena

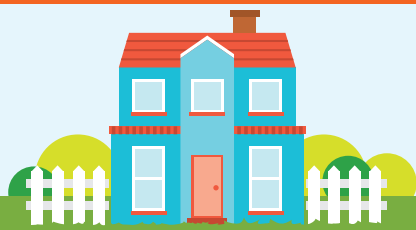
South Pasadena

San Marino

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2022

VOLUME 16 NO. 9

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## CITY MAKES OFFER TO PURCHASE 505 N. HERMOSA "WISTARIA HOUSE"

Sierra Madre, CA. – February 22, 2022 – The City Council met in closed session to discuss placing an offer to purchase the Wistaria House located at 505 N. Hermosa Avenue. In their discussion, they authorized City Manager Jose Reynoso to negotiate terms and price.

The Wistaria House is home to the Guinness World Record-holding Wistaria Vine, a Chinese wistaria, planted from a 75-cent gallon can in 1892. The plant is named in honor of Caspar Wistar (1761-1818). He was an American physician whose accomplishments included writing the first book on anatomy.

In the early 1900's, the vine grew into the walls of the original house and caused the roof to collapse. Mr. Fennel, the homeowner at the time, abandoned the house and built a new home 200 feet to the north and trained the vine to grow up to that home. The old home was torn down in 1931, but a portion of the original foundation was saved to continue to give support to the growing vine.

Today, the Vine covers more than an acre and sits on the properties of two separate private residences in northern Sierra Madre.

The offer submitted by City Manager Reynoso was above the asking price. Said Mayor Goss, "the Wistaria Vine is a beloved cultural icon in Sierra Madre. Unfortunately, the owner of the property accepted another offer. The City Council looks forward to building a strong relationship with the new owner to ensure the Wistaria Vine remains protected and available for viewing each year during the Wistaria Festival." Below visitors at the vine in 2019.



### City of Sierra Madre

#### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

From: The City of Sierra Madre  
Subject: Public Hearing: Mid-year FY 21-22 Budget Review

Notice is hereby given that on March 8, 2022, at 5:30 PM, or soon thereafter, the Sierra Madre City Council will conduct a Public Hearing, to hear testimony on the City's Mid-year FY 21-22 budget review.

#### DATE AND TIME OF HEARING

City of Sierra Madre City Council meeting: Tuesday, March 8, 2022 (Hearing begins at 5:30 p.m.) or soon thereafter.  
All interested persons may attend this meeting and the City Council will hear them with respect thereto.

#### PLACE OF HEARING

This meeting will be conducted at City Council Chambers and will be recorded for live streaming. Masks are currently required in all City facilities. As an alternative, viewers may watch the meeting on Channel 3 (Government Access Channel) or live on the City's website at [www.cityofsierramadre.com](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com)  
Email public comments to: [publiccomment@cityofsierramadre.com](mailto:publiccomment@cityofsierramadre.com) by 6:00 PM on the day of the meeting.

## Special Joint Meeting CITY COUNCIL & PLANNING COMMISSION

### Updated Info

- Regarding The Meadows at Bailey Canyon Contemplated Project
- Tuesday, March 1st, 2022 at 5:00PM
- Sierra Madre Middle School - Auditorium  
160 N. Canon Ave, Sierra Madre, CA 91024
- Meeting Agenda can be found at [cityofsierramadre.com/agendas](http://cityofsierramadre.com/agendas)

## SIERRA MADRE HAS TO GRIN AND BEAR IT...FOR NOW *No feeding ordinance and "Wildlife Watch" to help discourage bear visits*

By Kevin McGuire/MVNews

With bear close encounters rising, and coyotes walking the streets in broad daylight, City Council has adopted a Wildlife Management Plan, which would include a "Wildlife Watch" program and an ordinance to prohibit the feeding of wildlife in Sierra Madre.

Management Analyst James Carlson presented an overview of the Sierra Madre Wildlife Management Plan (The Plan) at the February 22 City Council meeting, the first of this year held in City Council Chambers open to the public. All attendees still needed to abide by mask protocols. Council Member Rachelle Arizmendi appeared remotely.

The Plan was created by the Department of Public Works and the Energy, Environment & Natural Resources Commission. Representatives from the State Department of Fish and Wildlife were also available remotely to answer questions and provide recommendations. There were five main recommendations discussed on managing wildlife.

### *Don't feed the bears...or any wildlife.*

It's true; some folks do purposely feed the bears. It truly tugs at the heartstrings to know that our bear neighbors are scrounging around looking to provide sustenance for themselves and their cubs, but feeding bears is a big no-no. Most folks don't realize they are feeding the bears. But, if you live in bear country and you leave food in your unsecured trash, or pet food outside, or fruit on the ground near your trees, or an uncleaned grill in the area—you are probably feeding the bears. It is recommended that if you live this close to wildlife, make sure your compost is secure and consider not having a bird feeder—and whatever you do, never, ever leave food in your car.

The bear causing the most commotion in Sierra Madre is the one they list as "bear 508" and her two cubs. This famous bear made the national news when it broke a car window to get some KFC, knocked the parking brake, and crashed the car into a wall. She didn't leave until completely tearing up the inside of the vehicle. Police Chief Roderick Armalin cited more instances, including one where police had to extract two women from their home after bears had broken into the home with them in it. In another tragic incident, a pet was taken from a cage inside a resident's house. The pet was killed, and the resident returned home and was traumatized by the occurrence. There are other examples of forced entry and broken windows by hungry bears. There was a total of 15 instances involving bears in recent days. "This is a big concern for me, and something needs to be done with these bears," said Chief Armalin.

### *Bear-resistant Cans and Hazing*

In addition to the prohibition of feeding wildlife, The Plan seeks to find bear-resistant can opportunities for residents and the promotion of hazing recommendations.

Some residents use bear-resistant cans. They are said to be effective. The city has been in talks with Athens, the contracted hauler, to provide bear-resistant cans. With the new organic compost separation laws going into effect in 2022, there is consideration to making bear-resistant cans mandatory in some areas.

Hazing refers to using deterrents such as loud noises, bright lights, and water spraying to discourage animals from returning to a particular area.

Right now, bears, coyotes, and other wildlife feel familiar and safe in some populated regions. They've become comfortable. Hazing is a harmless way of keep-

ing the wildlife away from homes, pets, and cars.

The Plan also aims to educate the community and change behaviors to coexist with wildlife, including bears, coyotes, deer, mountain lions, and bobcats. The goal is not to be in a situation where euthanizing is the only option.

### *Wildlife Watch*

The "Wildlife Watch" program would be similar to "Neighborhood Watch," where residents track wildlife sightings and educate the community on best practices. The program would be coordinated with local law enforcement agencies and private organizations. Communities would receive training and support to develop integrated wildlife management plans specific to their needs.

It is recommended that "Wildlife Watch" be presented to established watch groups in the area, with additional volunteers being added as needed.

### *Rodenticide Prohibition*

Rodent pesticides used to kill mice and rats can also harm or kill wildlife who consume the dead rodents. Coyotes, wildcats, and large birds, such as hawks, often eat small rodents. The option of prohibiting these rodenticides in certain areas is under consideration.

### *Urgency and Action*

Educating and putting prevention tools in place is all well and good, but for many Sierra Madre residents, the time for action is now before someone gets seriously injured or killed.

Unfortunately, the Department of Fish and Wildlife claimed on Tuesday that they were only informed of one wildlife incident, and to investigate incidents; they need to be reported.

"I have not heard of all of these incidences in Sierra Madre. They have not been reported to the Department of Fish and Wildlife," said Rebecca Barboza, a wildlife biologist with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Barboza noted that the one incidence reported where bears had entered a home was due to a door and window being left open.

Barboza recommended getting "Wildlife Watch" going, cleaning up the neighborhoods, and coordinating Fish and Wildlife with local law enforcement to start a hazing program. "You don't get there by just calling us up and saying 'hey' we want you to relocate this animal. You get to that stage by planning," said Barboza.

Ms. Barboza's comments didn't seem to sit too well with Council Member Robert Parkhurst. "I realize we haven't had our paperwork in order from a bureaucratic perspective, so does that mean we have to wait until someone gets injured before we can do anything about this bear?" Parkhurst asked.

The bear in question, #508, has already been relocated and found her way back to Sierra Madre. The only other options would be a hazing initiative or euthanizing, the least desired option.

"It's not going in unlocked doors. It broke a window. It released a parking brake. We have a serious issue here that we need to do something about really soon," Parkhurst exclaimed.

Barboza responded by saying that just because everything is not in place doesn't mean they will ignore the situation. Fish and Wildlife has coordinated with the Police Department and will reach out to residents that have reported incidents and start the process of documentation.

For now, the city will expedite information to the community on the "no feeding" policy and follow up with stricter code enforcement.

Copies of this report can be accessed on the City's website at [www.cityofsierramadre.com](http://www.cityofsierramadre.com).

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Ketanji Brown Jackson is currently a federal Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit since 2021. On February 25, 2022, President Joe Biden announced that Jackson was his nominee for Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, filling the vacancy that would be created upon Breyer's planned retirement.

Born in Washington, D.C., and raised in Miami, Florida, Jackson attended Harvard University for college and law school, where she served as an editor on the Harvard Law Review. She began her legal career with three clerkships, including one with U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Stephen Breyer. Prior to her elevation to an appellate court and from 2013 to 2021, she served as a district Judge on the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. Jackson was also vice chair of the United States Sentencing Commission from 2010 to 2014. Since 2016, she has been a member of the Harvard Board of Overseers.

Jackson was born Ketanji Onyika Brown on September 14, 1970, in Washington, D.C. Her parents were both graduates of historically Black colleges and universities. Her father,

Johnny Brown, ultimately became the chief attorney for the Miami-Dade County School Board; her mother, Ellery, served as school principal at New World School of the Arts.

Jackson grew up in Miami, Florida, and graduated from Miami Palmetto Senior High School in 1988. After high school, Jackson studied government at Harvard College, graduating in 1992 with an A.B. magna cum laude. Jackson worked as a staff reporter and researcher for Time magazine from 1992 to 1993, then attended Harvard Law School, where she was a supervising editor of the Harvard Law Review. She graduated in 1996 with a Juris Doctor cum laude.

In 1996, Jackson married surgeon Patrick G. Jackson, a sixth-generation Harvard graduate. Jackson is descended from



# A Historic Nomination

**Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson**  
FIRST BLACK WOMAN NOMINATED TO THE SUPREME COURT

eliminating racism  
empowering women  
**ywca**  
National Capital Area

delegate to the Continental Congress, Jonathan Jackson, and is related to Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. The couple have two daughters. Patrick Jackson's twin brother is the brother-in-law of Janna Ryan, wife of former Speaker of the House Paul Ryan.



## Sierra Madre POST OFFICE LANDSCAPE PROJECT



### PLEASE HELP THE SIERRA MADRE POST OFFICE!

Please help us re-landscape the Sierra Madre Post Office. We would like to make it a showplace for drought-tolerant water-saving landscaping that everyone can enjoy.


Our goal is to improve the existing appearance and provide the community with a place where they can learn about some of the best options in native plants and saving water. Additionally, we would like the Sierra Madre Post Office to be a place that represents Sierra Madre in a way that we can all be proud of and to help ensure that it remains an essential part of our community.

The work will be done by community volunteers and overseen by local experts. The project will be funded entirely by donations. All donors will receive a thank you/tax-deductible donation acknowledgement letter.

If you would like to help us with this project, please send a tax-deductible donation check payable to the “Post Office Landscape Project c/o SMCF.” The mailing address is:

Sierra Madre Community Foundation,  
P.O. Box 716, Sierra Madre, CA 91025

*If you prefer to make your donation by PayPal, please scan this PayPal QR Code:*



Thank you for your support to safeguard the viability of this important Sierra Madre community resource by helping us attract people to the re-landscaped Sierra Madre Post Office. We hope that, when people come to the newly landscaped building, they will admire the planting, learn about the water saving vegetation options, and transfer that interest to their own yards.

