

# Mountain Views News

Sierra Madre Arcadia Duarte Monrovia Pasadena Altadena South Pasadena San Marino

SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2022

VOLUME 16 NO. 15



the webb-martin group



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DATE: Saturday, April 23rd

TIME: 8:30am to 2:00pm

PLACE: 30 North Baldwin Avenue, Sierra Madre, CA 91024

## AREA MARKET REPORT JAN-MARCH 2022

Sierra Madre

### Single-Family Homes Averages

Address	Beds	Baths	SF	SF Lot	List Price	Sold Price	Price SF
Averages-Jan-March 2022	3	3	2,124	12,983	\$1,536,457	\$1,685,789	\$879
Averages-Jan-March 2021	3	3	2,036	11,072	\$1,266,656	\$1,250,416	\$659

### Condominiums Homes Averages

Address	Beds	Baths	SF	List Price	Sold Price	Price SF
Averages-Jan-March 2022	2	2	1,213	\$775,725	\$788,750	\$650
Averages-Jan-March 2021	2	3	1,318	\$775,725	\$811,000	\$624

Prices of Single-Family Homes in Sierra Madre were up by a **whopping 34% for the 1st quarter of 2022.**

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We continue to be so **appreciative of all our clients** whom we have been able to support. Despite everything, we are **NEVER too busy to support** you. Feel free to reach out to any of us with questions about the market and/or **if you are interested in moving forward with selling or buying a home.**



## PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING DRAWS OVERFLOW AUDIENCE

On Tuesday, April 5, 2022, the Sierra Madre Planning Commission had just one item on the agenda - A public hearing on The Meadows At Bailey Canyon development. The hearing drew more than 150 people advocating their position on the project and at times, advocates on both sides of the issue expressed their concerns with considerable passion.

The project which has been the subject of controversy for years. At Tuesday's hearing, it was recommended that the Planning Commission review the applications submitted by The Congregation of the Passion, Mater Dolorosa Community, in partnership with New Urban West, Inc., to construct 42 single-family detached residential units referred to as the "The Meadows at Bailey Canyon Specific Plan."

City staff recommended, "based upon substantial evidence presented to the Planning Commission during the public hearings conducted with regard to this Project", that the Commission

- Certify the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and adopt the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program; and
- Approve amendments to the General Plan and Land Use Map and Zoning Code and Zoning Map to change the project site from Institutional to Single-Family Residential Specific Plan Overlay; and
- Approve the Specific Plan;

- and
- Approve the Lot Line Adjustment, and
- Approve the Development Agreement. The recommendation may be made pursuant to applicable findings pursuant to Planning Commission Resolutions 22-10 and 22-11, included herein."

Once the commission votes on those items, they will be sent to the city council for final approval or rejection.

The meeting went on for more than 4 hours which included input from all involved with the project including representatives of the Monastery, Consultants involved with the project, New Urban West and Dudek and city staff. In addition there was a lengthy public comment period where both opponents and supporters of the project spoke.

In the end, the commission requested additional information so that they could "see what the project will look like" as it relates to the proposed changes. Arrangements will be made for commissioners to go to the project site and be able to compare what is being proposed versus what currently exists. The visit will be compliant with Brown Act regulations.

It was unanimously agreed that no decisions would be made at that time. The hearing was continued until May 5, 2022. Chairman Pesvner adjourned the meeting shortly after 11 pm.

## SMPD DEESCALATES POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS SITUATION



Around 4pm Friday afternoon, Sierra Madre Police were called to the K-Petrol gas station at the corner of Baldwin and Sierra Madre Blvd. after a customer become a threat to the station owners and patrons.

According to witnesses, the man, in his 20's appeared to become extremely agitated and threatened to physically harm the station owners when they tried to address his concerns. He threatened anyone who tried to calm him down.

Eventually, according to the proprietor, Abar Artenyan, the man did leave only to return about 15 minutes later more agitated, making demands on the staff and pushing at least one customer who was transacting business inside. He also threatened to "kill" Artenyan.

At that point the Sierra Madre PD was called. According to Lt. Barrientos, the man was in an apparent 'state of mental decline'. SMPD was able to ascertain that he had been off his medication and was believed to be suffering from schizophrenia and bi-polar dysfunction.

The young man was remanded into custody for mental health evaluation where he will receive the appropriate treatment.

He was not a resident of Sierra Madre.

The owners of the station did not want to press charges as it was clear that "by the things he was saying and doing, and the rage he was in, that he had some type of mental or drug problem", said Artenyan.

SMPD undoubtedly relied on some of the training they received last year for dealing with mental health issues when responding to calls for service.

The training, facilitated by the LA County Sheriff's Department was ordered by Chief Rod Armalin late in 2021 to further help SMPD officers when dealing with mental health issues as they respond to calls for assistance and to teach SMPD the latest techniques when deescalating situations.

MVNNews

## SIERRA MADRE POLICE DEPARTMENT BANKING ON A NEW HOME



### Overcrowding causes push for relocation

By Kevin McGuire

During a special meeting, City Council authorized the purchase of the property at 350 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. with the vision that it will be a new facility for Police and some public safety operations in the city.

The building is the site of the old Bank of America, which sits adjacent to Pantorium Cleaners and directly across from Tacos Ensenada on N. Lima St. and W. Sierra Madre Blvd. The property, over 9,000 square feet, will give the Police Department the extra space they need compared to the current, cramped situation at 242 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., that they share with the Fire Department. The Fire Department will remain at its current location.

For many years, Sierra Madre prided itself on an all-volunteer Fire Department, and the current location served its purpose. In 2019, the department switched to full-time employees. Chief Brent Bartlett cited many concerns the department faces now, including lack of locker space to store equipment and gear and minimum toilets and shower facilities. "Both public safety departments have outgrown the building, especially combined," Chief Bartlett stated. The Chief also mentioned the need to move away from dorm-style sleeping arrangements and have separate areas for staff to sleep, especially in the age of COVID-19. Sleeping with masks on became the norm during the peak of the pandemic.

The 242 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. firehouse dates back 50 years when there weren't as many female firefighters, and updates must be made to accommodate everyone. Staff currently uses their one common room for eating, training, meetings, and education. They are in need of more storage space for equipment, paperwork, and medical supplies.

Police Chief Roderick Armalin articulated many of the same concerns with overcrowding, adding health and safety concerns. "Employees need spaces when they need a minute to get away and de-stress and get themselves together to deal with some of their issues," Chief Armalin

stated. The Police department has expanded in the last few years with a few more part-time positions filled. Chief Armalin pointed out the cramped spaces citing that some officers have no lockers, the female facilities are inadequate, and the small dispatch station lacks privacy as public members can hear police calls in the background.

After some discussion, City Council unanimously and enthusiastically authorized the purchase of the Bank of America building for \$3.4 million, plus closing costs, in two installments.

Approximately \$2.1 million will come from surplus budgeted revenue, the rest from the General Fund. Bank of America would have to agree and sign the sale agreement. Once complete, an environmental impact report will be required. If all goes well, the building could be in escrow by May 28th.

### UPDATE BREAKING NEWS:

On Friday, April 8, 2022, the City of Sierra Madre issued a press release regarding the purchase which included the following statement:

"The City learned that its purchase offer had been accepted and on April 5, 2022 the Council met in a Special meeting to authorize the City to pay \$3.4 million plus closing costs for the purchase of the Property. The building is being considered as the new location for the Sierra Madre Police Department and will require some renovations to conform with ADA requirements.

As a condition of acquisition, the Planning Commission is required to find that the acquisition is consistent with the City's General Plan. The Planning Commission must adopt a resolution regarding general plan consistency before the close of escrow.

Mayor Goss stated that, "prudent financial decisions by the last City Council and the current Council have built City reserves and make it possible to manage this purchase.

This purchase will move our City ahead in a historic way. To be able to make this type of investment is a statement about the importance of public safety in our community."

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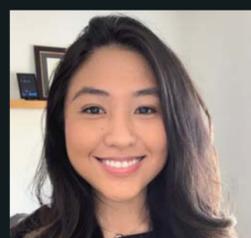
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Sierra Madre | Contemporary Craftsman Listed at **\$2,499,000**

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## 4TH OF JULY COMMITTEE SEEKS GRAND MARSHAL NOMINATIONS

Does some you know go above and beyond to help the community? Is there in your opinion a Sierra Madre Super Hero?

The Volunteer Sierra Madre 4th of July Committee looking for extortionary Sierra Madreans as the next Sierra Madre 4th of July Grand Marshal. The Parade will be held as always the morning of July 4th.

Parade Grand Marshal Nominees should embody the spirit of Sierra Madre, be an active volunteer in any of the local nonprofit organizations, schools or overall community and in some way contributed to the betterment of Sierra Madre. Nominees may be an individual or volunteers or an organization.

Nominations must be submitted in writing by Friday, April 29th and should be sent to the 4th of July Committee, PO Box 1073 Sierra Madre CA 91025 or emailed to 4thofjulysieramadre@gmail.com. Nominations should be no more than 1 page but at least a paragraph explaining why the honor should be given including contributions to the Sierra Madre community.

Previous Grand Marshals have included 2021, The Buccaneer Lounge, 2020-SM Thrives, 2019-Bud Switzer, 2018 Steve Heydorff, 2017 Derek Podrebarac, 2016 Pete Siberell and Hometown Hero Kris Lowe, 2015 Clem and Nina Bartolai, 2014 Pat & DeAlcorn & Hometown Heroes Sierra Madre Search and Rescue, 2013 VFW Post 3208 & Hometown Hero Mama Pete; 2012 Nel and Bob Soltz (Wistaria Vine owners); 2011 Gayle Bluemel & Hometown Hero John Shear; 2010 Lew Wantanabe; 2009 Midge Morash; 2008 Sierra Madre Fire Department; 2007 Ward Family (E. Waldo Ward & Sons); 2006 Judy Webb Martin & Toni Buckner & Hometown Hero Barbara Wamboldt; 2005 Police Chief Wayne Bailey; 2004 Doug Berkshire; 2003 John Grijalva; 2002 Bob Quamstrom; 2001 Ty Gaffney; 2000 Dr. Bill White; and 1999 Jim & Barbara Heasley.

This All-American friends and family event is made possible through the wonderful contribution of donors and sponsors. If you'd like to help please visit <http://www.sierramadrefourthofjuly.com/> or follow us on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/4thofJulyInfo>

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Sierra Madre

# Honors Dinner

In-Person  
Wednesday, April 27th  
Hart Park House  
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

RSVP by 4/17 at 5:30 PM:  
Call (626) 999-3614 or email  
[honorsdinner@cityofsierramadre.com](mailto:honorsdinner@cityofsierramadre.com)

### City Awards

- Youth Service Award
- George Maurer Lifetime Achievement Award
- Mayor's Award
- Public Safety Award
- Wisteria Award
- Employee of the Year
- Exemplary Services

### Chamber Awards

- Sierra Madre Business of the Year
- Sierra Madre Citizen of the Year
- Business over 25 yrs



## ART OF THE GARDEN

Celebrate the renewal of spring and nature's generosity. Join Creative Arts Group for the the 27th Annual Garden Tour that will lead you through four stunning gardens that capture the diversity of our Southern California Landscape.

Sunday | April 24 | 10:30-4:30

Self-Guided Tour

Tickets: \$30 presale|\$40 day of tour

Tickets can be purchased online, in person or over the phone  
[creativeartsgroup.org/art-of-the-garden](http://creativeartsgroup.org/art-of-the-garden)

(626) 355-8350

**Creative Arts Group**

108 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre | (626) 355-8350 | [CreativeArtsGroup.org](http://CreativeArtsGroup.org)

# SIERRA MADRE

SIERRA MADRE

ARCADIA

PASADENA

ALTADENA

MONROVIA



## DÉJÀ VU ALL OVER AGAIN

What to believe? There are two sides to this story: on one hand - new buildings will energize the community with no or little downside. On the other hand, those who oppose the building say this will cause irreparable harm to our special town of Sierra Madre. Post cards have been sent, each claiming their side of the issue is the correct one. The pro-building folks are vastly outspending the other side. Neighbors are pitted against neighbors; lifelong friends are no longer speaking.

Does this sound familiar? What we are referring to is Measure V. If you weren't living in Sierra Madre in 2007, you may not know that Taylor's Market property was up for sale, as was the property where the Kensington now stands, formerly the Skilled Nursing Facility. Residents worked on something called a downtown specific plan to reenergize our downtown area. But that would include the building of three stories in each location, two "mixed use" buildings - a combined total of about 125 condos, stores on the first floor, and underground parking.

A small group of residents consulted a lawyer and, drafted a petition called Measure V, which would limit building in the downtown area to 2 stories, 30 feet high with a maximum 13 housing units per acre (called the 2-30-13 initiative). First came the deluge of postcards warning of dire consequences if you signed the petition and then if you voted for Measure V. Apartment buildings would spring up in your backyard (with pictures of these supposed apartment buildings). One man interviewed on the news cryptically said our downtown would become another Baghdad. The building industry hired a research firm, paid residents \$100 each over several evenings to participate in an in-person survey to help determine which arguments would work best to persuade the voters. Two former Mayors were involved in trying to defeat the initiative. One was a lawyer for the building industry. All in all, the building industry spent \$180,000 fighting this measure. The proponents for the measure knocked on doors, dispelling the falsehoods that had been generated and spent a total of \$10,000. When it came down to a vote, over 50% of registered voters cast a ballot (unheard of in a local election) and Measure V won by a small margin, with several TV stations at City Hall covering the result. At the time, only Yorba Linda had successfully enacted a similar ordinance. Today, it is hard to imagine all that congestion in our downtown area, with two multi-story buildings looming large.

Preserve Sierra Madre has promised residents to be the fact finders in our fair town. The misinformation, and the money spent by New Urban West is disturbingly familiar. Many cities throughout California are facing the same overdevelopment problems, with pressure brought to bear on City staffs and City Councils. We are urging you to sign the petition that is being circulated by Protect Sierra Madre (we are Preserve Sierra Madre). The petition will give us residents a vote in what is to become of our town. The petition will not hurt the Passionists Fathers, who will still be able to sell their 20 acres to New Urban West, or any other developer to build housing and still be able to use their property for any religious purpose. All it will do is change the designation from Institutional Zone to Hillside Management Zone, like the majority of other properties along the hillside. If you sign, and if the petitioners get over 10% of the registered voters, this will go for a vote in our regular November election (unlike Measure V, which required a special election).

To sign the petition, go to: [monasterypetition@gmail.com](mailto:monasterypetition@gmail.com).

## MONASTERY MINUTE:

By Robert Gjerde

### WILL THE MEADOWS PROJECT CREATE TOO MUCH FIRE RISK?

Summer is approaching and Sierra Madre is facing another hot, dry, fire season. With good reason people are concerned about increasing the fire risk to homes in the city. When considering the risks from the Meadows project we need to ask "compared to what?" The risk of no project, what currently exists, is a field with grass, bushes, and connecting tree canopies. In a 5 mph breeze a fire could spread the 750' from the northern development area to the existing homes to the south in less than 2 minutes. Under the Fire Protection Plan of the Meadows project the EIR (Appendix F2) states that the "fire potential will be much lower than its current condition..." This is accomplished through a coordinated plan where buffer zones are created with three east-west streets which also increase accessibility for fire personnel, more than a dozen fire hydrants, landscaping that is managed to minimize the spread of fire across the entire site, and structures built to the most stringent fire codes. The last point is key. You can't stop development on an infill lot due to fire risk, you can only mitigate those risks through fire codes and landscape design. Under the proposed ballot initiative to rezone the entire property to the Hillside Management Residential zone (including where the Retreat Center is) there would be no new east-west streets to act as buffers, a fraction of the fire hydrants, and no coordinated landscaping plan across all the individual lots being sold off to developers.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IS NOW THE ISSUE AT MATER DOLOROSA

When I read the editorial a few weeks ago that said religious freedom is not the issue I was sure that was a typo. It should have read religious freedom is NOW the issue at Mater Dolorosa. This didn't use to be a religious issue (other than some inflammatory comments made by the public at recent city council meetings and online) but it is now. What has turned this into a religious issue is the ballot initiative that attempts to downzone the entire monastery property, including where the retreat center is located. Downzoning in this case means removing existing institutional rights and turning the existing development into an illegal nonconforming use. This will happen if the initiative passes even if no housing project is ever approved.

The stated Intent of the initiative has no direct correlation to the Meadows development. Its purpose is to "permit the continued operation of the [Monastery] without expansion, significant physical alteration, or change in use, as a nonconforming use," by rezoning the property "from Institutional/Institutional to Hillside/Hillside Residential Zone to ensure that any future development is protective of the City's hillside environment..."

The initiative does not stop development on the project site. It will not "save the meadow" or protect any prominent hillside features. It will not result in preserving habitat for wildlife, significantly decrease traffic, construction noise, water usage, or fire risk. In fact, it may result in the opposite. What the initiative definitely does is strip the Monastery of its existing religious Institutional rights. Why is this important? Because as a religious institution, the Passionists have more rights than the average property owner. This is the case despite Mr. Walker's recent editorial appeal that religious institutions (and other non-profits) have too many rights and freedoms. Neither the City nor the citizens get to decide what legitimate religious rights a church can exercise.

Federal law states that "No government shall impose or implement a land use regulation in a manner that imposes a substantial burden on the religious exercise of ... a religious assembly

or institution, unless the government can demonstrate that imposition of the burden is ... the least restrictive means of furthering that compelling governmental interest."

The purpose of the initiative is to ensure that any future development is protective of the City's hillside environment. To see if this is overly restrictive and discriminatory against the First Amendment rights of the Passionist Mater Dolorosa Retreat Center all one needs to ask is if there is a less restrictive means of protecting the hillside environment other than prohibiting all future "expansion, significant physical alteration, or change in use."

The blatantly obvious answer is that of course there are less restrictive ways to protect the hillside environment.

The initiative literally could have asked for anything, but what they chose was to prohibit all future religious institutional expansion on the Monastery property. This is either a direct discriminatory attack on the church or it is the peak of negligence by Protect Sierra Madre - Stop the Housing Project. Either way it is a violation of the Monastery's rights and puts the city directly in the crosshairs for a very expensive religious discrimination lawsuit which it has very little chance of winning. All the Monastery has to do is apply for any sort of expansion of their existing institutional development and have it denied by the city, and the city will have to deny it. Through spot-zoning the initiative removes all authority of the City to approve ANY future institutional expansion on this one property and all authority to address the discriminatory judgement through future rezoning.

The proposed initiative should never reach the ballot and risk violating the religious rights of the Monastery. If you have already signed to have the initiative placed on the ballot it is a simple process to have your name removed by making that request to the city clerk.

Look for more information on stopping the initiative from Sierra Madre Neighbors for Fairness.

## WALKING SIERRA MADRE - The Social Side

by Deanne Davis

*"Palm branches are a symbol of peace and victory, and they were laid down in Jesus' path as he rode into Jerusalem. Hence, the name Palm Sunday."*

*"May the spirit of this holy occasion, and the warmth of this season... And may the beauty of Springtime... make your heart bloom with joy and happiness."*

Tomorrow is Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week, which ends with Easter Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>.

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



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

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

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

Easter has a lot of different things attached to it. There was a time in the far distant past when all the children in the family were taken to the local department store... someplace like The May Company, J. C. Penney's or The Broadway and outfitted with a new blue suit for the boys and a billowy dress, gloves, a hat and shiny patent leather shoes and socks with ruffles 'round the top for the little girls. Our family was not of the church-going variety but I did get the aforementioned billowy dress, etc. and my mother got herself a new suit and a hat. Some of the dullest hours of my childhood were spent at Bullock's Wilshire while my mother tried on hats.

And we went to church on Easter. All Catholic churches are packed on Easter and Christmas and ours was no exception. The place was loaded with women wearing their new suit and hat and children who wanted to be anywhere but there, wearing anything but the new Easter outfit.

Mercifully, this new outfit for Easter has fallen by the wayside, as have most of those department stores. The grocery stores are filled with Peeps in every color under the sun and, my favorite, the Cadbury caramel egg. Friends, those things are addictive and it's a good thing they're only available for a brief period or I would be in serious trouble. A thick chocolate egg filled with gooey caramel. These should only be eaten in private, by the way, as if you let it slip that you had some, you'd be inundated with people who wanted them.

Easter egg hunts are featured in most every park and the Sierra Madre Firefighters will be hosting their annual egg hunt on Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> starting at 10 am for kids 12 and under at Memorial Park. It's free and it's a lot of fun and you can all wear your shorts and t-shirts. No billowy dresses or blue suits allowed!

Tomorrow, Palm Sunday. Imagine the scene: people dancing in the streets before a gentle, humble man, Jesus, Son of God, and He, knowing these people would be shrieking "Crucify him!" just a few days later.

The picture today, palm branches waving in the sun.