*Thank you for your consideration!*

## THE MEADOWS AT BAILEY CANYON

The Meadows at Bailey Canyon in Sierra Madre is a proposed plan to permanently protect open space, preserve the Monastery, provide a new park with direct connection to Bailey Canyon — all while creating the most sustainable single-family community in our City's history.



Map of the proposed plan for The Meadows at Bailey Canyon.

### Protect Open Space

Permanently dedicating more than 30 acres of open space for wildlife will help expand the protection of natural lands on the City's northern boundary.

### Preserve the Monastery

The historic buildings will continue to be an iconic landmark and home to Mater Dolorosa Passionist Retreat Center and its ministries.

### Provide a New Park

A new 3-acre public park, tucked in next to Bailey Canyon, will provide a place to relax, meet neighbors for a walk or journey through a meditative labyrinth.



NEW  
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IN C

[www.SupportTheMonastery.com](http://www.SupportTheMonastery.com)  
or scan the code with your smartphone ▶





# Hey, New Urban West: We Don't Want "New Urban" Sierra Madre



**Quiet, treelined streets.  
Pride of ownership.  
Neighbors looking out  
for neighbors.**

They're all part of Sierra Madre's small-town character. But small-town character is a delicate thing. Don't pay attention, and the next thing you know it's gone.



## Sign the petition to get the initiative on the ballot.

Visit Kersting Court on weekends between 9 a.m. and noon, or contact [monasterypetition@gmail.com](mailto:monasterypetition@gmail.com) and visit [StopHousingProject.com](http://StopHousingProject.com)

**Case in point:** the "Meadows at Bailey Canyon" housing proposal from Santa Monica-based developer, New Urban West. They want to build 42 McMansions ten feet apart from each other on the Mater Dolorosa property. New Urban West wants special zoning just for their housing tract—a "Specific Plan" so they can build those houses bigger than is currently allowed by Sierra Madre building codes. So, what happens when you pack 42 big houses into such a tight space? Heavy traffic, severe fire danger, loss of habitat for countless species, the destruction of more than 100 trees, and an eyesore where a meadow used to be.

We're working to get an initiative on the ballot in November that will let Sierra Madre voters choose to rezone the property to Hillside Residential, which is what the vast majority of properties along the urban/wilderness corridor are already zoned. Hillside Residential zoning would limit the number of houses but would not hinder the Retreat Center's ability to fulfill their mission. This initiative does not ignore the property owner's rights. We are simply standing up for neighbors' rights by requiring the developer to abide by Sierra Madre zoning laws like the rest of us.

There's a lot of money and misinformation being spread around to defeat our petition. But one thing is certain: If New Urban West gets its way, we all lose. Nothing less than the quality of life in Sierra Madre is at stake.



Paid for by Protect Sierra Madre - Stop the Housing Project



Pictured above: Julia Brady, Marilyn Diaz, John Crigna, Tom Brady & Tashera Taylor (CEO-Foothill Unity)

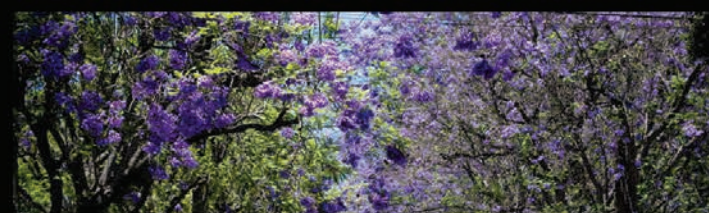
### WORKING TOGETHER:

The Rotary Club of Sierra Madre's food drive to support Foothill Unity Center in Monrovia, along with other Area 4 Rotary clubs of Arcadia, Monrovia, and Duarte combined collection of food items from February 1-13th in their respective cities to present to Foothill Unity on February 14th to "Share the Love". Over 100 clubs from Districts 5300 & 5330 in Southern California and Las Vegas areas held food drives during this time to support food banks in their areas.

Tashera Taylor, CEO of Foothill Unity Center thanked the Rotary Clubs at a presentation ceremony for their donations. She said that it was much needed as they were in between major food drives. Several of the Foothill Unity Board of Directors were also present including our own Pete Siberell from Sierra Madre.

SM Rotary would like to thank the following Sierra Madre businesses who allowed us to collect from the community for this drive:  
Taylor's Ol' Fashioned Market  
Syndicate Coffee & Bakery  
Bottle Shop  
Best Buy Drugs  
Arnold's Hardware

**Rotary**  
Club of Sierra Madre



*You're Invited*

Please join the  
**SIERRA MADRE ROTARY CLUB**  
with Mayor Gene Goss,  
Mayor Pro Tem Edward Garcia  
and other City and Community  
Leaders as we celebrate service to  
the community through our  
Sierra Madre Clock Dedication.

**MARCH 5, 2022 • 3:00 PM**  
**KERSTING COURT**

Sierra Madre Blvd. / Baldwin Ave.



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**Pasadena, CA 91107**  
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR  
MATER DOLOROSA AND THE VATICAN!

Since 1924 the Passionists and the Mater Dolorosa Retreat League have sponsored retreats, days of prayer and other spiritual programs to enable all those who are seeking a deeper relationship with God to experience His presence in the peace, beauty and wonder in this remarkable place. If this is their mission then why would they want over forty houses on their property not to mention the many visitors to the park they also hope to build. Instead of ruining the beautiful area of the entrance to the retreat why don't they get a little help from the Vatican instead. See below for the Vatican's wealth. The Vatican hoards their art objects. They could sell one and give the money to the retreat so it can stay as it is.Or they could just write a check. Mater Dolorosa is a Catholic organization.

The entire wealth of Vatican estate is considered to be around \$20 billion as of February 2022. Its legacy will never fade away, so their wealth and real estate will increase each passing day. The Vatican has big investments in banking, insurance, chemicals, steel, construction, real estate. Between the church's priceless art, land, gold and investments across the globe, it is one of the wealthiest institutions on Earth. The Vatican Museums house one of the most expansive and spectacular collections in art history, with a whopping 70,000 works. Well what do you think? "As the Beatles said lets "Get a little help from my friends" .  
Allen B., Sierra Madre

A NEW LOW FOR SIERRA MADRE CIVIL DISCOURSE

In his malicious attack on all Sierra Madre residents, R. Gjerde writes ‘NIMBYS Seek To Vote Away Religious Rights’ in the February 19th issue of Mountain Views News. This article is an insult to all and a clear attempt to inject religious dissension into a secular controversy.

Discontent with engaging in reasoned discussion of the merits of the 42 unit housing development proposed by New Urban West, Mr. Gjerde Takes a path where he sinks to name calling and making a transparent attempt to divide Sierra Madre residents against each other by invoking the idea that those opposed to the Project are anti-religious/anti-Catholic. Mr. Gjerde writes ‘These NIMBYs will almost do anything to stop the project’. According to Mr. Gjerde, opposition members are religious bigots capable of anything (implying violence) to promote their objective.

But what are the objections to the Project?  
Simple and straight forward: This housing project disregards the provisions of the General Plan developed by volunteer Sierra Madre citizens and substitutes it with a developer-created Specific Plan that overrides the building codes and zoning that all Sierra Madre citizens are required to follow. It builds in a very high fire severity zone, destroys wildlife habitat and negatively impacts the environment. New Urban West fails to develop a thoughtful project that would ensure community compatibility with our distinctive small town. Simple and straight forward: No need for insulting, name calling and stoking religious dissension.

Mr. Gjerde would try to bully and intimidate voters from open discussion by suggesting their motivation is grounded in religious bigotry. By contrast, opponents of this project are asking for respectful and open discussion, more dialogue and full community input. Introducing the idea that citizens that refuse to adopt Mr. Gjerde's position are selfish, self-centered NIMBYs harbouring religious bigotry is divisive and undermines everything Sierra Madre values.

Mr. Gjerde should be ashamed of himself and take time to reflect on why he would interject such a divisive topic knowing full well that such inflammatory rhetoric could split our community.

John Clarke, Sierra Madre Resident

WISTARIA FESTIVAL 2022  
SUNDAY, MARCH 27, 2022 - 9:00 AM TO 5 PM  
FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY

Celebrate The Guinness Book of World Records Wistaria Vine  
Send a Greeting with the Official Wistaria POSTMARK  
Visit Local Shops and more than 100 Crafters & Food Vendors  
And THE SIERRA MADRE AUTO SHOW

Vendor Applications Available Now!

www.sierramadrechamber.com

Art In Bloom

Taking inspiration from artists, floral designers create botanical interpretations of art pieces displayed in a gallery setting

Opening Night - Friday, March 4th, 6pm - 8pm  
Saturday, March 5th, 10am - 5pm  
Sunday, March 6th, 11am - 4pm

Creative Arts Group  
108 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre  
626.355.8350 CreativeArtsGroup.org

WALKING SIERRA MADRE - The Social Side  
by Deanne Davis

“Until further notice, celebrate everything!” David Wolfe

I'm writing Walking Sierra Madre on February 23rd, which would have been my mother's 102nd birthday, had she stuck around this long. Quite frankly, she would not have enjoyed being 102.

Did you realize next Tuesday is Fat Tuesday, the next day is Ash Wednesday and, just like that, we're into the Lenten Season. Time certainly does fly...whether you're having fun or not! If we were in New Orleans, we could go to Mardi Gras and see how many bead necklaces we could collect when the party animals throw them off the floats. Here's a good piece of trivia: The beads are gold, green and purple. Why, you're asking? These colors represent the Christian symbols of faith, justice and power. Speaking of purple, the picture today is of these amazing purple flowers I walked by a day or so ago. I have no idea what they are, but they made me think of Sierra Madre's astonishing Wistaria Vine.



“Time flies...but memories last forever.”  
“When hours feel like moments, you know you are with good friends.”  
“Time flies...when you're not on the treadmill.”  
“Inside every older person is a younger person wondering what on earth happened!”

Speaking of Lent, I don't know about you, but the idea of giving up something for forty days and then the minute Easter comes, diving right back into it, leaves me kind of “meh.” One year I gave up daytime TV. Then went right back to it the day after Easter. Did I fill that time with devout prayer and good works? No. I talked on the phone more. One year our pastor gave up radio in the car for Lent and about lost his mind. Chocolate, coffee, ice cream. Seriously! Does that make any kind of impact on ourselves or the world at large? Not so much.

Around the world, all sorts of Lenten traditions persist. For example, in the Middle East, folks go without meat, dairy, fish, olive oil, eggs and alcohol for the entire period. Which leaves butterless bread and salad. Here's a better one: On the fourth Friday of Lent, Mexicans celebrate La Samaritana where people will give water, ice cream and fruit to passersby in homage to the Samaritan woman who gave Jesus water at the well. In the British Isles, they make Hot Cross Buns which should be made and eaten on Good Friday only. Once again, it seems to be all about food, doesn't it.

OK, let's talk about food...specifically, Mexican Lasagna. Every night, or almost every night, (there are those golden moments when you go out to dine and someone else has to plan it, cook it, serve it, and clean it up) we have to come up with something good to eat, that goes further than a lamb chop and a baked potato, doesn't cost a fortune and that everybody loves. There now, that's the challenge most of us face when we walk into the kitchen and try to come up with something new. This casserole meets all my criteria: Easy, doesn't take too long to make, not hideously expensive and, yes, kids will eat it.

- 1-3/4 lbs. ground beef (go ahead and buy the 15% stuff, which costs a little less)
- 1 1-oz. package taco seasoning mix
- 15-oz can diced tomatoes (with jalapenos or whatever you like in 'em)
- 2 8-oz cans tomato sauce
- 1 4-oz can diced green chiles
- 1 15-oz can whole kernel corn
- 1 16-oz container ricotta cheese
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 12 corn tortillas
- 2-1/2 cups shredded jack cheese or the Mexican blend.

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees
- Cook ground beef in a large skillet over medium heat until browned and cooked through. Drain off fat. Add taco seasoning, tomatoes, tomato sauce, chiles and some salt. Mix well and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer, uncovered, 10 minutes.
- Combine ricotta cheese and eggs in a small bowl. Spread ½ the meat mixture in a greased 13 x 9 baking dish. Place six tortillas (overlapping them) over meat mixture, spread ½ the ricotta cheese mixture over the tortillas and sprinkle half the cheese over the ricotta mixture. Repeat layers.
- Bake uncovered at 350 degrees until cheese is melted and lightly browned, about 30 minutes or so.
- Let stand 10 minutes before cutting into squares for serving. You know, just like lasagna!

This takes less than an hour to put together and served with a green salad is a delightful dinner.  
When it's cold and rainy, like it's been a lot of the time lately, this dish smells and tastes delicious. And you can have a little more tomorrow.

Laissez le bon temps rouler, friends and neighbors! Let the good times roll!

My book page: Amazon.com: Deanne Davis  
Easter is on its way and “The Crown”  
My story about what happened to that crown of thorns  
Is now a real book in addition to a Kindle! Also available on Amazon.com  
If you want to check it out, here's the link where you can see a short video:  
[https://youtu.be/Y\\_pC0X286T8](https://youtu.be/Y_pC0X286T8)

SIERRA MADRE POLICE BLOTTER  
February 13 to February 19, 2022

The following represents a summary report of some of the major incidents handled by the Sierra Madre Police Department during this period. This list is not intended to be considered exclusive or all-inclusive.

	Calls for Service	Formal Investigations
Feb 13 to Feb 19, 2022	117	8
Total Year to Date for 2022	1276	101

**Monday, February 14 Recovery of Stolen Property**  
At 8:00 am, an officer responded to the station regarding found property in the 200 block of W. Sierra Madre Blvd. During a follow-up investigation, the officer determined that the property belonged to a resident in the City of Pasadena. The Pasadena PD was contacted, and it was determined that the property was stolen from a resident's home within the Pasadena city limits. Pasadena PD ultimately took custody of the property.

**Tuesday, February 15 Theft**  
A victim made an online report of an unknown suspect(s) who stole their Amazon delivery from the porch of their residence in the 100 block of E. Sierra Madre Blvd. The loss is estimated at approximately \$425.00. The Detectives' Bureau is following up on this incident.

**Wednesday, February 16 Grand Theft**  
In the 200 block of San Gabriel Ct, a victim reported an unknown suspect(s) stole the catalytic converter from their vehicle. The loss is estimated at approximately \$4000.00. The Detectives' Bureau is following up on this incident.

**Thursday, February 17 Fraud / Identity Theft**  
In the 200 block of Santa Anita Ct, a victim reported an unknown suspect(s) illegally altered a personal check and cashed that check in the amount of \$6,200.00. The Detectives' Bureau is following up on this incident.

**Saturday, February 19 Vehicle Burglary**  
In the 700 block of W. Sierra Madre Blvd, a victim reported that an unknown suspect(s) forced entry into their parked vehicle. The loss is undetermined at this time. The Detectives' Bureau is following up on this incident.



## Weather Wise

6-Day Forecast Sierra Madre, Ca.

Sun	Sunny	Hi	70s	Lows 40s
Mon	Sunny	Hi	70s	Lows 40
Tues	Sunny	Hi	70s	Lows 40
Wed	Ptly Cldy	Hi	70s	Lows 50s
Thur	Ptly Cldy	Hi	70s	Lows 40s
Fri	Ptly Cldy	Hi	60s	Lows 40s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

## SIERRA MADRE CITY MEETINGS

**THIS MEETING WILL BE A JOINT PLANNING COMMISSION/ COUNCIL MEETING AT SIERRA MADRE MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**March 1, 2022 5:00 pm**

As part of the City of Sierra Madre's COVID-19 transparency efforts and The Brown Act provides the public with an opportunity to make public comments at any public meeting. Public comment may also be made by e-mail to [PublicComment@CityofSierraMadre.com](mailto:PublicComment@CityofSierraMadre.com) by 3:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting.

Emails will be acknowledged at the Council meeting and filed into public record. The public may also comment in person at the meeting.

The meetings will be streamed live on Foothills Media website at [foothillsmmedia.org/sierramadre](http://foothillsmmedia.org/sierramadre) and broadcast on Government Access Channel 3 (Spectrum)..

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


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

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

Your event must:

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

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



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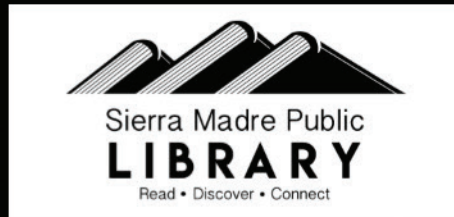
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**February 28—March 5**

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**OBOC: Off the Page, A Staged Reading at Sierra Madre Playhouse—In person at 7:00pm**

### Wednesday

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

### Thursday

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Zen Shin



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# Pasadena Altadena

News From Your Community For Your Community

## Pasadena Updates Mask Requirements

*New health order on masking takes effect today*

Pasadena city officials released a statement Wednesday stating that the Pasadena Public Health Department plans to align with the County of Los Angeles after they released a new health order that relaxes masking requirements for fully vaccinated people in certain settings.

Because of steady improvement in COVID-19 metrics, a high local vaccination rate, and anticipated adjustments to guidance by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Pasadena—as a separate health jurisdiction—will issue an updated health order, effective today. This order will give fully vaccinated people the option to either wear or remove masks in many indoor settings in alignment with the state health officer order. This order will differ slightly from the county's approach, and is less restrictive in allowing for additional options for vaccine verification, including self-attestation, in most businesses and public areas.

The state health officer order requires anyone who is not fully vaccinated to mask in all indoor public settings and businesses (including, but not limited to retail, restaurants, theaters, family entertainment centers, workplaces, and state and local government offices serving the public). As such, Pasadena Public Health Department strongly recommends that businesses, worksites, venue operators or hosts follow CDPH guidance that provides options for reducing COVID-19 transmission risk including:

- Require all patrons to wear masks; OR
- Implement vaccine verification to determine whether people are required to wear a mask; OR
- Provide information to all patrons, guests and attendees regarding vaccination requirements and allow vaccinated people to self-attest that they are in compliance prior to entry.

Until COVID-19 cases reach the Moderate level of the CDC framework, which is expected by the end of March, businesses/operators are encouraged to take measures to protect employees and customers by implementing both vaccine verification and, for those who are not fully vaccinated, verification of a negative COVID-19 test (within 2 days if PCR and 1 day if antigen). People who are not fully vaccinated, including employees and customers, are required to wear a mask indoors in public.

No person can be prevented from wearing a mask as a condition of participation in an activity or entry into a business.

People who are ill with COVID-19 symptoms should wear a mask regardless of vaccination status, test and stay home. People are still required to mask, regardless of vaccination status, if they are within 10 days of symptom onset of a COVID-19 infection (or positive test if asymptomatic) or quarantining after exposure to COVID-19.

For more information visit: [cityofpasadena.net](http://cityofpasadena.net).

## Mayor Gives In-person 'State of the City'

By Dean Lee

Pasadena Mayor Victor Gordo give his annual State of the City address Thursday night to a very limited audience of less than 100 people, of which, most were city officials, dignitaries or community leaders. Gordo's first State of the City, delivered in person, was held at Pasadena City College. The theme was "We Are Stronger Together."

As he took the stage, Gordo regrettably said that they had to turn people away because of capacity issues.

Before getting into his first topic of the night, the pandemic, Gordo asked to observe a brief moment of silence for all of those affected by the pandemic and the Ukraine crisis.

"Our hearts go out to those who have succumbed to COVID-19, those debilitated by it, and of course, their loved ones and friends," he said. "And I'm going to add, all of those who are suffering today at the hands of the Russian government in the Ukraine."

Gordo touted that 99.3 percent of all residents have received at least one vaccine dose, and over 92 percent of all eligible residents are fully vaccinated.

"Congratulations to Dr. Goh [Ying-Ying Goh, Director and Health Officer] and the many partners, such as Huntington Hospital, Day One, NAACP, and the Pasadena Community Job Center, who assisted, and kudos to residents that received the vaccine," he said. "While many throughout the country quarreled about the job, we proved We Are Stronger Together by collaboratively



working to protect our health and that of our neighbors."

As for the city's finances he said that although some industries were challenged by the pandemic, such as travel, hotel and retail, the overall financial picture for Pasadena is trending in the right direction. He said the city has a strong real estate market and auto sales have done very well. Both adding tax revenue to the city.

As for attracting investment, he said in 2023 the city will see everything from the arrival of Lucid Motors to Pasadena to Erewhon Market opening on South Lake Ave.

Gordo also commented on the city's Housing Task Force, Affordable Housing, The Rose Bowl, the city's Libraries, Fire and Police Departments, Early Child Development and Early Learning, Pasadena's Department of Water and Power, among other topics.

As for "America's Stadium" Gordo said, "The Rose Bowl has

endured arduous times and we still need to tackle a structural deficit in the years ahead, but with Legacy Foundation leadership, support of donors and bestowing of federal grants, and by attracting more events, its financial position has improved by more than \$25 million in the past nine months. The Rose Bowl is just months shy of turning 100-years old, and our collective goal is to launch the Rose Bowl into its next 100 years."

## PWP to Host Water Rate Outreach Meetings

Pasadena Water and Power is hosting Public Outreach Meetings regarding recommended water rate adjustments; attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions and learn more information about the adjustments. The outreach meetings prior to a Public Hearing are set for Tuesday and March 9.

The following Water rate adjustments are scheduled for a Public Hearing on Monday March 14 at 5:00 p.m. Public participation for this hearing is only accessible via videoconference/teleconference.

- Effective April 1, or as soon as practicable thereafter, increase the Commodity Charge to generate additional annual revenue of approximately \$1.5 to \$2.0 million, and increase the Distribution and Customer Charge ("D&C") to provide additional annual revenue of \$1.0 million.

- Effective January 1, 2023 or as soon as practicable thereafter, increase the Commodity Charge to provide additional annual revenue of approximately \$1.8 million, the D&C to provide additional annual revenue of \$1.0 million, and the Capital Improvement Charge ("CIC") to provide additional annual revenue of \$1.0 million.

- Amend the description of the CIC in the Water Rate Ordinance to eliminate reference to the "Water Distribution System" and include reference to the CIC rate to be applicable to all Water System capital expenditures.

Leading up to the Public Hearing, PWP is hosting Public Outreach Meetings regarding the recommended water rate adjustments. The first meeting will be held Tuesday at 6:30 in person at the Victory Park Community Center 2575 Paloma Street. The Second meeting will be held March 9 at 2 p.m. at the Robinson Recreation Center 1081 N. Fair Oaks Ave.

For more information visit: [pwpweb.com](http://pwpweb.com).

## Community Leader Ray Ealy Recognized by the California State Legislature

Pasadena resident, Raymond Ealy was recognized by Assemblymember Chris Holden and the California Legislative Black Caucus (CLBC) as the 41st Assembly District's Unsung Heroes for his positive impact in the community. An Unsung Hero is defined as a person who makes a substantive yet unrecognized contribution — a person whose bravery is unknown or unacknowledged. The California Legislative Black Caucus established the Black History Month Unsung Hero Award to recognize individuals who have contributed selflessly to their respective districts.

"Ray is an example of leadership -- by putting the work in today, for generations to come," said Assemblymember Chris Holden. "Through his dedication to empowering youth, he has worked with over 50,000 students -- giving them toolkits for success and self-confidence to enter and excel in their careers. I commend him and STEAM: Coders."