My book page: [Amazon.com: Deanne Davis](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B098765432)

Easter is a week away and "The Crown,"

My story about what happened to that crown of thorns

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

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

[https://youtu.be/Y\\_pC0X286T8](https://youtu.be/Y_pC0X286T8)

# EARTH DAY

## 2022 FESTIVAL

### MEMORIAL PARK

#### APRIL 23RD ○ 9AM - 12PM

PLEASE CALL (626) 355 - 7135 FOR MORE INFORMATION

# Weather Wise



6-Day Forecast Sierra Madre, Ca.

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

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

## SIERRA MADRE CITY MEETINGS SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

April 12, 2022 5:30pm

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

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 [foothillsmedia.org/sierramadre](http://foothillsmedia.org/sierramadre) and broadcast on Government Access Channel 3 (Spectrum)..

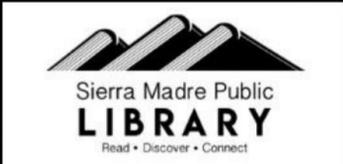
### 1630 AM EMERGENCY RADIO & Free on-air publicity for local events

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).



This week at the  
Sierra Madre  
Public Library

April 11—16

#### Monday

Preschool Storytime at Memorial Park—  
Outdoors at 9:00 & 10:00am. Call 626-355-7186 to register

Minecraft Monday: Creative—Online or in-person at 4:00pm

#### Wednesday

Teen Snackchat—In-person at 4:00pm

#### Thursday

Baby Rhyme Time at Memorial Park—  
Outdoors at 9:00am. Call 626-355-7186 to register

Tails & Tales—In-person at 3:00pm

#### Saturday

3D Printing Basics—In-person at 11:00am

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# Pasadena Altadena

News From Your Community For Your Community

## Pasadena City Manager Recruitment Now Open

Pasadena city officials announced Wednesday that they have opened recruitment for the position of city manager.

"We are a world class city that prides itself on providing full service to our residents including our own police, fire, utilities and health departments," Pasadena Mayor Victor Gordo said.

"We understand the complexity of local government and strive to recruit a city manager who can lead a dynamic and complex municipality and is passionate about serving the people of Pasadena," said

The new city manager will oversee a public sector agency, public/private partnerships, and a full-service City with robust services with an approximate budget of \$900 million and a staff of approximately 2,000. They will support an experienced and committed City Council and an engaged community of approximately 140,000.

In addition to overseeing the municipal administration, the ideal candidate will also partner in the oversight and management of the City-owned Rose Bowl Stadium, Convention Center and Visitors Bureau, and Pasadena Community Public Access Television.

Candidate interviews are scheduled for June 3 and June 4 in person.

The salary range is listed as \$290,000 to \$330,000 and is negotiable depending upon experience and qualifications.

For more information including the application and a recruitment brochure visit: [cityofpasadena.net](http://cityofpasadena.net)

## Art Talk and Painting Demo



Join the Altadena Public Library for a talk and live painting demonstration by Keni Arts Saturday, April 30, 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. at the Main Library Pocket Park. Registration is required.

Keni Arts is a plein air painter. "Plein air" is French for one who paints outdoors or on site. Keni has been plopping his easel down on sidewalks, from Altadena to New York and points in between for many years.

Keni will provide a breakdown of the process of plein air painting, including the motivation, rewards and challenges for painting en plein air. He will also discuss marketing and selling artwork along with the tools and supplies of a plein air painter. Q&A included. (It is recommend you bring your own chair.)

This program is made possible by the Friends of the Altadena Library.

For more information and to register visit: [altadenalibrary.org](http://altadenalibrary.org).



Live Public Comment  
Items on the Agenda

## Community Angered by Changes to City Council Meetings

*Some speakers cut off mid sentence after the time limit shortened from 3 minutes to 1.5 minutes per person.*

By Dean Lee

The Pasadena City Council got an earful of angry residents Monday after proposing the idea of changing their agenda format by moving public comment, on matters not on the agenda, to the end of the meeting. The idea would make the meetings more efficient according to an ad hoc committee formed to discuss and analyze the idea.

Pasadena Mayor Victor Gordo said moving public comment would first start on a trial basis. "I've listened to this council's discussion, its infuriating and its insulting, we're talking about 20 minutes," one community member said echoing many of the concerns the speakers had including, the "interest of our seniors, parents of small children and others that are unable wait 4 to 6 hours until the end of the meeting?"

Another speaker said that of the 25 cities, in California, that are of a similar size to Pasadena, 20 have public comment at the beginning of their agenda and five have it at the end.

"We are looking at many, many cities that do the right thing, and a few like, Glendale, Corona and a few others... that don't said Kat Ross. "And I'm saddened to hear that Pasadena is considering putting themselves in the camp of the very few, distancing their fears from public opinion."

One resident, Ellen Finkelppearl,

## Holden's Camp Safety Bill AB 1737 Passes Committee

On Tuesday, Assemblymember Chris Holden's bill, Children's camps: local registration and inspections, which is in response to the wholly preventable drowning death of 6-year-old Roxie Forbes at a Los Angeles County summer camp, as well as a history of traumatic incidents at children's camps statewide, passed the Assembly Committee on Health. AB 1737, a long overdue measure that establishes health and safety standards to protect millions of child campers and counselors.

"We owe children and their guardians the promise of safely returning home" Holden said. "With AB 1737, we establish safety protocols for the security of children throughout California."

AB 1737 would clarify that day and overnight camps

took issue with prioritizing items, already, on the agenda, "This is to assume that the mayor and the council are the ones who know what's important and not the collection of community members who have shown up to speak... Certain [council] members want make sure that some voices in the community that have been very vocal would simply go away. Burying your head in the sand is not the way to solve anything."

Former, District 6, City Council candidate Ryan Bell said that the council meeting went long because some council members give long speeches and suggested they address that instead of 20 minutes at the beginning for public comment.

Another resident that immediately followed Bell, bluntly said, the council did not want to hear about police accountability.

Other speakers spoke on the idea not being part of the Pasadena way, with a guiding principle that "community participation will be a permanent part of achieving a greater city."

A number of the public speakers were cut off in mid thought, including Black Lives Matter activist Michael Williams, "This is against the freedom of speech, this is violating rights, you all should be embarrassed that you even put this on the agenda... show the rest of the world how anti black and anti free speech you are... fire the officers that killed Anthony McClain...", he said before Pasadena city clerk Mark Jomsky simply went to the next caller."

Speakers were cut off after going over the allotted 1.5 minute time- a change from 3 minutes.

Activist, Adriana Bautista, was cut off exactly at the time she threaten to sue the city, "We do intend to sue..." she tried to say as Jomsky starts talking over her.

None of the speakers were

attended by children are subject to California Department of Public Health (CDPH) regulations and specifically outline the obligations of CDPH, local agencies, and children's camps prior to and during operation of the children's camps. The bill would also require children's camps to include in their operating plan submitted to their local agency normal operation procedures, security and emergency procedures, health and safety policies, and indicate whether the camp offers any high-risk activities, such as swimming and horseback riding.

"It is our responsibility as the adults in the room to provide supervision while parents/guardians are at work," Holden said.

For more information visit: [a41.asmdc.org](http://a41.asmdc.org).

in favor of moving public comment.

"My hart is really broken because if this was a reasonable consideration there would be people on both sides..." said Pastor Kerwin Manning. "All of the voices tonight have been in support of keeping the space [comment period] and time where it is."

Gordo suggested that all the negative comments were due to the council still not meeting in person, "I think we can all agree that if we were back in person and members of the public were here, it would likely result in a different situation... or a way forward."

He also reminded the council that "This is intended to provide us with more public comment for matters that are agendized, and noticed as, items that the council will take up often with final action."

City staff said, at the beginning of the meeting, that the council does not need to vote to make changes to their agenda.

## Council set to Discuss McClain Shooting

Pasadena Mayor Victor Gordo made the following statement Wednesday on what the city is planning as the next steps after District Attorney George Gascón said his office will not file criminal charges against the officers involved in shooting and killing Anthony McClain.

"On April 6, 2022, the City of Pasadena was notified that the Los Angeles County District's Attorney's Office has completed its investigation into the August 15, 2020 Officer Involved Shooting of Anthony McClain. District Attorney George Gascón has concluded that he will not file criminal charges in the matter. Now, it is important for our community to understand the next step(s) involved in the administrative review process of this matter and the associated timeline. It is also vital that we provide our community an opportunity to offer public comment on the matter. As such, I have added an item to Monday's agenda and asked our City Attorney and City Manager to be prepared to present the information at this Monday's City Council meeting. The meeting is scheduled for April 11 at 4:30 p.m. solely by video/teleconference. During the meeting, members of the public will have the opportunity provide live public comment by submitting a speaker card prior to the start of public comment on that item at: [cityofpasadena.net/city-clerk/public-comment](http://cityofpasadena.net/city-clerk/public-comment)."

## Tournament Announces 2022 Rose Scholars and Awards



(Back row, from left to right; Pasadena Tournament of Roses President Amy Waincott, Citizens Business Bank President and Chief Executive Officer David A. Brager, Celeste Edell. Second row; Pasadena Unified School District Chief Academic Officer Dr. Elizabeth Blanco, Nagma Shakur-Frank, Matthew Fowler, Sergio Gonzalez, Citizens Business Bank Senior Vice President, Director of Treasury Management and Marketing LaVon Short, Front row: Cecilia Grane, Kennedy Hackett, Oswald Guerra, Gabriela Castillo.)

The Pasadena Tournament of Roses Association announced Thursday that it has selected eight high school seniors as the 2022 ROSE Scholars. This year, the program awarded \$20,000 in scholarships to eight graduating seniors from the Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD). ROSE Scholars, presented by Citizens Business Bank, is a program designed to help students in our community thrive and to foster their potential.

As part of the application process, students were invited to submit a creative piece that reflected their future dreams, goals and aspirations. A one-page reflection describing their thoughts and feelings about the piece was also required, as well as still images of their work and a video recording describing their inspiration.

2022 ROSE Scholars  
Gabriela Castillo - John Muir High School  
Sergio Gonzalez - Rose City High School  
Celeste Edell - Pasadena High School  
Oswald Guerra - John Muir High School  
Matthew Fowler - John Muir High School  
Kennedy Hackett - John Muir High School  
Cecilia Grane - Marshall Fundamental Secondary School  
Nagma Shakur-Frank - Pasadena High School

"Citizens Business Bank is honored to support the 2022 Class of Rose Scholars," said David A. Brager, President and Chief Executive Officer of Citizens Business Bank. "Our ongoing partnership with the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Association continues to make a positive difference in the communities we serve

by providing scholarships to local students to pursue their education. We wish all the Pasadena Unified School District students who applied or were selected well in their future endeavors."