Ealy is the Executive Director/Founder of STEAM:CODERS, a nonprofit that inspires underserved and underrepresented students and their families through Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (STEAM), in



Raymond Ealy

preparation for academic and career opportunities. He has over 28 years of management experience in the nonprofit, financial services and retail sectors with Bank of America, Countrywide Financial Services, Security Pacific Bank, and Wells Fargo Bank.

"At STEAM:CODERS, our goal is to provide underserved and underrepresented K-12 students with the resources that they need to be competitive," said Ray Ealy. "We tell students that their competition is not the student next to them in class, but students from across the country and around the world. This is why we want to equip them with the essential tools for future academic and career success -- logic, critical thinking, and problem-solving."

## City Of Pasadena to hold 'Herstory 2022' Virtual Event

The City of Pasadena Commission on the Status of Women is pleased to host "Herstory 2022: Addressing Barriers for Women in the Workforce," a virtual event on International Women's Day, Tuesday, March 8 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. This free event will bring together community leaders from the public and private sector to discuss challenges experienced by working women, including those that intensified during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The program will be hosted by Beverley Morgan-Sandoz, Chair of the Commission on the Status of Women, and will feature welcoming remarks by Lola Osborne, Acting Director of the City of Pasadena Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department, followed by a panel discussion facilitated by Pasadena City Councilmember Jessica Rivas.

Panelists include Kimberly Kenny, Associate Vice-President of Institutional Advancement at Mount Saint Mary's University, Valerie Mendoza, Executive Director of Human Resources and Payroll at Rusnak Auto Group, and Dr. Kimlin Ashing, City of Hope Associate Cancer Center Director for Community Outreach and Beckman Research Institute Professor.

During the event, panelist will discuss key findings from the 2021 Report on the Status of Women in Pasadena, which was prepared by the Mount Saint Mary's Center for the Advancement of Women. These findings include that more Pasadena women are participating in the workforce, there is a rise in Pasadena women who have obtained four-year college degrees, and an increased diversity of racial composition among Pasadena women.

Following the Herstory 2022 panel discussion, the Commission on the Status of Women will host a Women's Wellness event on Saturday, March 12, from 10:00 -11:00 AM at Memorial Park. The event will feature yoga for all ages, children's activities, and wellness information provided by the Pasadena Public Health Department.

To kick off these exciting activities, the Pasadena City Council will issue a proclamation recognizing March as Women's History Month during its meeting on Monday, February 28, at 4:00 PM. Tune in to watch live at [www.cityofpasadena.net/media](http://www.cityofpasadena.net/media).

For more information and to register to attend Herstory 2022, visit [cityofpasadena.net/herstory](http://cityofpasadena.net/herstory).

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# AROUND SAN GABRIEL VALLEY



## CHAIRMAN SCHIFF ON RUSSIAN SANCTIONS AND INVASION OF UKRAINE

Washington, D.C. – Friday, Congressman Adam Schiff (D-Calif.), Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, issued the following statement on sanctions against Vladimir Putin:

“I applaud the Biden administration for joining our allies in imposing financial sanctions directly on Vladimir Putin and his inner circle. Though the United States has appropriately imposed broad and devastating sanctions that will impact all parts of Russia’s economy, the truth is the devastating invasion of Ukraine is the work of one man – Vladimir Putin – and he must not escape the consequences of his actions. Through his decades in power, Putin has amassed outrageous wealth, and I have long supported exposing his corruption for the Russian people, and the world, to see. While Putin is likely to have used

numerous means to conceal and hide his assets, I am confident the United States will work diligently to unmask his deceptions.

“I continue to believe the United States and our global allies must take the most aggressive stance possible to hold Putin’s government responsible, especially as they extend their war to the Ukraine capital without regard for the civilian casualties they are causing.”

On Wednesday, , Congressman Schiff issued the following statement after Vladimir Putin announced a “special military operation” in Ukraine:

“Over the past few months, as Russia has built a large military force on the border of Ukraine, we have sought to prevent and deter an invasion. It is clear that despite our unified efforts with our allies and Ukraine, Vladimir Putin has chosen war. A massive Russian invasion of Ukraine has begun.

“As President Zelensky said this evening, the people of Ukraine want peace and the right to determine their own future. They will defend their homeland and their freedom from a foreign invader that has come to take it away.

“There can be no certainty about what will come next, but no matter what the next days and weeks bring, the United States will stand with the people of Ukraine - now and always. This begins by moving swiftly beyond the significant sanctions already announced by the Biden administration to fully cutting off Russia’s leading financial institutions from the global economy and ending Europe’s dependence on Russian oil for good.

“History will show this war of choice to be a devastating strategic miscalculation by Putin, one that will give Russia no new security but will stiffen the resolve of NATO and democracies around the world.”

## The Chef Knows *By Peter Dills*

### IS IT CURSED OR....

We all know restaurant locations throughout Sierra Madre and Pasadena that seem to turn over every fall. I have heard the word “cursed” used for several locations many times. For instance, the location on the corner of San Gabriel and Colorado seems to be one that is cursed for sure – it started as the Vault, then it became Rio Rio, then Ta Vu, and then a sushi joint (which I actually loved because the prices were right), then a chicken wing restaurant. Well, I love wings but that didn’t work. For another “cursed” location, remember Jerry’s Famous Deli in Old Pasadena? Let’s name all the restaurants that went through that location: Union Cattle Company, Pasadena Brewing, Brix, Haven Gastro Pub... and it started as a gym!



When interviewing existing owners, they often point the fingers at the landlords saying the rents are too high. The excitement and the confidence of “I’ll do it better” might be too strong of a lure for restaurateurs to handle. I was bewildered when El Chollo moved from Fair Oaks (Old John Bull) to the Paseo. As the building sat empty for a few years, I thought isn’t some rent better than no rent at all? Celebrity Chef Rocco said on his TV show that the mortality rate for restaurants is 90% the first year. My father said he’d rather have open heart surgery than own a restaurant.

Let’s look at this fact: the survival rate is higher than 10%, and these numbers are not specific to our area. Several years ago, researchers at Cornell University and Michigan State University conducted a study of restaurants in three local markets over a 10-year period. They concluded the following: after the first year, 27% of restaurant startups failed; after three years, 50% of those restaurants were no longer in business; and after five years 60% had gone south. At the end of 10 years, 70% of the restaurants that had opened for business a decade before had failed. Those are far different numbers than the 90% first-year failure rate quoted by our television star chef. Another academic research study concluded that 81.4% of all small business failures result from forces within the control of the owners/managers. The bottom line is that even if the failure rate is a little daunting, failure is not inevitable.

Join me on Dining w/Dills, On Tik Tok and Instagram

## LA COUNTY MODIFIES HEALTH OFFICER ORDER TO ALLOW ESTABLISHMENTS, BUSINESSES, AND VENUES VERIFYING VACCINATION STATUS TO MAKE MASKING INDOORS OPTIONAL FOR FULLY VACCINATED INDIVIDUALS BEGINNING FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25

As the county continues to experience reduced COVID-19 spread, it is appropriate to consider fewer required safety measures, noting that vulnerable individuals should continue to layer in all protections possible. Given decreased risk, Public Health has modified the Health Officer Order to allow establishments, businesses, and venues verifying vaccination status to offer optional masking for fully vaccinated individuals. The modified Health Officer Order will be posted today and will go into effect at 12:01am on Friday, February 25.

The vaccines remain highly effective at slowing COVID-19 spread and preventing severe illness. For the week ending February 12, *county residents who were unvaccinated were more than two and half times more likely to be infected when compared to individuals who were fully vaccinated.* When comparing unvaccinated individuals with those vaccinated and fully boosted, unvaccinated people were nearly four times more likely to be infected.

The vaccine also continues to provide very strong protection against hospitalization and death. For the week ending February 12, unvaccinated people were five times more likely to be hospitalized compared to fully vaccinated residents. *Fully vaccinated and boosted individuals were more than 13 times less likely to end up hospitalized compared to unvaccinated people.* And the likelihood of dying was also significantly higher – 13 times higher – for unvaccinated residents compared to residents who were fully vaccinated.

Given lower hospital admissions and the effectiveness of the vaccines in reducing severe illness, changes have been made in the Health Officer Order that allow establishments, businesses, or venues two options for removing masking requirements for fully vaccinated individuals.

**OPTION 1:** Starting Friday, February 25, 2022, establishments, businesses, or venues that want to allow fully vaccinated customers and workers to unmask while indoors must:

Verify that 100% of customers (5 and older) and workers prior to, or upon, entry to indoor spaces: Provide proof of full vaccination against COVID-19, or Provide proof of a recent negative COVID-19 viral test result. Tests for customers must be taken within two days of entry if a PCR test, or one day if an antigen test. Employees will be allowed to submit a negative test result every three days.

Those who are not fully vaccinated or do not show proof of vaccination, are required to provide a negative test, and continue wearing a well-fitting mask while indoors (as required by the state), except when actively eating or drinking.

**OPTION 2:** Starting Friday, February 25, 2022, establishments, businesses, or venues that want to allow their fully vaccinated customers to unmask indoors while all onsite workers remain masked, must:

Verify that 100% of customers (5 and older) prior to, or upon, entry to indoor spaces Provide proof of full vaccination against COVID-19, or Provide proof of a recent negative COVID-19 viral test result. Tests for customers must have been taken within two days of entry if a PCR test or one day if an antigen test. Adhere to the following regarding customers and masking: Fully vaccinated customers may be unmasked in the indoor setting.

*Customers that are not fully vaccinated must continue to wear a well-fitting mask while indoors (as required by the state), except when actively eating or drinking. Any individual showing proof of full vaccination prior to entering can still choose to wear a mask indoors.*

For more information, please visit the Toolkit for Lifting of Indoor Masking Requirement for Fully Vaccinated Customers and Fully Vaccinated Workers.

To reduce spread and keep workplaces and schools open, residents and workers are asked to:

Adhere to masking requirements when indoors or at crowded outdoor spaces, regardless of vaccination status. Remain home when sick, isolate if they test positive and quarantine if they were in close contact with someone with COVID-19. Residents are legally required to isolate themselves away from others if they test positive for COVID-19. Close contacts with symptoms and close contacts who are unvaccinated or not up to date with COVID-19 vaccinations need to follow quarantine requirements. For updated isolation and quarantine guidance, please visit [www.publichealth.lacounty.gov](http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov).

## COVID 19 Cases - It's Not Over Yet!

**WHERE WE ARE W/E 2/23/22 VERSUS LAST WEEK (2/18/22)**  
**Cases/Deaths are still occurring especially among the unvaccinated.**

Cases	This Week	( 02/23/22)	Deaths	This Week (02/18/22)
LA County	2,789,292	(2,777,165)		30,519 (30,216)

LA COUNTY VACCINATIONS AS OF 02/23/2022 (Fully)			
	Adults 12+	87.2%	Seniors 98.9%
(Last Week)	Cases	Deaths	Fully Vaccinated
Arcadia	7,753 (7,700)	161 (160)	90.2%
Altadena	8145 (8121)	91 (89)	82.4%
Bradbury	63 ( 62)	0 ( 0)	71.2%
Duarte	5,065 (5,037)	116 (113)	83.6%
Monrovia	8,093 (8,061)	99 (99)	80.7%
Pasadena	27,554 (27,433 )	397 (397)	85.1%
Sierra Madre	1,483 (1472)	18 ( 16)	89.1%
So.Pasadena	3,878 (3843)	57 ( 53)	94.1%

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THE CATERpillars ARE COMING! 26TH ANNUAL BUTTERFLY SEASON AT KIDSPACE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

A special celebration of the Monarch Butterfly, taking flight March 11

PASADENA, CA The Western monarch butterflies are returning to Southern California, and that's cause for celebration at Kidspace's annual Butterfly Season, running March 11 through May 31.

Only one year ago, researchers sounded alarms about the vanishing monarch after recording a record low population of wintering butterflies in California. This year, scientists report that the monarch is poised for a comeback, and Kid-space is celebrating with hands-on art and science activities for budding naturalists.



"Children have an affinity for nature and wild creatures, and our Butterfly Season invites them to get up close, learn, and actively support threatened butterflies and other pollinators that live in our neighborhoods," said Kidspace CEO Lisa Clements. "This year we're focusing on butterfly life cycle and habitat so that families can participate in supporting migratory species like the Monarch. We've joined forces with the University of Kansas to create a Monarch Waystation at the museum where visitors can learn how to spot, count, and record eggs and caterpillars, which is something they can continue to do at home."

Butterfly Season highlights include:

- Pollinator takeover in Nature Exchange. View live butterflies and honey-bees, learn about the butterfly life cycle, and celebrate the role of pollinators in a healthy ecosystem.
- Bug safaris. Kidspace will provide the magnifying glass and some expert tips; you bring your curiosity and keen creature-spotting skills and join in our search for eggs, caterpillars, and adult insects around campus.
- Create a caterpillar. What kind of fuzzy caterpillar would you like to cre-ate? Shape your creature out of clay, and then add seeds to sprout a fuzzy fel-low of your own to take home.
- Flower showers. You can support pollinators such as butterflies by growing plants that attract and feed them. Grab a watering can and learn about what plants butterflies and other pollinators rely on while helping the flowers grow.
- Fantasy flutter-by play. Dress up like a butterfly, sit in a "chrysalis," and take your picture with a beautiful set of monarch wings.
- Live caterpillar adoptions. They're back! A living science project the whole family (or classroom) will enjoy; raising and releasing native Painted Lady but-terflies. The whole process takes about two weeks from tiny caterpillar through metamorphosis to lovely butterfly, ready to release into nature. Caterpillar adoptions are available onsite through the Kidspace store or online at [store.kidspacemuseum.org](http://store.kidspacemuseum.org). All caterpillars must be picked up in person at the museum. Caterpillars start at just \$6 for one, and care instructions are available online.

In addition to celebrating butterflies and pollinators during Butterfly Season, families can enjoy their favorite Kidspace features including playing in the Interpretive Arroyo Stream and water features, navigating the Ant Tunnel, exploring what's over the rainbow at the top of our Raindrop Climber, and getting hands-on with science in our Physics Forest.

Visit [kidspacemuseum.org](http://kidspacemuseum.org) to reserve tickets for Butterfly Season, included at no additional charge in museum general admission. For the latest announcements and updates, follow Kid-space Children's Museum on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter.

SCHOOL DIRECTORY

Alverno Heights Academy  
200 N. Michillinda Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024  
(626) 355-3463 Head of School: Julia V. Fanara  
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Arcadia High School  
180 Campus Drive Arcadia, CA 91007  
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The Gooden School  
192 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024  
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Head of School, Jo-Anne Woolner  
website: [www.goodenschool.org](http://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](http://www.highpointacademy.org)

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

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

Email: [schools@monrovia.k12.ca.us](mailto:schools@monrovia.k12.ca.us)

Odyssey Charter School  
725 W. Altadena Dr. Altadena, Ca. 91001  
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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  
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Website: [www.st-ritaschool.org](http://www.st-ritaschool.org)

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

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

Pasadena Unified School District  
351 S. Hudson Ave., Pasadena, Ca. 91109  
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Arcadia Unified School District  
234 Campus Dr., Arcadia, Ca. 91007  
(626) 821-8300 Website: [www.ausd.net](http://www.ausd.net)

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

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

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

CITY OF MONROVIA RECEIVES AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Monrovia, California - The California Park & Recreation Society has awarded the City of Monrovia with the 2021 Creating Community Award of Excellence for the Youth Employment Services (YES) Program. Since its inception in 2007, this eight-week summer internship program is aimed at providing meaningful experi-ences for the youth while also investing in tomorrow's workforce.

To prepare the youth for the rigors of a modern business environment, interns are provided with unique, but relevant work experience. Through the City of Monro-via's partnership with local community organizations, interns receive the benefits of real-world work expe-

rience in administrative offices, a science and technology lab, afterschool club for youth and a performing arts studio.

"It is an honor to be recognized across the State of California for such a premier recreation program for our youth," said Larry Spicer, Councilmember and liaison to the Community Services Commission. "We are thankful to our many commu-nity partners who make the YES Program successful. Monrovia Unified School District, Monrovia Chamber of Commerce, Oak Crest Institute of Science, the Boys and Girls Club of the Foothills and Centre Stage, just to name a few."

The YES Program is set apart from the typical summer internships because it connects participants with caring mentors to support their transition into adulthood. These important relationships serve as a safety net for teens who may be struggling to find their way, or feeling overwhelmed with academic challenges and pressure for college admission.

In an effort to diminish the achievement gap, the program provides interns with access to relevant training topics that includes computer skills, public speaking, interview skills, resume development, customer service expectations and personal financial responsibility. The exposure to workforce develop-

ment opportunities, coupled with real-life skills, increases the likelihood of post-secondary education.

The YES Program not only serves just the youth, but the community has seen substantial benefits over the past 13 years. Over 200 interns have graduated from the YES Program with many returning to become recreation leaders with the City of Monrovia, college interns with community organiza-tions or as mentors to others in the program. Overall, the YES Program provides youth with vision for a better personal future and discovery of new pathways for academic and professional suc-cess.

We are choosing snacks that...

...are less sticky and have less sugar.

Kids: color stuff in!

# Newspaper Fun!

www.readingclubfun.com

Animills LLC © 2022 V9

Hey Tiger! What do you know about dental health?

I'm "brushing" up on teeth with all of my new puzzles. My biggest tip for you is to visit your favorite dentist's office twice a year to have your teeth cleaned and checked! Meanwhile, you can "sink your teeth" into my dental puzzles below.

Read the clues to fill in the puzzle:

1. "eating away" of teeth by acids, causing a cavity
2. tool used to remove tooth decay to prepare for a filling
3. flat grinding tooth in the back of the mouth
4. waxed, silky string used to clean between teeth
5. way for dentist to take a picture inside teeth; behind gums
6. the part of the tooth seen inside the mouth
7. sharp front teeth – four on top, four on bottom, used for tearing
8. gel or paste used with toothbrush to clean teeth
9. material used to repair a tooth that has decay
10. mineral treatment that repairs tooth enamel
11. sticky buildup on teeth, harbors bacteria and helps it grow
12. clean teeth twice a day using this
13. little hole in a tooth (due to bacteria)
14. rows of hard, bony, white structures in mouth; grind, bite
15. tool for correcting crooked teeth
16. doctor who specializes in the care of human teeth
17. thin outer covering that protects teeth
18. person who cleans and checks teeth

Flossing takes a few minutes to do, but it keeps your gums healthy.

My teeth are in "ship-sharp" shape!

So many teeth, so little time, but I'll get it done!

Choosing Snacks and Treats

We all need a snack to keep our energy up between meals. Here are a few ideas for healthy treats. Snacks that are less sticky and have less sugar are better for your teeth.

Fill in the blanks below with vowels to spell out good treats:

1. fresh fr \_ \_ ts apples, grapes
2. p \_ pc \_ rn or rice cakes
3. v \_ g \_ t \_ bl \_ sticks – carrots, celery
4. n \_ ts and s \_ \_ ds
5. m \_ lk instead of soda
6. ch \_ \_ s \_ cubes



# Happy Tails

by Chris Leclerc



## IT'S A 'GUESS THE BREED' CONTEST!

Last week I was sitting in front of Mary’s Market when along came a couple I’ve know in town for several years. They are such friendly folks, it was easy to get to know them back when they used to live around the corner from us, and after they bought a bigger house down the road to accommodate their growing family, I continued to see them out and about and happy to say we’ve maintained a cordial, neighborly friendship over the years.

It’s always a pleasure to cross paths with this cute couple, whose names will need to remain anonymous, for now. Let’s just call them “Mom” and “Dad” since that’s how they’re known in their home. We struck up one of those “Hey, how are ya?” kind of conversations that we Sierra Madreans are so famous for, and I took the time to pet their adorable dog. I asked when they got the pup, and they proceeded to share the sweetest story of how it happened that she became such an important part of their lives.

It was during a walk home from getting coffee in town one day in February, 2013 that dad noticed a puppy running around loose on Montecito Ave. The poor thing seemed lost but she was friendly enough. She kept approaching him, so he picked her up and started knocking on doors, trying to find out where she lived. There was no collar, so no ID. She was so vulnerable. He simply could not leave her wondering the streets by herself.

He went house to house until one lady answered the door with the phone to her ear. She’d already called Pasadena Humane Society. Apparently the little dog had been roaming around the neighborhood on-and-off for a few days. He asked to speak to the person on the phone, and was told no one had reported a lost puppy that fit the description. He gave PHS his address as the location where she would be, as he’d already decided he was taking her home.

The PHS person arrived at the house and performed the scan, but no chip was found which meant the poor pup had to go to the shelter for 7 days, to allow ample time for the owner to call in and pick her up - standard protocol in keeping with CA due-diligence law when one finds a lost dog. It was hard to let the puppy go, as you can imagine. But the PHS people promised the couple if the owner did not materialize, they would have 1st dibs at adopting her. So off the little girl went to the shelter. She’d already made such a huge impression on the couple and their kids, there was no way they would miss out on the opportunity to make her their own.

And sure enough, that’s exactly what happened. After that “7-day stay” during which the family paid daily visits to see her, the precious pup finally got to go home with her new forever family where she has been loved, cuddled and cared for ever since! The little cutie got off to a rough start, but she eventually embarked on a life beyond her wildest imagination and her family is over-the-moon to have her. I love pet adoption stories like this, don’t you?

SO, let’s get down to the real focus of this week’s Happy Tail.

Who wants to participate in a “GUESS THE BREED CONTEST”? All are welcome to join in on the fun.

The lost pup in this story was about 6 mos. when she found her forever home, so she’s about 9½ years now. The family has always wondered what breed(s) she is. In 2013, the idea of using DNA to determine a pet’s ancestry wasn’t so much a thing, but it’s practically the norm now and it’s exactly what the family decided to do. The kit was ordered, the sample submitted, and the results are in, but the envelope will not open until March 5th.



NOW it is UP TO YOU to look closely at the photos, read the detailed description, and enter your guess as to what breed(s) you believe this darling dog is made up of. The participant who guesses closest to the actual scientific DNA lab report will win a real nice prize. It’s for real. No joke. READY? SET! GO!

**PHOTOS:**  
Be sure to take a good look at the 3 included photos. For clearer copies, go to this week’s Mountain Views News on-line issue at: [mtnviewsnews.com](http://mtnviewsnews.com) and click on the Just for Best Friends tab.

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:**  
She weighs about 26 lbs. and is approx. 24” long (top of head

to butt) with 8-9” legs and an 8” tail that curls up on her back. She has soft, sort of fluffy hair. Tri-colored; black & white, freckles on legs and nose, beige eyebrows & points.

**TEMPERAMENT:**  
Absolutely the sweetest, most charming little pup you could ever hope to meet. Not an aggressive bone in her body. Awesome with kids and grown-ups alike. Great with other dogs, too.



**CONTEST RULES:**  
E-mail your “guess” entry to me: [chris@canyoncanine.com](mailto:chris@canyoncanine.com) by no later than Wed., March 2, 6 PM. I’ll confirm receipt of your e-mail within 24 hours and add you to the list of contestants.

The actual DNA/breed ID results will be announced in the March 5 issue of Mountain Views News.

The winner will be awarded a \$25 Chewy.com gift certificate, compliments of Canyon Canine Dog Walking

& Pet Sitting. GOOD LUCK GUESSING!