Instead of a minimum GPA requirement, applicants were asked to obtain a recommendation from a teacher, coach, counselor or community member.

"Congratulations to the 2022 Class of Rose Scholars, said Brian McDonald, Ed.D., Superintendent of the Pasadena Unified School District. "Through their hard work and determination, the recipients of the awards have demonstrated that they are prepared for the next part of their educational journey. I would like to thank Citizens Business Bank and the Tournament of Roses for their continued commitment to the students and schools of the Pasadena Unified School District."

Applications were reviewed and scored based on the structure of their art, the organization and language of their written reflection, and the recommendation from an educator, coach or community member. The review committee was composed of Tournament of Roses members, staff and PUSD representatives.

The Association and the Tournament of Roses Foundation are focused on positively impacting the Pasadena community with charitable giving, volunteerism and community involvement. As part of this work, the Association has partnered with Citizens Business Bank for ROSE Scholars and other signature community programs.

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

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## NASA Finds New Way to Monitor Groundwater Loss



Scientists have produced a new method that holds the promise of improving groundwater management – critical to both life and agriculture in dry regions. The method sorts out how much underground water loss comes from aquifers confined in clay, which can be drained so dry that they will not recover, and how much comes from soil that's not confined in an aquifer, which can be replenished by a few years of normal rains.

The research team studied California's Tulare Basin, part of the Central Valley. The team found that the key to distinguishing between these underground sources of water relates to patterns of sinking and rising ground levels in this heavily irrigated agricultural region.

The Central Valley makes up only 1% of U.S. farmland, yet it grows an amazing 40% of the nation's table fruits, vegetables, and nuts annually. Productivity like that is only possible because farmers augment the valley's 5 to 10 inches (12 to 25 centimeters) of annual rainfall with extensive groundwater pumping. In drought years, more than 80% of irrigation water comes from underground.

After decades of pumping, underground water resources are dwindling. Wells in the Tulare Basin now must be drilled as much as 3,500 feet (over 1,000 meters) deep to find adequate water. There's no way to measure exactly how much water remains underground, but managers need to make the wisest use of whatever there is. That involves monitoring whether water is being drawn from aquifers or from loose soil, known as the water table. In this large region with tens of thousands of unmetered wells, the only practical way to do that is by using satellite data.

A research team from NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Southern California and the U.S. Department of Energy's Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory in Northern California set out to create a method that would do exactly that. They attacked the problem by combining data on water loss from NASA's Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment (GRACE) and GRACE Follow-On satellites with data on ground-level changes from an ESA (European Space Agency) Sentinel-1 satellite. Ground-level changes in this region are often related to water loss because when ground is drained of water, it eventually slumps together and sinks into the spaces where water used to be – a process called subsidence.

The Tulare Basin is subsiding drastically: The current rate is about one foot (0.3 meters) of sinkage per year. But from one month to the next, the ground may drop, rise or stay the same. What's more, these changes don't always line up with expected causes. For example, after

a heavy rainfall, the water table rises. It seems obvious that this would cause the ground level to rise, too, but it sometimes sinks instead.

The researchers thought these mysterious short-term variations might hold the key to determining the sources of pumped water. "The main question was, how do we interpret the change that's happening on these shorter time scales: Is it just a blip, or is it important?" said Kyra Kim, a postdoctoral fellow at JPL and coauthor of the paper, which appeared in *Nature*.

### Clay vs. Sand

Kim and her colleagues believed the changes were related to the different kinds of soils in the basin. Aquifers are confined by layers of stiff, impermeable clay, whereas unconfined soil is looser. When water is pumped from an aquifer, the clay takes a while to compress in response to the weight of land mass pressing down from above. Unconfined soil, on the other hand, rises or falls more quickly in response to rain or pumping.

The researchers created a simple numerical model of these two layers of soils in the Tulare Basin. By removing the long-term subsidence trend from the ground-level-change data, they produced a dataset of only the month-to-month variations. Their model revealed that on this time scale, virtually all of the ground-level change can be explained by changes in aquifers, not in the water table.

For example, in spring, there's little rainfall in the Central Valley, so the water table is usually sinking. But runoff from snow in the Sierra Nevada is recharging the aquifers, and that causes the ground level to rise. When rainfall is causing the water table to rise, if the aquifers are compressing at the same time from being pumped during the preceding dry season, the ground level will fall. The model correctly reproduced the effects of weather events like heavy rainfalls in the winter of 2016-17. It also matched the small amount of available data from wells and GPS.

Kim pointed out that the new model can be repurposed to represent other agricultural regions where groundwater use needs to be better monitored. With a planned launch in 2023, the NASA-ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation) Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) mission will measure changes in ground level at even higher resolution than Sentinel-1. Researchers will be able to combine NISAR's dataset with data from GRACE Follow-On in this model for the benefit of agriculture around the globe. "We're heading toward a really beautiful marriage between remote sensing and numerical models to bring everything together," Kim said.

## South Pasadena Be Kind to Animals Art Exhibition

The Community Services Department is hosting a Be Kind to Animal Art Exhibition on Monday, May 2. They are looking for students to create artwork that reflects this year's theme, Animals Are My Neighbors, Too!

This event is open to all Pre-K through 8th graders. They are asking participants to make some art sized 8.5" x 11" and drop off at the Recreation Office

by 12 noon on April 25, 2022. The Recreation Office is located at 815 Mission Street and is open Monday – Thursday, 10am-6pm.

The form to submit to participate can be found at: [southpasadenaca.gov](https://southpasadenaca.gov) under "Be Kind to Animals Art Exhibition."

For more information, call our Community Services Department at (626) 403-7380.

## Caltech Earth Week: Free Climate Crisis Documentary



Movies That Matter is the film series curated and presented in a collaborative partnership between the student-led Caltech Y, Caltech Sustainability Programs, Caltech Public Programming, and the Caltech Center for Inclusion and Diversity. The films presented all address current concerns in various realms of science, as well as important matters of social justice.

The Movies That Matter series continues this Spring with a virtual screening of the climate crisis documentary "Manzanar, Diverted: When Water Becomes Dust," (Intersection Films, 2021), directed and produced by Ann Kaneko and produced by Jin Yoo-Kim, on Wednesday, April 20, at 6:00 p.m.

The virtual screening (84

minutes) is followed by a panel discussion of the film and its impact, featuring the director/producer Ann Kaneko and Maximilian Christman, Caltech Sustainability Manager.

The film won the Best Documentary Award at the San Diego Asian Film Festival and it was nominated for the Best Music Score at the IDA Documentary Awards in 2021.

The film makers hope that the audience can gain an appreciation of water and land management and a clearer grasp of their impacts on distant communities where water has been extracted for their consumption.

While the screening is free, reservations are required.

For more information about the film and to reserve a spot, visit <https://events.caltech.edu/series/movies-that-matter>.

## SMPD Recognizes Distracted Driving Awareness Month

April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month. The San Marino Police Department will be actively looking for drivers who are in violation of the state's hands-free cell phone law. Under current law, drivers are not allowed to hold a phone or electronic communication device while operating a vehicle.

This includes talking, texting, or using an application. Using a handheld cell phone while driving is punishable by a fine. Violating the hands-free law for a second time

within 36 months of a prior conviction for the same offense will result in a point being added to one's driving record.

If you need to make an important phone call, send a text message, read an email, or need to get directions, please pull over safely prior to doing so.

Funding for distracted driving enforcement is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

## Registration Opens for 2022 Pasadena Senior Games

### Athletes 50 to 99 and over Invited to Participate

After a two-year hiatus due to COVID, adults ages 50 to 99 and over are invited to show off their athletic skills during the 28th Pasadena Senior Games, a series of 15 competitive sporting events ranging from archery to track and field in June and July. Previous competition experience is not required.

Beginning April 20, athletes are encouraged to visit: [pasadenaseniorcenter.org](https://pasadenaseniorcenter.org) and click on Activities & Events, then Senior Games to register for the athletic competitions that will take place in the Pasadena area. Fees are \$35 per participant plus individual event fees.

"Every year the Pasadena Senior Games promotes healthy

lifestyles for older adults through education, fitness and the spirited competition of sports," said Akila Gibbs, executive director of the Pasadena Senior Center. "These remarkable athletes are shining examples of the benefits of an active lifestyle that embraces health and vitality. We're so happy the Senior Games are back."

Another way to participate in the Pasadena Senior Games is to volunteer for positions that include registering athletes, timing, scoring, manning water stations and more. Volunteers of all ages may call Renee Uriarte at 626-685-6724 or email [renee@pasadenaseniorcenter.org](mailto:renee@pasadenaseniorcenter.org).

In addition to online classes, onsite events and other activities, members and nonmembers of the Pasadena Senior Center are encouraged to visit the website regularly for a monthly magazine, free food delivery for older adults in need, COVID updates specifically for older adults and more.

The center, at 85 E. Holly St., is an independent, donor-supported nonprofit organization that has served older adults for more than 60 years. During the pandemic, doors are open for social services and other critical services for older adults in need.

In accordance with Pasadena Public Health Department guidelines, proof of COVID vaccination is required for everyone who uses the fitness center or attends onsite activities indoors. Masks are optional.

## San Marino Upcoming Events & Programming

### Accessing Online Magazines and Newspapers

Saturday, April 9 at 11 AM at the Barth Community Room With a Crowell Public Library card, you can access local, national, and international magazines and newspapers online. In this class, we will dive into PressReader and our other periodical databases, covering everything from hot-off-the-press popular titles to deep newspaper archives. Registration required.

### Joyful Living Happy Life

Sunday, April 10 at 2:00 PM at the Barth Community Room Join the United Charity Foundation as they discuss how to be a super communicator and negotiator. This workshop will provide you with tools to avoid conflict and friction in the workplace, social life, and family life. Registration is not required.

### Brain Aerobics & Lip Reading

Monday, April 11 from 12:30 PM – 2:30 PM; Tuesday, April 12 from 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM at the Barth Community Room

This popular class led by Francine Katz (MA, SLP, & CCC) concentrates on lip reading and memory. She provides seniors a fun way to fight the common problems of diminished hearing and memory as people age. Registration is not required, but regular attendance at sessions is encouraged.

### Huntington Nurses Health Screening

Wednesday, April 13 from 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM at the Barth Community Room

The Huntington Nurses offer free blood pressure and glucose screenings. Please plan to fast 2 hours prior to having glucose checked. These blood pressure and glucose evaluations can lead to prevention and early detection of the "silent killer" diseases such as hypertension, heart disease, and diabetes. Health screenings will be held every second Wednesday of the month. Registration is not required.