## Katnip News!



### Seeing Double?

These two adorable, 4 month old cuties are described by their foster mom as just "the sweetest kittens!" Named after Marvel superheroes, they are playful and loving, just as kittens are supposed to be when raised with love. To tell them apart, Thor has amazing dark stripes, and Banner has the white nose. They especially like to wrestle and chase that laser light, and Banner loves to watch the birds at the win-dow. They are best buddies, and like to groom each other and cuddle together. Having two bonded kittens is very entertaining and they can keep each other company when you're not around. Adopt these "su-per" boys and put the fun back into your life! Just submit your application at Lifeline for Pets: [www.lifelineforpets.org/cat-adoption-application-revised.html](http://www.lifelineforpets.org/cat-adoption-application-revised.html) where you can see more pictures of Thor and Banner on our Very Young Cats page.



## Pet of the Week

Nine-year-old Jenny is a beautiful orange tabby looking for a calm and quiet forever home. Jenny is a little bit shy, but has been slowly and steadily making progress and coming out of her shell while in our care. Now, she enjoys getting scratches from volunteers, and also really loves catnip and silvertine. Jenny needs a patient adopter who can let her get used to her new home at her own pace. She has lots of love to give!



The adoption fee for cats is \$100. All cat adoptions include spay or neuter, microchip, and age-appropriate vaccines.

New adopters will receive a complimentary health-and-wellness exam from VCA Animal Hospitals, as well as a goody bag filled with information about how to care for your pet. View photos of adoptable pets and schedule an adoption appointment at [pasadenahumane.org](http://pasadenahumane.org). Adoptions are by appointment only, and new adoption appointments are available every Sunday and Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.

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



### Canyon Canine

Dog Walking & Sitting Services  
Sierra Madre, California

## Chris Leclerc

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## CHRISTOPHER Nyerges



### QUIT YOUR COMPLAINING! Youthful Lessons from my Mother

*[Nyerges is an educator and author of such books as "Extreme Simplicity," "Self-Sufficient Home," "How to Survive Anywhere," and many more. Information about his classes and publications can be seen at [www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance.com](http://www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance.com)]*

My mother used to tell us, “Quit your complaining!”

Maybe we wanted something the family couldn’t afford. “Quit your complaining and go out and earn some money,” she’d tell us. We all learned to find creative ways to be youthful entrepreneurs because of my mother.

Maybe we were not happy with our meal. “Quit your complaining,” she’d scold us. “There are millions of people in the world who have nothing to eat. Nothing! Learn to appreciate what you have!”

Maybe we didn’t like the clothes she bought us. “Quit your complaining,” she’d tell us. “Some people can only afford rags! And when you get your own job, you can buy anything in the store that you can afford. In the meantime, quit your complaining.”

Maybe we didn’t like the show my father was watching on the television. We only had one television back then in our big family household, so everyone sat around the TV at night after dinner. If we complained about something my father liked to watch, she’d say “Quit your complaining! Don’t forget who paid for that TV, and who worked all day so you can sit here and watch any tv at all.” Yes, she said that to us! “And if you don’t keep your mouth shut and watch what’s on, you can go do your homework, or go wash the dishes!” she’d tell us. Usually, we all just laughed, and then pretended to enjoy watching what my father was watching, which was usually a news item. Slowly, little by little, I realized that watching what my father was watching was far more likely to enhance my education in world history and politics than Lassie, Bonanza, or Outer Limits.

Sometimes we brothers had the audacity to complain that we didn’t have dessert after dinner. It took me many years to realize that only our friends in the upper economic classes ate dessert after every meal. And they coincidentally had far worse teeth, in general, than all my family. But any time we complained in any way about the food that was always on our table, my mother would say, “Quit your complaining! Don’t you know that people are starving this very night? You should be happy that you have anything to eat at all!” And I was. I was very happy. But this one must have sunk in somehow, because my mother began to teach all of us – all boys – my one sister had moved out early – how to cook cakes, and all manner of desserts and main dishes. At least two of my brothers because very accomplished cooks on par with chefs.

My mother grew up at the end of World War I, lived through the Depression on a farm with her 6 brothers in rural Ohio, and then through World War II. She knew what it meant to stretch a dollar and to not waste things. She understood the value of waste not, need not.

Though she was from the water-rich northeast, she would never waste water. When she needed hot water, she let the first water out of the tap run into a small bucket until the hot water flowed. When that bucket was full, one of us had to empty it outside in the little garden she had outside the kitchen. When we complained about what we thought was a pointless task – after all, why not let the water go down the drain like everyone else did – she said, “Don’t complain! And don’t tell me what other people do. We don’t waste wa-

ter! Why should it go down the drain when we can use it to water our plants?” I could tell that she wanted to open up our young minds and speak to us about the ecology of water, and the necessity of water for humanity to live and to thrive, and she wanted to impart to us the universal reality of something that some call “karma,” meaning that you get what you earn, or deserve, and that if you waste something, you will, sooner or later, find yourself without it. My mother did sometimes, but not often, tell us in a somber voice about those who died during the Depression who had no food or water or the means to get it. Her small seemingly insignificant act of saving water embodied her deep philosophy that water was sacred, and it should not be wasted, ever.

Once, one of my older brothers put his dirty boots on the kitchen table, and she yelled at him to “Get those dirty things off the table!” She never had to repeat that particular lecture because most of us were there, and several after-school friends were there. “Look,” she said, going into a serious tone. “The table, this table, is where we eat. It’s where we put our food. It’s a sacred place! Back home (referring to her Ohio farm), we didn’t always have food, but we knew what it meant to work for our food. Our food, our rain, our well-water, that was our life. We prayed for our life and sustenance, and we kept our part of the bargain by keeping the sacred attitude towards our food, and our treatment of food.” She paused, as if wondering what next to say to teenage boys. “So, this table is where we eat. We come together as a family. We pray before our meals, and we keep this table clean.” She paused and said loudly, “So that means NO BOOTS on the table, ever!”

Growing up on a farm and seeing the thin line between life and death was a reality my mother always tried to impart to us. We could not complain about saving water because we should be appreciating what water we did have, and we should use it wisely. We could not complain about food because food was sacred and we had to be thankful for whatever we had, even if it was scraps. We could not complain about clothing – oh, what a vanity to complain about that. I grew up wearing my older brothers’ hand-me-down garments.

We grew up with the growing ability to see potential, not lack. We slowly understood my mother’s perspective, and never (after the first time) asked her for money to do or buy something. We knew what she would always say: “Yes you can buy that! Go out and earn the money that you need.”

After all these years, with the lessons from my mother very fresh, I bristle whenever I hear associates who do nothing but complain about this or that, especially if they have no constructive ideas.

I remember talking to an immigrant to the U.S. who came here from Mexico, overcoming many hardships along the way. He told me something that seemed reminiscent of what my mother would say, “You Americans don’t seem to realize it, but most of you are millionaires by world standards. I don’t mean that you have a million dollars, necessarily, but you expect running water in every home, hot and cold. You expect a working flush toilet in every home. You expect electricity and gas in every home, so you have lights, heating, and a way to cook and you’re your clothes. I never had or expected any of those things,” this Mexican friend told me. And because he had lived with such want, he was far more deeply appreciative of all the expectations of American life, things that far too many Americans simply take for granted without due appreciation.

Those fellow Americans who complain endlessly while living in a culture of such material abundance are living in the greatest mental poverty possible.



## CAN COVID-19 CAUSE SHINGLES?

Dear Savvy Senior:

How effective is the shingles vaccine and what is the CDC recommendation for getting it? My older brother and sister, both in their fifties, got COVID a few months back followed by shingles. Do you know if there is a connection between these viruses, and would the shingles vaccine have protected them? Scared of Shingles

Dear Scared:

Great question! Many healthcare professionals across the country have been urging their older patients to get the shingles vaccine (in addition to the COVID-19 vaccinations) during the pandemic because getting COVID-19 can increase your chances of developing shingles. And the more severe case of COVID you get, the greater your risk for shingles.

The reason for this is because when you contract COVID-19 your immune system becomes compromised fighting off the virus, which gives shingles – a virus that already exist in your body if you’ve had chickenpox – a chance to reactivate.

Here’s what you should know about shingles, the shingles vaccine, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations.

*What are Shingles?*

Shingles, also known as herpes zoster, is a burning, blistering skin rash that affects around 1 million Americans each year. The same virus that causes chickenpox causes shingles. What happens is the chickenpox virus that most people get as kids never leaves the body. It hides in the nerve cells near the spinal cord and, for some people, emerges later in the form of shingles.

In the U.S., about one out of every three people will develop shingles during their lifetime. While anyone who’s had chickenpox can get shingles, it most commonly occurs in people over age 50, along with people who have weakened immune systems. But you can’t catch shingles from someone else.

Early signs of the disease include pain, itching or tingling before a blistering rash appears several days later, and can last up to four weeks. The rash typically occurs on one side of the body, often as a band of blisters that extends from the middle of your back around to the breastbone. It can also appear above an eye or on the side of the face or neck.

In addition to the rash, about 20 to 25 percent of those who get shingles go on to develop severe nerve pain (postherpetic neuralgia, or PHN) that can last for months or even years. And in rare cases, shingles can also cause strokes, encephalitis, spinal cord damage and vision loss.

*Shingles Vaccine*

The vaccine for shingles called Shingrix (see Shingrix.com) provides much better protection than the old shingles vaccine, Zostavax.

Manufactured by GlaxoSmithKline, Shingrix is 97 percent effective in preventing shingles in people 50 to 69 years old, and 91 percent effective in those 70 and older.

Shingrix also does a terrific job of preventing nerve pain that continues after a shingles rash has cleared – about 90 percent effective.

Because of this protection, the CDC recommends that everyone age 50 and older, receive the Shingrix vaccine, which is given in two doses, separated by two to six months.

Even if you’ve already had shingles, you still need these vaccinations because reoccurring cases are possible. The CDC also recommends that anyone previously vaccinated with Zostavax be revaccinated with Shingrix.

You should also know that Shingrix can cause some adverse side effects for some people, including muscle pain, fatigue, headache, fever and upset stomach.

Shingrix – which averages around \$205 for both doses – is covered by most private health insurance plans including Medicare Part D prescription drug plans, but there may be a cost to you depending on your plan. Contact your insurer to find out.

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



## FAMILY MATTERS

By Marc Garlett

## UPDATING YOUR ESTATE PLAN FOR DIVORCE: 5 CHANGES TO MAKE

Even if the process is amicable, divorce can be one of life’s most stressful events. With so many major changes taking place, it’s easy to forget to update your estate plan—or simply put it off until it’s too late. After all, dealing with yet another lawyer is probably the last thing you want to do.

However, neglecting to update your estate plan for divorce can have potentially tragic consequences. And you shouldn’t wait until the divorce is final to rework your plan—you should update it as soon as you realize the split is inevitable.

Here’s why: Your marriage is legally still in full effect until your divorce is final, so if you die or become incapacitated while your divorce is ongoing and haven’t changed your estate plan, your soon-to-be ex-spouse could wind up with complete control over your life and/or assets.

Keep in mind, however, that in California, only select estate planning documents can be changed after filing for divorce. And for some of those, you’ll need court involvement for changes to take effect. In addition, there are still other estate planning documents you cannot change while a divorce is pending.

1. *Change Your Power of Attorney Documents*

Unless you want your soon-to-be ex-spouse to make all your legal, financial, and medical decisions in the event of your incapacity, you need to update your power of attorney documents as soon as divorce is inevitable. All adults over age 18 should have both a durable financial power of attorney and a medical power of attorney in place.

A durable financial power of attorney allows you to grant an individual of your choice the legal authority to make financial and legal decisions on your behalf should you become unable to make such decisions yourself. Similarly, a medical power of attorney grants someone the legal authority to make your healthcare decisions in the event of your incapacity.

2. *Change Your Beneficiary Designations*

As soon as you know you are getting divorced, you should update the beneficiary designations for assets that do not pass through a will or trust, such as life insurance policies and retirement accounts. Failing to update your beneficiaries can lead to serious trouble down the road, and unfortunately, we see this happen all the time.

If you get remarried following your divorce, for example, but you haven’t changed the beneficiary of your 401(k) to name your new spouse, the ex you divorced 10 years ago could end up with your retirement account upon your death. And since there are often restrictions on changing beneficiary designations once a divorce is filed, the timing of your beneficiary change is particularly critical.

3. *Create a New Will*

Because most married couples name each other as their executor and the primary beneficiary of their estate, it’s important to name a new person to fill these roles as soon as you decide to get a divorce. Also, when creating a new will, rethink how you want your assets divided upon your death.

Keep in mind, California has community-property laws which entitle your surviving spouse to a certain percentage of the marital estate upon your death, regardless of what your will says. Considering this, you should create your new will as soon as you realize divorce is inevitable to ensure you retain control over the remaining percentage of your estate should you pass away while your divorce is still ongoing.

4. *Amend Your Existing Trust or Create A New One*

If you have a revocable living trust, you’ll also want to update it as soon as divorce becomes inevitable. In addition to reconsidering what assets your soon-to-be-ex spouse should receive through the trust, you’ll probably want to replace him or her as successor trustee, if they are so designated.

And if you don’t have a trust in place, you should seriously consider creating one, especially if you have minor children. Trusts provide an array of benefits that are unavailable with a will, and they’re particularly well-suited for blended families. Given the possibility that both you and your spouse may eventually get remarried—and perhaps have more children—trusts are an invaluable way to protect and manage the assets you want your children to inherit.

5. *Revisit Your Estate Plan Once Your Divorce is Final*

During the divorce process, your primary objective is limiting your soon-to-be ex’s control over your life and assets should you die or become incapacitated before divorce is final. For this reason, the individuals to whom you grant power of attorney, name as trustee, designate to receive your 401(k), or add to your estate plan in any other way while the divorce is ongoing are often just temporary.

Once the divorce is final and your marital property has been divided up, you should revisit all your estate planning documents and update them accordingly based on your new asset profile and living situation. From there, your plan should continuously evolve along with your life circumstances, particularly following major life events, such as getting remarried, having additional children, or when family members pass away.

*Get Started Right Away*

Although it may be tempting to put off changing your estate plan when you are going through a divorce, especially if the process is contentious, you can’t afford to wait. If you delay updating your estate plan, even just for a few days, it can make it legally impossible to change certain parts of your plan during your divorce. And if you’ve yet to create any estate plan at all, an impending divorce is crucial reason to finally take care of this important responsibility.

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## OUT TO PASTOR

A Weekly Religion Column by Rev. James Snyder

## WHAT A CRAZY WORLD WE LIVE IN



Driving home from an appointment across town, my wife and I encountered some crazy driver weaving in and out on the road in

front of us. The fact that there was not an accident was somewhat surprising.

“What,” The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage exclaimed, “is wrong with people?”

Looking at her and laughing, I said, “People today are crazy!”

Together we laughed, knowing it was true. If there ever has been a time that people were crazy, it is today.

What a crazy world we live in these days. Just when you think it can’t get any crazier, it does.

We went shopping at the grocery store one day, and when we came out and got into our vehicle, I was laughing. My wife looked at me and said, “What are you laughing about?”

“That lady in there,” I said, still laughing, “was wearing the craziest dress that I’ve ever seen. She sure was crazy.” And I laughed some more.

She looked at me, smiled and said, “You do know that was not a woman, don’t you?”

The smile disappeared from my face, and I just stared at her and said, “You got to be kidding?”

I agree that people aren’t what they seem to be in real life. There appears to be a crazy virus, and it comes out just a little different for each individual.

It’s hard to comprehend the level of craziness that is in our world today. A mask cannot control this crazy virus, but it’s a start to cover up that crazy face.

There was some Hollywood celebrity; I don’t know who, but when they had their baby said that they would wait until the baby was old enough to make its own decision as to its gender. When I first heard that, I thought they were making a joke, but then I found out they were very serious about it.

When I heard that, I felt sorry for the baby that had to grow up in such a crazy family. If they are crazy about this, what else are they crazy about?

It seems to me that each generation has its own definition of crazy. Each generation gets crazier with their definition probably to out-crazy the former generation.

Of course, as The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage reminds me, nobody could handle me if there were not so many crazy people out there to compare. So, I think by that “nobody,” she was referring to herself.

I admit that in certain areas, I am crazy. But, of course, some think I’m crazy all the way through, which may be entirely accurate.

Someone told me, “One’s crazy is another person’s laughter.” The crazy people out there in

the world cause so much laughter.

I’m not sure how you would define crazy. Each person has a different strain of craziness. The best way to define crazy is something that looks and sounds odd to the person watching and listening.

Someone may be looking at me, thinking I’m crazy. But, of course, to a certain degree, they are correct. Everybody is crazy in their own right. So we have a right to be crazy.

As long as my crazy doesn’t adversely affect someone else, what’s the harm?

I learned a long time ago not to be offended when someone refers to me as crazy. Most of my relatives refer to me as crazy, but I’m never offended.

Just the other day, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage suggested that crazy was inherited. Therefore, it’s not my fault that I’m crazy. I can think of several uncles and cousins that are as crazy as crazy can be.

Growing up with these relatives around me, I did not know or understand that their craziness would rub off on me. I just laughed at them and walked away, thinking I was okay.

As I studied my family heritage, I realized that although crazy is inherited through family links, I have an opportunity to choose my crazy. I never thought about that before. But, I am as crazy as I choose to be.

The only challenge I see, at least for me, is the ability to control me and my crazy. I don’t want my crazy to control me and get me into trouble I can’t handle. But I want to understand my crazy and then use it for profitable purposes.

There is somebody out there in the world who needs to experience me and my crazy to feel good about themselves. They can look at me and think, “I may be crazy, but at least I’m not that crazy.” If I can do that each day, I’m doing an incredible amount of work for the human population.

So, the last few years, I’ve been trying to hone my crazy to have at least some positive results with the people around me.

Thinking about this and looking back over the last few years some of my encouragement has come from people who I first thought were just being crazy. Sometimes crazy does have a purpose.

I thought about a special versus Scripture that addresses this. “Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do” (1 Thessalonians 5:11).

I don’t have to know who I’m encouraging but sometimes my crazy activities do in fact encourage somebody along the way. Only in heaven will I realize how many people I have encouraged this way.

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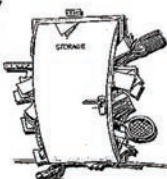
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Mountain Views News has been adjudicated as a newspaper of General Circulation for the County of Los Angeles in Court Case number GS004724: for the City of Sierra Madre; in Court Case GS005940 and for the City of Monrovia in Court Case No. GS006989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

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Letters to the editor and correspondence should be sent to:

Mountain Views News  
80 W. Sierra Madre Bl.  
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Sierra Madre, Ca.  
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Newspaper  
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Association

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STUART TOLCHIN PUT THE LIGHTS ON



AGE ADJUSTMENT

Last Saturday, as I walked down the hill into the town center. I was invited to sit down with two older guys seated at an outside table. I don't why they invited me to sit down but I welcomed the opportunity to take a breather. Over the years the walk from my home up in the canyon down to the town center has become increasingly exhausting. In fact I now telephone my wife to come to my aid and come and get me.

There is a fact that makes this possible. Cell phones allow me to make the call which will be received because my wife almost always has her phone with her. The existence of the cellphone has resulted in an adjustment in my attitude about long walks and I am much healthier as a result. Nevertheless I have to adjust to the fact that I am now an old person. Although I shy away from mirrors I am pretty sure that I look like a wrinkled white-haired old person walking slowly with my hands behind my back. When and how this happened I don't know. Inside I feel almost exactly the same; it's only when I try to do anything that I notice the difference. You know getting out of the car is difficult; putting on my socks is impossible, and for some reason my clothes are always wanting to stay inside out.

Let me try and explain. I am now, after 57 years of practice, a retired lawyer. When you are a practicing lawyer you are used to be taken seriously. Lawyers advise people, explain things and make predictions and stand up in front of audiences and make opening and closing arguments. All that changes with retirement, at least it has for me. My successful lawyer daughter, probably wisely, rarely asks for my advice. I have no new clients asking for my direction. I become aware of this when very occasionally an old client will call and ask my opinion about something. This feels good but is not the way I am now treated by the world at large.

I still want to be taken seriously and write these articles in the hope of having a positive effect upon the world.

Of course, now that I am retired I have the time to make other adjustments including a willingness to enter into conversation with people of very different beliefs and attitudes. Returning to the conversation I had with the two strangers last Saturday, in just a few minutes it became clear that we had very different political attitudes. What I remember now about the conversation was that these two men were Republicans who believe white people were now being discriminated against and that Critical Race Theory was intended to make white people feel guilty. The men said that all people who were homeless did that by choice. Uncharacteristically I did not get up and scream. We kept talking and I gave each of them a copy of the papers from the stand next to us which contained an article of mine discussing similar concerns. One of the men actually read it or parts of it. Afterwards both men said that they were there every Saturday and would enjoy talking with me again. Who knows? Maybe I will –let's face it; after a long walk I can always use a place to sit down, especially if there are people to talk with. More importantly, there is a kind of progress that can result.

If we can agree upon what is factual, our attitudes may well be affected. The men stated their belief that continuing residential racial segregation was the result of personal preferences to choose to live around similar people. This, I believe can be shown to be factually untrue. Governmental policies refusing GI loans to minority people and a policy of redlining limiting minority people to less desirable areas have caused tremendous problems. Not only are minorities deprived of decent schools, employment opportunities, and adequate health services but also they have been prevented from acquiring the equity in their homes which would allow for economic advancement. There are factual connections. I am old enough to realize that attitudes do not change overnight and that facts are needed to support or modify beliefs. I think it is possible to bring about common factual understanding through actual discussion.

Politics should not be a religion requiring rigid adherence but rather should be an attempt to factually examine social conditions. This, I believe, is a necessary adjustment which should be undertaken by people of all ages—even old ones like me.

JOHN MICEK



BULLIES LIKE PUTIN UNDERSTAND ONE LANGUAGE

If this were an ordinary column, I'd offer some neat prescription or exhort policymakers to take action on the solution to the crisis happening in Ukraine that's staring them in the face.

But the truth is that I don't have a pithy solution or a soundbite-sized call to action as the United States and its allies confront a humanitarian disaster in the making.

There are no easy answers. The fact that we are even in this place to begin with is the fruit of two decades of failures and missteps, across presidential administrations, to bring Russian strongman Vladimir Putin to heel.

I do, however, know one thing: There is only one language that a bully and murderous thug such as Putin understands. And if our nation and elected leaders truly are serious about defending liberal democracy in Ukraine and around the world, they have to speak loudly, and with one voice, and tell Putin he can go no further.

I realize this is far easier said than done. It's hard enough for the United States to speak with one voice at home on the most basic of issues.

It is a problem exacerbated by our polarized politics and the sad reality that there's a whole segment of one of the major political parties that has proven, through its actions on Jan. 6 and beyond, that it has little to no interest in democratic norms. It can appallingly dismiss the carnage of that horrible day as an exercise in legitimate political discourse, and actively try to erase from its ranks those who think otherwise.

I am also painfully aware of the kind of reality distortion field that must be erected to decry Putin's loss of choice in Ukraine, even as the specter of three decades of American misadventures in the Persian Gulf and a war of choice in Iraq glares over our collective shoulder.

But it's clear that every tool in the international community's arsenal, short of direct force, has to be deployed as Putin tries to reset the international order that traces its origins to the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 and the collapse of the former Soviet Union that followed just a few years later. Make no mistake, that is his goal – a resurgent Russia that stands above the west.

On Thursday, President Joe Biden piled more sanctions on Russia, decrying Putin's "brutal assault" on Ukraine and its people. The Pentagon ordered an additional 7,000 soldiers to Europe, a move that cheered allies but surely sent a shudder through American military families already weary of more than two decades of continuous war.

On Thursday, a veteran armed forces officer told me that they were closely watching developments in Ukraine unfold, and the Pentagon's response to it.