### Chinese Club – Tai Chi for Beginners

Thursday, April 14 at 10:30 AM at the Barth Community Room

In the spirit of cultural exchange and appreciation of diversity, educational development, and community service, the Chinese Club of San Marino holds monthly lectures and workshops. This month's topic is Tai Chi for Beginners. Open to anyone interested in Chinese language and culture. Registration is required.

### The Great San Marino Egg Hunt!

Saturday, April 16 from 9 AM – 12 PM at Lacy Park  
Cost: Presale - \$4 / Day of at Lacy Park - \$6  
Bring your baskets and bunny ears! This fun-filled event includes crafts, games, pictures with the bunnies, and a giant egg hunt! The first egg hunt begins at 10 AM sharp. Pre-order wristbands for kids participating in the Egg Hunt now through April 14. Pre-ordered wristbands must be picked up at the Stoneman Building (1560 Pasqualito Dr.) by April 15 at 11 AM. Wristband sales are non-refundable.

### Painting with Mom

Saturday, April 23 at Lacy Park

Session 1: 10 AM; Session 2: 1 PM

Cost: \$25 for residents, \$29 for non-residents

Create a Mother's Day to remember at this outdoor painting party led by a professional art instructor! Each participant will go home with a 9" x 12" canvas masterpiece that is ready for hanging. Children ages 7 and up are welcome to attend with their moms – or their dads, grandmothers, aunts, or any other figure who embodies the meaning of what it means to be a mom in someone's life. Supplies are limited, so register today!

## South Pas Library Stage Line Up for Eclectic Music Festival

The South Pasadena Public Library announced Thursday its exciting and diverse line up for the Eclectic Music Festival, including Kazan Taiko, the South Pasadena High School Jazz Ensemble, Other Mother Brother Band, and Brahms' Third Racket.

According to organizers, the festivities is set to begin on April 30 at 4:00 p.m. on the Library Stage in front of the Library Community Room located at 1115 El Centro Street in South Pasadena, CA. The Library Stage performances are made possible by funding from the Friends of the South Pasadena Public Library, Inc.

The Library Stage Performance Schedule is as follows:

4:00 p.m. – 4:40 p.m. - Kazan Taiko: Kazan Taiko is the Japanese taiko ensemble group from the University of Southern California. Since 2002, this ensemble has been sharing the Japanese-American art form of traditional Japanese drumming (taiko). Their interpretation includes both traditional and modern influences of dance, music, and culture.

5:00 p.m. – 5:40 p.m. - South Pasadena High School Jazz Ensemble: Hometown favorite, the South Pasadena High School Jazz Ensemble, led by Howard Crawford, features 21 talented students performing jazz classics from the big band era.

6:15 p.m. – 7:15 p.m. - Other Mother Brother Band: Other Mother Brother Band, founded in 2008,

is an eclectic progressive instrumental group based out of Los Angeles that performs toe-tapping, make-your-body-move music. They weave together influences from bluegrass, world, Latin jazz, reggae, rock, funk and classical music to form their unique sound that has delighted audiences from Southern California to Yosemite to Colorado. No two shows are alike as each of these five stellar musicians gets a chance to shine in the spotlight. The band boasts a two-time Bass Player of the Year and nominations for Best Instrumental Band and Best Instrumental Album (LA Music Awards).

7:45 p.m. – 8:45 p.m. - Brahms' Third Racket: Brahms' Third Racket plays a unique type of alternative rock; their live shows feature original videos, which play in sync with the band's performance. The combination of videos and music provide an immersive audience experience. Brahms' Third Racket is made up of Warren Wellen, R. Matthew Carroll, David Rodgers, and Mary Ann Pelino.

The South Pasadena Public Library is located at 1100 Oxley Street in South Pasadena. Visit the Library website for information about services and programs.

The Library is open Monday, Friday, Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. and Sunday 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

For more information visit: [southpasadenaca.gov](https://southpasadenaca.gov).

# THE GREAT SAN MARINO EGG HUNT

**Saturday, April 16**  
**9 AM - 12 PM**  
**Lacy Park**  
**Rain or shine!**

Crafts • Games • Egg Hunt • Train

[www.CityofSanMarino.org/EggHunt](https://www.CityofSanMarino.org/EggHunt)

Catch breaking news at:  
[mtnviewsnews.com](https://mtnviewsnews.com)

**CHRISTOPHER Nyerges**



**IN PURSUIT OF PRINCIPLES**

[Nyerges is an educator and author of many books including "Extreme Simplicity," "How to Survive Anywhere," and others. Information on his classes and books is available at [www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance.com](http://www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance.com)].

Human evolution has many metrics by which you can estimate the level to which one has evolved. Social norms, religion, and group dynamics all tell us an insightful picture. Perhaps one of the most fundamental of human traits is the determine an allegiance to something we will call "universal principles." Once we set upon these ideals, these universal principles, we inevitably get to have our ideas challenged, usually in the form of "us" vs. "them." It plays out in various ways. Gangs and mafia play it out in an inviolable devotion to the gang or group or family, against all challenges and challengers, even if one of their own is objectively wrong. The mafia and gang mentality is that you never ever say anything against one of your own, and you definitely don't go against one of your clan.

The question, sometimes asked, but usually not, is whether or not the member of your group is actually wrong or has actually committed an offense. Should your greatest commitment be to a higher principle, or merely the knee-jerk reaction in defense of your own?

In some Asian religious traditions, there are ceremonies to the ancestors. In some cases, the ceremonies have developed a dichotomy: My ancestors (meaning, the ancestors of my family), vs. The Ancestors, meaning, all ancestors. Is one right? Is one wrong?

In "Next of Kin," Patrick Swayze plays a small town cop who gets involved in a dispute the big city mafia. The armies assemble in a local cemetery, the well-armed mafia on one side and the country boys on the other, also well armed. Before the shootout begins, one of the mafia leaders considers what has brought them all to this fate. The big shootout is about to occur because one of the mafia guys did a bad deed, and everyone was about to be brought into the battle because of that. The mafia leader turns and dispatches the bad guy on his own side. End of story. Guns are holstered and everyone returns home. Resolution with minimal casualties.

The movie "Next of Kin" was first recommended to me by Linda Sheer, a teacher of mine who grew up in rural Kentucky. She would tell me that it's very important that the various groups in our society "police their own" so that there need not be outside influence. Sheer decried the knee-jerk reaction of too many to "defend my group" at all costs, rather than looking to the rightness of the situation.

Politics in the world is no different. An elevated society seeks to abide by a higher principle, and they place those principles above the allegiance to any individual. That means, regardless which "side" you place yourself into, those in an elevated society should always strive to emulate the highest standards of conduct, personal interactions, ethicality, honesty, etc., in the effort to create a better society. That this does not usually occur is obvious in our society.

I like the phrase "What's good for the goose is good for the gander." In terms of laws and regulations, especially in a "free" society, we don't need or want rules and regulations that apply to one group but not another. This is, for example, why slavery was a bad thing and had to be abolished. And it's why the Second Amendment has to apply to everyone, or it's not meaningful.

Yet, in our society of increasing discontent and division, it's hard to determine what is right, and therefore, what is right for All. It's a question worth contemplating and finding some resolution. It is, by the way, why I refuse to be a member of either the Democratic or the Republican party - both have some great theoretical ideas, yet both contain members who are clearly liars, crooks, and defenders of "my group," at whatever cost.

These are the questions and concerns that keep me up at night.

**The Chef Knows** By Peter Dills

Reader Carol C. got to me just in time, asking for suggestions for wine to pair with her annual Easter baked ham. Dottie tells me that she is a traditionalist and that family has been coming to her home for almost thirty years. While everyone one loves her cooking skills, she needed suggestions for wine, and possibly beer for her new son-in-law.

A baked ham that has been glazed with brown sugar is a tricky matter, but I have a couple of suggestions. First, stay clear of bold cabernets; the sugars will collide and make the cab too citric. I suggest one of my all-time favorite blends, Prisoner. Not only will this Napa gem go great with the ham, it also will go well with your sides of yams, rice pudding, and string beans. Sounds like a great menu. What time is the party? This wine has a deep ruby red color and aromas of black cherry and plum. The first taste is powerful, and if you have been following my columns, you know I don't swirl -- I go for a complete taste. There's no need to let this blend sit; it's ready to enjoy with your Easter brunch right after opening. This is an absolute favorite of mine, and one of the best blends that I have tasted at any price. It's available at finer liquor stores and wine departments; sale priced around \$42.



For less money and still a phenomenal value is the Maddalena Pinot Grigio. As with the Prisoner, the Pinot Grigio is an ideal partner for your entrée. This Central Coast award winner is perfect for your guests who want something cool and crisp. Guests who might be the "occasional" social drinker will think you spent double the amount. It's available at Whole Foods and Bristol Farms. Wine Enthusiast gives it 90 points, and I agree.

Last but not least, La Fin Du Monde is a Belgium style beer that I first encountered at Vons in Pasadena. It is now one of my favorites.

Email Peter at [thechefknows@yahoo.com](mailto:thechefknows@yahoo.com) and follow me on Twitter @KINGOFCUISINE

**Spring 2022 Registration Open Classes Begin April 11**

Youth and Adult Classes Available

Adults Classes | Youth Classes  
Drawing, Ceramics, Jewelry, Enameling, and more

Register online, by phone or in person

**Creative Arts Group**  
108 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre  
(626) 355-8350 [CreativeArtsGroup.org](http://CreativeArtsGroup.org)

**Katnip News!**



**BEVY & BELLA: URGENT!** Very much adored cats, whose loving owner went into assisted liv-ing! We desperately need an adoption or foster for them, born 2013.



Bevy: Bevy is the gorgeous, all black male. He's shy but sweet, as you can tell by looking at his sweet, trusting expression. He is gentle, good with cats, dogs and children. He will adapt to any situation. Bella: Bella is a beautiful tortoiseshell, also very sweet. She looks very content to just sit and chill. She is shy, reactive to change, and needs space and time to acclimate to an environment. Ideally, she should be the only animal, unless adopted with Bevy. Both cats would benefit from fun and happy play sessions. They are neutered/spayed, vaccinated with current vet records. Please consider an adoption or foster. Submit application at [lifelineforpets.org](http://lifelineforpets.org). If you can't adopt or foster, please share with someone who might. Thank you.