The officer, who spoke on condition of anonymity, so that they could speak freely, said a U.S. response could start with such rapidly deployable forces as the 82nd Airborne Division, as was the case with the evacuation of Kabul Airport last year. Indeed, elements of the 82nd already have deployed to Poland, according to published reports.

A military response is surely the least palatable and most potentially catastrophic option. History teaches that ground engagements with the Russians never end well.

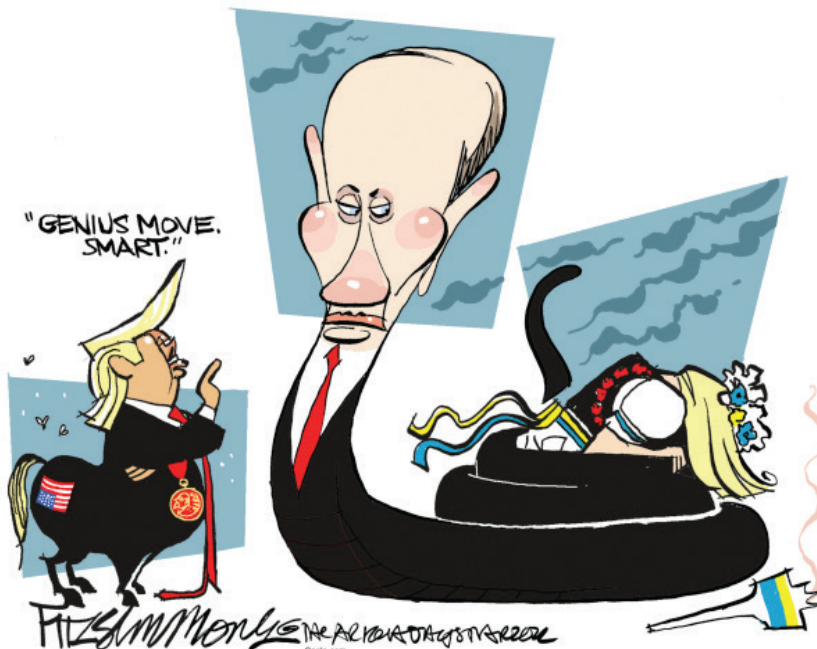
As one expert notes, that currently does not appear to be in the cards. Instead, "the U.S. is rallying the world to isolate Russia through economic sanctions and to respond to cyber attacks," analyst Jon Hutson wrote on Twitter.

And with Putin muttering threateningly about nuclear strikes if the west launches reprisal attacks, according to The Telegraph, the West cannot engage in similar saber-rattling. That's effectively how Europe blundered into World War I.

Still, there's no middle ground here. This is a battle between good and evil.

"Everything that the Kremlin says is a lie. Please don't both sides this," podcaster and analyst Terrell Jermaine Starr wrote on Twitter on Thursday. "Putin is killing innocent people and Ukraine did nothing to deserve it."

That's a message that needs to be repeated over and over again. An award-winning political journalist, John L. Micek is Editor-in-Chief of The Pennsylvania Capital-Star in Harrisburg, Pa.



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PRESIDENTIAL PETS

You can blame my daughter, Olivia, for the content of this column. She suggested I talk about presidential pets. Wow! What a great idea. I mean, how better to judge the character of a president than by analyzing the kinds of pets they surround themselves with.

Now you might think most chief executives had dogs. You'd be wrong. Jefferson didn't. And neither did 17 other presidents. Joe Biden gets credit for having the first shelter rescue dog to live at the White House. A German Shepherd named Major. Or, is that his rank. Don't know. He'll probably be called General before too long. The Biden's also welcomed Willow the cat. Do pets get secret service protection?

President Obama made a campaign promise to daughters Sasha and Malia. A Presidential puppy. And daddy delivered Bo, a male Portuguese Water Dog (a gift from Ted Kennedy). In 2013 the Obamas adopted Sunny, a female Portuguese Water Dog.

Four presidents had no pets at all. Donald Trump, Chester Arthur, Franklin Pierce, and Millard Fillmore. How can you get elected without having at least one pet?

Six presidents had parrots. George Washington had a parrot. So did Madison, Jackson, Grant, Roosevelt and McKinley.

A Fascinating paradox is the only president to have an elephant was a democrat, James Buchanan. And the only president to have a donkey was a republican, Calvin Coolidge. A donkey and a elephant? It makes me wonder what other exotic animals have taken up residence at the White House.

Let's see: I wonder if John Quincy Adams took his pet alligator out for walks down Pennsylvania Avenue? He had one. Martin Van Buren had two tiger cubs. Andrew Johnson, white mice. Ulysses S. Grant had goats and geese.

The two presidents that take the cake at having the most presidential pets. Teddy Roosevelt and Calvin Coolidge. (Both republicans, hhhmmmm)

Get this: Calvin Coolidge had a terrier, sheepdog, bulldog, shepherd, birder, 4 collies, and 2 chows. Added to that he had 3 canaries, 3 cats, 2 raccoons, a donkey, bobcat, thrush, a goose, mockingbird, a bear, pygmy hippo, an antelope, and a wallaby. Oh and don't forget the lion cubs.

Teddy Roosevelt, no slouch in the pet department, befriended a retriever, Pekingese, mutt, 2 terriers, 2 cats, a badger, pony, macaw, snakes, 12 horses, 5 bears, 5 guinea pigs, rats, lizards, roosters, an owl, flying squirrel, raccoon, a coyote, a lion, hyena and a zebra.

The names of some of these presidential pets are too good to pass up. Grant named one of his horses Jeff Davis (all you Civil War buffs will get it). James Garfield had Veto the dog. And Abraham Lincoln had Jack the turkey. Isn't this all just fascinating? Anybody? Anybody?

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Luther and his team will immerse themselves in their clients’ needs and design a plan to help them accomplish their most important objectives.

Luther’s approach to business is not just business; it is ensuring that his clients maximize their investment to its fullest potential as well as acting as trusted confidants, being attentive to their clients’ needs and working side by side with them throughout the process to eliminate the guesswork.

Luther and his wife, Georgina, have been long time residents of San Gabriel Valley. Proud parents to Lidia, they feel the close-knit atmosphere is the perfect match for their family lifestyle.

Their strong connection to their community doesn’t stop there. Luther and Georgina both get tremendous satisfaction from helping troubled children get their lives back on track as well as participating in their local senior center. They both also stay active in their church as another way to make a positive impact in the community they are so bonded to.

True to his dedicated nature, Luther offers every client a revolutionary 100% satisfaction guarantee. If his clients are not completely satisfied with their performance during the purchase or sale of their home or property, Luther will gladly refund his portion of the commission.

It is uncommon to find a professional who would make an offer like this, but Luther does not believe in just meeting expectations, he believes in exceeding them!

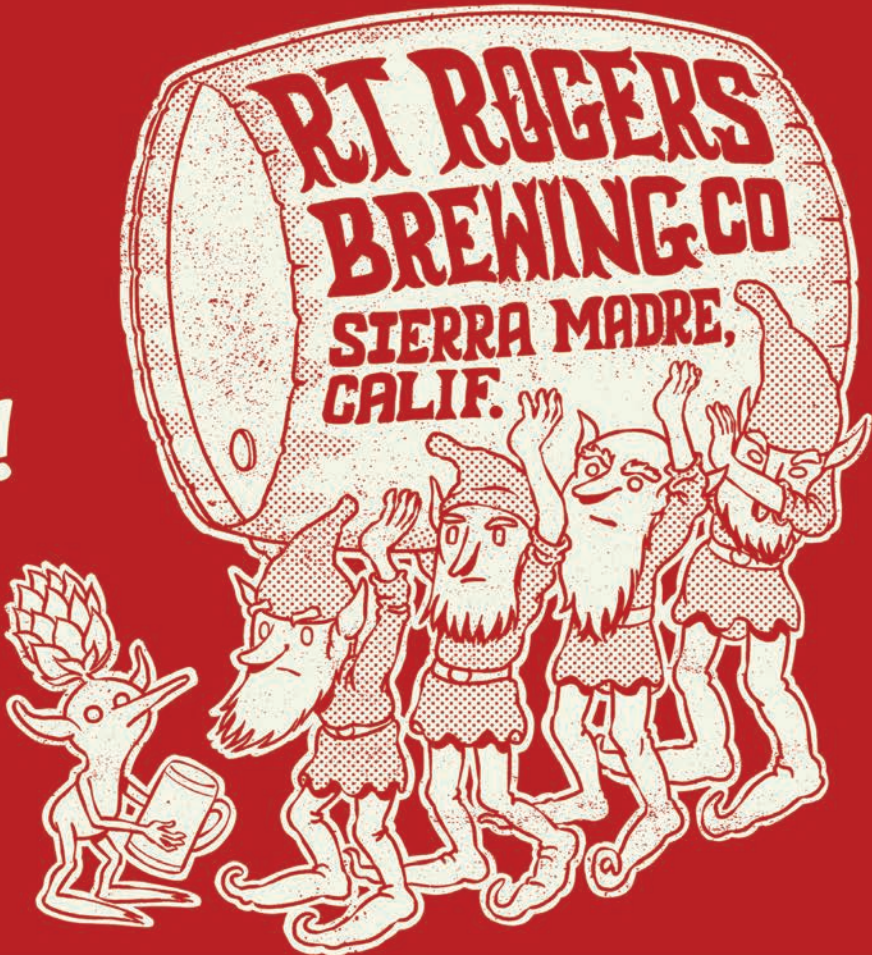
Certifications:

CRS – Certified Residential Specialist  
GRI – Graduate REALTOR Institute  
SRES – Seniors Real Estate Specialist Broker’s License: 01135433  
Specialty: Residential & Income Properties  
Designation: CRS, GRI, SRES  
Languages: English, Greek



Live  
Music,  
Food,  
& Beer!

Fun  
Family  
Outdoor  
Event!



4th Anniversary Celebration  
Saturday, March 5th 12 NOON to 6PM

FOOD VENDORS:

**Baby Come Back  
Ribs & Pupusas**  
[@babycomebackribsandpupusas](https://www.babycomebackribsandpupusas.com)

**Lord  
Empanada**  
[@lordempanadala](https://www.lordempanadala.com)

MUSIC: Owen Dara MC

**Jim & Polly, Stepwise,  
Lightnin Willie, and Rees Finley,**  
Sound by Adrian Camp of 210 East Sound

LOCAL BUSINESSES:

**Rock n’ Rollers**  
**Java Madre Coffee Roaster**  
**Madre Made Bake Co.**  
**WoodHill Designs**  
**Sierra Madre Playhouse**  
**Ohmonah, Original Art, Clothier**  
**Jaime O’Brian Skin Care**  
**Chantry 1975, Candles & Pottery**

38 E Montecito Ave, # 1, Sierra Madre, CA {More info at: [rtrbrew.com](https://www.rtrbrew.com)}



JOIN  
US  
THIS  
WEEKEND!

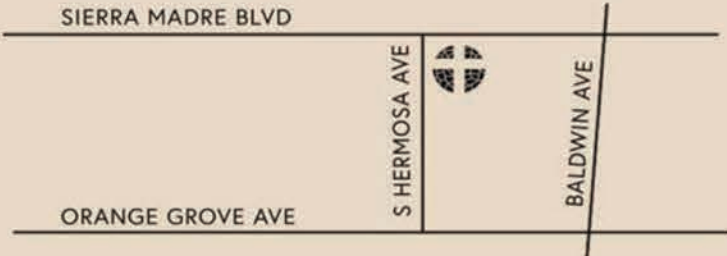


CHRIST CHURCH  
SIERRA MADRE



SERVICE TIMES  
  
Sundays  
9a & 10:45a  
  
or join us online  
[christchurchsm.org/live](https://christchurchsm.org/live)

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



[CHRISTCHURCHSM.ORG](https://CHRISTCHURCHSM.ORG)



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