**Pet of the Week**

One-year-old Kiki is very friendly and will meow to get your attention! She loves meeting new people and will head butt you to ask for petting. Kiki enjoys playing with her catnip sock and feather wand toy. She becomes extra relaxed when being brushed.



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**  
[www.canyoncanine.com](http://www.canyoncanine.com)  
[chris@canyoncanine.com](mailto:chris@canyoncanine.com)  
626-355-8333 626-533-9536

**SIERRA MADRE PLAYHOUSE PRESENTS AN EVENING WITH JOHN WILKES BOOTH ON APRIL 23 AND 24**

John Wilkes Booth (1838-1865) was notable on several accounts. He was a successful and wealthy actor, and member of a celebrated show business family (son of Junius Brutus Booth and brother to Edwin and Junius Jr.). One critic called him "the handsomest man in America." Walt Whitman called him a genius. But this Booth would ultimately become known as the assassin of President Abraham Lincoln.



In An Evening with John Wilkes Booth, you'll get to meet the man and learn what he thought and what motivated him: his rivalry with his more-celebrated brother Edwin (who was a Unionist); John's love for the South, and his hatred of Lincoln. You'll hear of the initial failed plot to kidnap Lincoln, and of the subsequent plans to not only kill Lincoln but also other political and military figures as well. You'll see what happened when Booth begins his flight from retribution after his bloody deed and observe the final outcome for Booth when his pursuers find him.

Stephen Spiegel portrays Booth. His previous stage credits include The Cause My Soul (a prequel to Othello), The Journals of Osborne P. Anderson, Blood in the Cat's Neck, Down in Front, and God help us. Recent film credits include Obsessed, Mountain Man, Out of the Blue. You may have seen him in one of his 20 national commercials. He trained at American Conservatory Theatre. He is a member of the Fierce Backbone Theatre Company.

Lloyd J. Schwartz is director and co-writer. A man of all media, he wrote for the TV series Love, American Style; Alice; The Munsters Today; The A Team, The Love Boat, Baywatch and more. As an ABC network executive, he supervised production on Happy Days, Laverne and Shirley, What's Happening and Three's Company. With his father, TV legend Sherwood Schwartz, he co-created Harper Valley P.T.A. Lloyd also produced numerous iterations of the Brady Bunch and Gilligan's Island franchises (created by Sherwood) for feature films, television and stage. With his wife Barbara, Lloyd created the long-running Storybook Theatre at Theatre West. He has also had 34 produced plays.

Clinton Case is the co-writer. Case thoroughly researched the life and career of Booth, gaining access to area of Ford's Theatre in Washington not open to the public, as well as literally following Booth's footsteps in the boardinghouses and swamps where he trod. Case was an actor and stand-up comedian. He died in February, 2018.

This show played in 2017 at the Hollywood Fringe Festival and won the Producers' Award. The play also received a nomination for best solo show.

"Stephen Spiegel is a sexy, smart actor, engaging and commanding."---Tony Frankel, Stage & Cinema

"Stephen Spiegel's performance of Booth...Captures both the charm and the madness of the man with magnificent aplomb to easily carry away a gold medal."---Ernest Kearney, The Tvolution

An Evening with John Wilkes Booth is as close as you'll come to getting "up close and personal" to this significant historical figure.

An Evening with John Wilkes Booth. A show. Written by Lloyd J. Schwartz and Clinton Case. Directed by Lloyd J. Schwartz. Produced for Sierra Madre Playhouse by Gary Lamb. Starring Stephen Spiegel. At Sierra Madre Playhouse, 87 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA 91024. Saturday, April 23, 2022 at 8:00 p.m. Sunday, April 24 at 2:30 p.m. Admission: \$40. Seniors (65+) \$35. Youth (21 and under) \$25. Reservations: (626) 355-4318 or go to <http://sierramadreplyhouse.org>

Suitable for general audiences. Covid-19 safety protocols will be observed. As of this writing, it means that audience members must be masked and will be asked to show proof of vaccination (vax card or digital record).

## A COMMON HEART PROBLEM THAT'S OFTEN IGNORED

Dear Savvy Senior:

What can you tell me about atrial fibrillation? Every so often, I've noticed my heart starts beating rapidly for no particular reason. Is this something I should be worried about? Anxious Annie

Dear Annie:

Heart palpitations can be harmless if they are brief and infrequent. But if you're experiencing an erratic heart rhythm, you need to get checked out by a doctor for atrial fibrillation, or AFib.

**AFib** – which is marked by rapid, fluttering beats – can lead to serious complications such as stroke and heart failure, when the weakened heart can't pump enough blood to the rest of the body.

Normally, your heartbeat follows a steady rhythm as your heart contracts and relaxes. But when you have AFib, the upper chambers of your heart (atria) beat rapidly and irregularly, sending blood to the lower chambers (ventricles) less efficiently. These episodes can last for minutes to hours or longer, and can cause palpitations, lightheadedness, fatigue, and/or shortness of breath. Over time, AFib tends to become chronic.

Age is a common risk factor for AFib, which affects roughly 10 percent of people older than 75. Other factors include genetics, obesity, diabetes, high blood pressure, and alcohol and tobacco use. The condition has also been linked to viral infections, including COVID-19.

#### Diagnosing AFib

If you're experiencing AFib-like symptoms you need to see your doctor who will listen to your heart and likely recommend an electrocardiogram (EKG) or a treadmill heart test, or you may wear a portable monitor for several weeks to look for abnormal heart rhythms to confirm a diagnosis of AFib. Such tests can help distinguish AFib from less serious conditions that may cause the heart to flutter, like anxiety and stress.

AFib affects some three million adults in the United States, a number that is expected to quadruple in the coming decade as the population ages and risk factors like obesity, diabetes and high blood pressure become even more common. The lifetime risk of developing AFib is greater than 20 percent, yet many people don't even know they have it.

#### Treatment Options

A growing body of research underscores the importance of lifestyle steps such as exercise, a healthy diet, and limiting alcohol for treating AFib.

Depending on your age and symptoms, your doctor may prescribe drugs to help control your heart rate, like beta blockers such as metoprolol (Toprol XL); and/or rhythm, such as antiarrhythmics like flecainide (Tambocor).

You may also need an electrical cardioversion, an outpatient procedure that delivers an electrical shock to the heart to restore a normal rhythm. You will be sedated for this brief procedure and not feel the shocks.

**Catheter ablation** is another outpatient treatment for AFib that scars a small area of heart tissue that causes irregular heartbeats. This procedure is becoming more common based on evidence of its safety and ability to normalize the heart rhythm and ease symptoms. Ablations can be effective in people 75 and older, but medication may still be required afterward.

If you're at higher risk for stroke, you may be prescribed a blood thinner, too. In the past, Coumadin (warfarin) was the only such drug widely available, but it requires monitoring with regular blood tests. Newer anticoagulants, like apixaban (Eliquis) and rivaroxaban (Xarelto), don't have that requirement and have been shown to be just as effective at preventing strokes.

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

### THE KEY BENEFITS OF A LIVING TRUST

Unlike a will, if your trust is properly set up and maintained, your loved ones won't have to go to court to inherit your assets. Instead, your successor trustee can directly transfer the assets held by the trust to your loved ones upon your death or in the event of your incapacity. And since you can include specific instructions in a trust's terms for how and when the assets held by the trust are distributed to a beneficiary, a trust can offer greater control over how your assets are distributed compared to a will.

For example, you could stipulate that the assets can only be distributed upon certain life events, such as the completion of college or marriage, or when the beneficiary reaches a certain age. In this way, you can help prevent your beneficiaries from blowing through their inheritance and offer incentives for them to demonstrate responsible behavior. And if the trust is set up in a specific way, the inheritance can be protected from the beneficiaries' creditors, lawsuits, and divorce—which is something else wills don't provide.

Finally, trusts remain private and are not part of the public record. So, with a properly funded trust, the entire process of transferring ownership of your assets can happen in privacy, not a courtroom, and on your family's time, rather than being subject to an overfilled court calendar.

#### Transferring Assets into a Living Trust

For a trust to function properly, it's not enough to simply list the assets you want the trust to cover. When you create your trust, you must also transfer the legal title of any assets you want to be held by the trust from your name into the name of the trust. Retitling assets in this way is known as "funding" a trust.

Funding your trust properly is extremely important, because if any assets are not correctly funded to the trust, the trust won't work, and your family will have to go to court to take ownership of that property, even if you have a trust. Considering this, it's critical to work with an attorney who not only drafts your documents, but also guides you through the funding process to ensure your trust works as intended.

While many lawyers will create a trust for you, few will ensure your assets are properly inventoried and funded into your trust, and then ensure the inventory of your assets is kept up to date as your life and assets change over time. Don't settle for that. You want a lawyer who will not only make sure all your assets are properly titled when you initially create your trust but will also ensure that any new assets you acquire over the course of your life are inventoried and properly funded to your trust. This will keep your assets from being lost, as well as prevent your family from being inadvertently forced into court because your plan was never fully funded or kept up to date.

#### Living Trusts, Taxes, Creditors, & Lawsuits

When you create a revocable living trust, you are free to change the trust's terms or even completely terminate the trust at any point during your lifetime. Because you retain control over the assets held by a living trust during your lifetime, those assets are still considered part of your estate for estate tax purposes. Similarly, assets held in a living trust are not protected from your creditors or lawsuits during your lifetime. This is an important and often misunderstood point.

Again, a revocable living trust does not protect your assets from creditors or lawsuits, and it has no impact on your income taxes. However, if the assets are passed to your beneficiaries through a Lifetime Asset Protection Trust (which can be included as part of your living trust), those assets can be protected from your beneficiaries' creditors, lawsuits, and even divorce settlements.

The primary benefit of a living trust is to pass your assets to your loved ones without any need for court or government intervention, and to ensure your assets pass in the way you want to the people you want.

#### Life & Legacy Planning: Do Right by Those You Love Most

Although a living trust can be an ideal way to pass your wealth and assets to your loved ones, each family's circumstances are different. This is why a lawyer should not create any documents until he or she knows what you actually need and what will be the most affordable solution for you and your family—both now and in the future—based on your family dynamics, assets, and desires.

The best way for you to determine which estate planning strategies are best suited for your situation is to find a lawyer who will take you through an analysis of your assets, get to know what's most important to you, and then empower you to feel 100% confident that you have the right combination of estate planning solutions to fit with your unique asset profile, family dynamics, and budget.

Estate planning is far more than simply planning for your death and passing on your assets to your loved ones—it's about planning for a life you love and creating a legacy worth leaving, all by being intentional in the choices you make today.



# SENIOR HAPPENINGS



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

Howard Rubin, Anita Hardy, Hattie Harris, Wendy Senou, Mary Harley, Bette White, Doris Behrens, Freda Bernard, Beth Copti, Terri Cummings, Marilyn Diaz, Virginia Elliott, Elma Flores, Betty Jo Gregg, Barbara Lampman, Betty Mackie, Elizabeth Rasmussen, Maria Reyes, Marian DeMars, Anne Schryver, Christine Bachwansky, Colleen McKernan, Sandy Swanson, Hank Landsberg, Ken Anhalt, Shannon Vandavelde

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

**THE HART PARK HOUSE SENIOR CENTER IS OPEN!!!!**  
**SIERRA MADRE SENIOR CLUB** Every Saturday from 11:30am-3:30 pm in the Hart Park House Senior Center. Join us as we celebrate birthdays, holidays and pay BINGO. Must be 50+ to join. For more information call Mark at 626-355-3951.

**DOMINOES TRAIN GAME** Wednesday, 4/6 & 4/20 11:00 am— 12:30 pm Hart Park House The object of the game is for a player to play all the tiles from their hand onto one or more trains, emanating from a central hub or "station". Call Lawren with questions that you may have.

#### PAINT PALS

Tuesday, 4/12 & 4/26,, 10:30 am—Hart Park House If you enjoy painting, sketching, water color, or making some other form of artistic creation please join our new program, PAINT PALS!!! Bring a project that you are working on to the HPH and enjoy some quality art time with other artists looking to paint with a new pal.

**TEA AND TALK SENIOR BOOK CLUB** Tuesday, 4/6 & 4/20— 9:00 am Staff has launched a new book club series, Tea and Talk, which meets twice a month to discuss the fun, suspense, intrigue, love and so much more that each selection will have in store!

**FIBER FRIENDS** Tuesday, 4/5 & 4/19 —10:00 am If you enjoy knitting, crocheting, embroidery, needlepoint, bunka, huck, tatting or cross stitch then we have a group for you! Bring your current project, a nonalcoholic beverage, then sit and chat with likeminded fiber friends. We meet in the Hart Park House

**BINGO** Tuesday 4/12 and 4/16 1:00 pm- 2:00 pm Come on down to enjoy this time with friends. We are trying a new spin on BINGO fun so please bring your good luck charms and BINGO markers!

**TAX ASSISTANCE WEDNESDAYS** 1:00 -2:00PM LAST DAY APRIL 6TH Don Brunner is available for income tax consultation. Please call 626-355-5278 x 704

**CHAIR YOGA** Every Monday and Wednesday, 10-10:45 am Please join us for some gentle stretching, yoga, balance exercise and overall relaxation with Paul. Classes are ongoing and held in the Memorial Park Covered Pavilion or the Hart Park House..

**HULA AND POLYNESIAN DANCE** Every Friday, 10-10:45 am Bring a lei, your flower skirt or just your desire to dance! Hula in the Park is back and waiting for you to join in on all the fun! Memorial Park Pavilion.

**SENIOR CINEMA WEDNESDAY, 4/13 1:00 PM**  
**EASTER PARADE PG 1H 43M**

Don Hewes and Nadine Hale are a dancing team, but she decides to start a career on her own. So he takes the next dancer he meets, Hannah Brown, as a new partner. After a while, this new team is so successful that Florenz Ziegfeld is interested in them, but due to the fact that Nadine Hale also dances (and stars) in the Ziegfeld Follies, Don says no. Despite the fact that he is in love with Hannah, he keeps the relation with her strictly business. So Hannah is of the opinion that he is still in love with Nadine, and her suspicion grows when he dances with Nadine in a Night Club Floor Show.



## OUT TO PASTOR

A Weekly Religion Column by Rev. James Snyder

### I'D GIVE HER A PIECE OF MY MIND IF I HAD ANY TO SPARE!

I do not know if grouchy comes with old age or if in old age you are too weak to subdue it. I guess it does not really matter because I am having a little bit of trouble along this line. My grouchy seems to be getting out of control.

I remember the good old days, those carefree days, days when I did not let anything bother me. Oh, how I wish they would return.

Lately, it seems everywhere I go I run into people that irritate me. It does not matter if I am driving in a car or walking down the street or sitting in a restaurant, irritating people seem to be everywhere. At least, they seem to be everywhere that I am. Every time I turn around there is somebody irritating me. I am at the point where I am tempted to stop "turning around."

Driving across town the other day I ran into, almost literally, some driver not watching where she was going. Barely missing her, I noticed she was talking on her cell phone. I am quite sure she did not even see me. I wanted to stop everything, get out of my car and give her a good piece of my mind.

But I didn't.

It took me a few minutes to settle down and quiet my nerves and so I decided to go to a little café for a cup of coffee. Nothing seems to soothe my nerves quicker than a nice hot cup of Joe. Let them say what they will, coffee is my best friend.

Fortunately, I was not in a hurry, but it still was a situation that irritated me and stirred up the grouchy within.

I was standing in line waiting to order my coffee when the lady in front of me was trying to figure out what she wanted. I am not sure if this person had ever been in a café before, but she acted as if she did not know what she was doing or what she wanted.

Then she did something that accented the positive in my grouchy.

"Could I have a sample taste of that coffee?" she said to the person behind the counter.

At first, I did not know what she was saying. But he agreed and went back and got a little cup and gave her a sample.

"I'm not sure," she said quite hesitatingly, "can I try another one?" And pointed to one of the coffees she was interested in.

I am absolutely positive that people should have the ability to make their own choices. I have no problem with that. My choice at that moment was to give that woman a good piece of my mind.

But I didn't.

Finally, after tasting about 10 different coffees, she picked one and finally I was able to order my coffee and find a seat and enjoy it.

I say, "Enjoy it," but it was rather difficult because my irritableness just would not go away. After all, there should be some respect for the person behind you when you are standing in line. Especially, if that person standing in line is me.

As I was sipping my coffee alone in the corner, some thoughts began to rattle in my head. The main thought emerging was that grouchy may be an inherited condition.

I began thinking of my father and his father and unfortunately, I did not know my great-grandfather, but the two that I did know had a wide streak of grouchy in them. If my memory serves me correct, the older they got, the more grouchy became predominant.

So, if grouchy is inherited I am really not to blame. Just thinking about that made me chuckle a little bit. In fact, I began to chuckle so much that my grouchy ran away in fear of his life. And so he should.

As I sat in that café enjoying my 2nd cup of coffee, I began evaluating my life. I think I have found out why grouchy is becoming more dominant in my life.

Everybody is born with a certain amount of "mind." We can do with that "mind" whatever we want to do with it. And so, if I begin giving people a "piece of my mind," I am going to diminish my supply of "mind."

When the "mind" gets low it introduces the level of grouchy. The last phase is when a person comes to the point where he "loses his mind." Now, once you lose your mind, you can never get it back.

I am at the grouchy stage and so I need to take a little bit of inventory. I have only so much "mind" left and I better take care of because that is all I got. Whenever I am tempted to give somebody a piece of my mind, I am going to stop and think it over a little bit.

Does that person really does serve a piece of my "mind?" If I give that person a piece of my mind, will I miss it?

I like what Peter says, "Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 1:13).

I am going to protect my mind and use it wisely because it is all I got.

Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala, FL with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Website is www.jamesnyderministries.com.



## PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT'S PERSEVERANCE AWARD

*"Perseverance is not a long race; it is many short races - one after the other."*

- Walter Elliot

That's the idea behind the Perseverance Award to be presented to several Pasadena Unified students this month. Recipients must demonstrate exceptional persistence working toward their highest potential in light of their age and/or life circumstances. Special education teachers collaborated with District leaders to develop award criteria and winners must demonstrate:

- **Perseverance:** By overcoming obstacles as they work to the best of their ability and they demonstrate sustained effort.
- **Positive Social-Emotional/Behavior Skills:** By maintaining positive school behaviors and respectfully participating with peers and staff.
- **Proactive:** By asking for help, demonstrating curiosity, and a drive to learn, as well as seeking information about topics of interest
- **Progress:** making progress toward their goals (academic skills and behavior)

Students will receive the awards during on-campus presentations. They will also receive special recognition at the April 28, 2022 School Board meeting and their accomplishments will be showcased in a slideshow. The number of awards per school will be based on the number of students with disabilities (SWD) served at each school site.

## MONEY TIP FOR STUDENTS, APRIL 2022

*Make college more affordable by saving on intangible costs*

When it comes to comparing the costs of various colleges, remember that on the broadest level, costs can be tangible or intangible. To save money, follow these tips from KHEEA.

Tangible costs include tuition, fees, room and board.

Intangible costs include everything else: textbooks and supplies; computers; and personal items, such as shampoo, clothes, entertainment, laundry and other expenses.

You can save money, sometimes a lot of money, by controlling the costs of your lifestyle. That doesn't mean skimping on shampoo, soap, food and doing your laundry. But you can cut costs by finding sales or using coupons. Always be looking out for buy one, get one free deals.

You can also save quite a bit of money by cutting back on treats such as entertainment and dining out. Doing those things less often will make them even more special when you do treat yourself.

Remember: The less you spend on the intangibles, the less you'll have to take out in student loans. That means that after you graduate you can afford more of the things you enjoy.

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The traditions of community newspapers and the concerns of our readers are this newspaper's top priorities. We support a prosperous community of well-informed citizens.

STUART TOLCHIN PUT THE LIGHTS ON



IT'S NOT MY FAULT

Then whose fault is it? This morning I met one of my two Republican friends on the golf course. Maybe I have more but right now I can't think of any.

"Why aren't the Democrats doing anything about it? You guys are in power now with a majority in both Houses of Congress and, instead, all the attention is going to debates about the proper response to Putin and questions about which is the best vaccine or when is the best time to schedule a cruise vacation..."

My immediate response was to get angry at him for already ruining our golf game. I hadn't read the LA Times article because I've sort of stopped regularly reading the paper or watching much news lately.

Oh, I was wrong! Thanks partly because of President Putin and the Pandemic the possibility or perhaps probability of environmentally anthropogenic (that means humans are too blame) comes closer and closer.

My epigeneticist friend living in Australia tells me that almost all species become extinct and I should just adjust to that understanding and have a good time while I'm still around.

Is everyone else out there managing to have a good time?

DICK POLMAN MOURNING THE LOSS OF A LOVED ONE IS NOT A DISEASE



My wife of 45 years died six months ago this week. I have been processing her loss ever since. But the American Psychiatric Association now says that I have only six more months to heal myself, and that if I blow the deadline, I should be clinically defined as

mentally diseased.

It's not in my nature to use this column for personal business. But the APA's decision to add "prolonged grief" (defined as one year or more) to its Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders strikes me as a ludicrous attempt to reboot natural bereavement as a disease.

I can't speak for other grieving souls, and, granted, I'm still a newbie. But I'll hazard a guess that most people in similar straits fail to reorient their emotional framework within one year's time.

Six months after my own heart was gutted, I seem to be an everyday functioning person. But there's no way that I can clear the APA's one-year hurdle. When Oct. 3, 2022 comes and goes, I'm quite sure I will meet the association's new definition of diseased.

I'm sure there are extreme cases of grief that do require medical treatment, but, as NYU psychiatry professor Benjamin Sadock points out, "In rare instances, prolonged grief progresses to depression, a well-recognized disorder that encompasses all of the symptoms of the 'new' diagnosis of prolonged grief, a disorder that is unnecessary, unwarranted, and one that may stigmatize those so diagnosed."

of us. I worry that this framing will render us even lonelier in our pain, even more convinced that our nonlinear, unpredictable paths through loss are 'wrong'...

And Martha Weinman Lear, who authored a book about loss, writes that the beneficiaries of the APA's new diagnosis will be "pill makers." She says: "What strikes me as abnormal is not grief beyond the APA's one-year prescription, but the degree of chutzpah required, professional training notwithstanding, to presume to set timelines for the normal grief of others, which in fact is as various as the griever's themselves."

The APA's one-year deadline smacks of classic



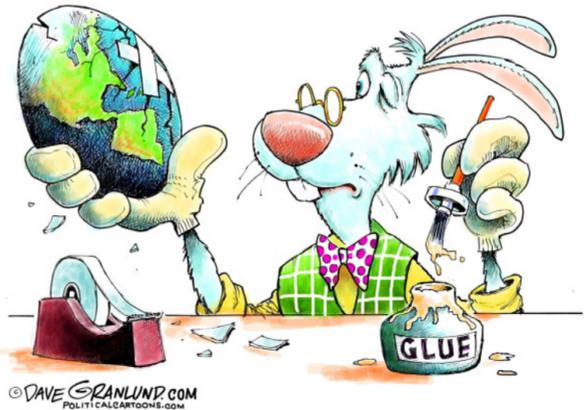
SOMETIMES THERE ARE JUST NO BUTTONS ON FACEBOOK THAT CAN EXPRESS ONE'S GRIEF FOR OTHERS...

American impatience: "Get over it" and "Move on with your life." Like the cowboy in Lonesome Dove who said, "Best thing to do with death is to ride off from it." Um, it's not that simple.

Bottom line: I like the Bob Dylan line, "he not busy being born is busy dying." What you do is, you learn to live with the emotional pain. Then you cushion it with all the joy you can muster for the good things in your life - be they family, friends (old and new), work, travel, biking, hiking, whatever - because you realize that gratitude can be a powerful palliative.

Sorry, headshrinkers. I won't need meds for that.

Dick Polman, a veteran national political columnist based in Philadelphia



RICH JOHNSON NOW THAT'S RICH



USEFUL OR USELESS STUFF... YOU DECIDE

As any of you who read my column know, I spare no hesitation in delivering truly useful information. Well, I inherited a boatload of brilliant bits of "stuff" from friends Nancy and Ken.

Information that will cause you (hopefully) to amaze and delight your friends, relatives, neighbors and complete strangers.

Here goes:

"Stewardess" is the longest word you can type with only the left hand. What about the right hand Rich? Hah! Got you covered. That word is "lollipop."

"Dreamt" is the only English word that ends in the letters "mt". (Which is what my head is often full of.)

Typewriter is the longest word that can be made using the letters on only one row of the keyboard. (Isn't this stuff great?)

Ever read the sentence: "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog?" Wonder why you see it? Because it uses every letter of the alphabet.

"Racecar", "kayak", and "level", are palindromes. Backwards and forwards they say the same thing.

There are only four words in English that end in the letters "dous". Tremendous, horrendous, stupendous, and hazardous.

There are two words in the English language that have all 5 vowels in order: "Abstemious" and "Facetious." But what about sometimes "y?"

A goldfish has a memory span of three seconds. (How did they figure that out?)

How long is a jiffy? 1/100th of a second.

A snail can sleep for three years. (I may be a member of the snail family.)

Almonds are a member of the peach family. Huh?

In the last 4,000 years no new animals have been domesticated.

If the population of China walked past you, 8 abreast, the line would never end because of the rate of reproduction. (How do we prove this?)

Leonardo Da Vinci invented the scissors.

The Queen Elizabeth 2 cruise ship moves only six inches for each gallon of diesel fuel.

There are more chickens than people in the world.

Women blink nearly twice as much as men. That number goes way up when men are staring at pretty girls.

Winston Churchill was born in a ladies' room during a dance.

And...all the ants in Africa weigh more than all the elephants. (Another one that may be hard to prove.)

My rock and roll band, JJ Jukebox is playing 6:30 to 9:30 at Nano Café in Sierra Madre, Saturday night, April 23, 1950's, 60's and 70's "FUN" rock and roll. Dance to it, dine to it, drink to it. Make reservations Wednesday through Saturday after 4:00pm by calling the restaurant at (626) 325-3334.





## SIERRA MADRE GIRLS SOFTBALL SPRING SEASON UPDATES

April 7, 2022 – Only two weeks remain for Sierra Madre Girls Softball Association's Spring Season before we move into the playoffs! The last two weeks of April will be devoted to playoffs, culminating in championship games and closing day ceremonies at Hoesley Field on Sunday, May 1.

Recent highlights include:

### SMGSA SELECT TEAMS

SMGSA's new Select Teams completed their spring season. This special program supplements regular season play to provide skill development and exposure to tournament-style games. The 8U Select Team (Phantoms) wrapped up their games at the end of March with three competitive friendlies against Crescenta Valley, San Dimas and Diamond Bar, which provided them valuable experience against some of the region's top teams. The 12U Team (Panthers) wrapped up their season with a double header against Crescenta Valley on March 27, finishing their final game with a triumphant win. We are proud of our Select Team players and excited to see the impact of these experiences as they continue their development.



### SPRING SEASON GAMES:

#### 8U Division

April 3 – Panthers 5 vs. Killer Bees 10  
Olivia Medrano and Molly Stearns powered the Killer Bee's offense with a combined 7 RBIs between the 2. Melody Modares contributed on defense with key stops in the Outfield as Killer Bees cruised to its 6th consecutive win.

#### 10U Division

April 1 – Killer Crocs 0 vs. Danger Zone 10  
April 2 – Purple Reign 11 vs. Red Hot Chili Peppers 7

#### 14U Division

April 6 – A-Team (SMGSA) 6 vs. Temple City 9

Sierra Madre Girls Softball Association offers girls ages 5 to 14 from Sierra Madre, Arcadia, Monrovia, Pasadena, Altadena and surrounding communities the opportunity to develop softball skills and good sportsmanship in a positive environment. For more information, visit [smgsa.org](http://smgsa.org) and follow SMGSA on Facebook @sierramadregirlssoftballassociation and Instagram @smgsa.

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## SIERRA MADRE LITTLE LEAGUE PLAYERS OF THE WEEK MARCH 28, 2022



T-BALL SM ROCKIES AADYN F-S.

Aadyn has really grown as a first year T Ball player. He has worked so hard during practice and as result has improved every game and made a few big stops at second base. He listens so well and was so excited for his first hit during a coach pitch batting practice, he started running all the bases. Because of his hard work, great attitude and being an awesome player- Aadyn is this week's T-Ball player of the week!



A SM RANGERS WYATT S.

Wyatt's offense has improved so much this season! Wyatt has been working hard on making contact with the ball, and hitting it hard! Last week his hard work paid off! He had two stellar hits in the game! Wyatt's batting, positive attitude, and hustle played a role in him earning this week's A player of the week!



AA SM A'S CARTER Q.

The A's had a tough game this week against a PALL team, but one of the bright spots in the game was watching Carter Q. at the plate. He was aggressive, had no interest in waiting for coach-pitch and got two huge hits off of kids that are twice his size. He continues to improve each week, and has a huge future ahead of him. His positive attitude and great team spirit as well as hard work are why he is this week AA player of the week!



AAA SM BRAVES KINGSTON H.

Kingston is making his debut this year in AAA. He has become a reliable starting pitcher and catcher for the team. He was the starting pitcher in the 11-6 win of PSW Cubs. He allowed 2 runs in 2 innings. He also had 2 hits and 3 RBIs during the victory. Kingston always has a great attitude, and always give 100% at practice and in the games. He is an exceptional teammate, and because of his hard work on and off this field this week, he is SMLL's AAA player of the week!



CHALLENGER SM JAMES H.

The youngest player on the team, James joined the Challenger team 2 years ago with nothing but his awesome blue bat that is the exact color of his hero, Thomas the Tank Engine. James has worked tirelessly to become an awesome teammate on and off the field, learning everything from batting to fielding to cheering and most importantly, how to give epic high fives.



MAJORS SM CUBS ALEX L.

Alex L. is the Cubs player of the week for his stellar pitching and batting against some tough opponents. Alex only needed 55 pitches over 3 innings against the PALL A's to seal the victory, as his bat contributed 6 RBI's including an in-the-park home run. Alex is a true team player willing to play whatever position necessary to help his squad; a true Cub!

## MEET OUR PRESIDENT ROB BISCHOFF

Rob was born and raised in Long Island before settling on the West Coast. Rob's love of the game starts back in 1986 back when the Mets had a good year. His baseball experience was colorful with one of his grandpas, a die hard Mets fan, and the other a true blue Yankee fan. After watching this rivalry, Rob was hooked and despite the blue out numbering fans still to this day, Rob stayed true to his orange and blue Mets. Rob played Little League growing up and was an all star every year eligible. He played first base and catcher until 7th grade where his passion changed due to unforeseen circumstances and he fell in love with a new sport, volleyball. He played volleyball in college University at Albany where he graduated summa cum laude with a BS in Business Administration. While studying he was Senior Vice President of Delta Sigma Pi, and Executive member of the Student Association. After graduation, Rob met his wife, Colleen in New York. They moved back to Sierra Madre to be near family. They have two children Isla, and Nolan. Rob previously has managed the SM Mets where he has one AA championship title. He has managed the SM AAA mets in the City Championship, as well as managed the 10's All Star Team in 2021. Currently, Rob is assistant coaching on the SM Dodgers, a dream of his. Rob was nominated as SMLL's president in 2021 and re-elected in 2022 both with unanimous votes. He has taken Little League's core values and has made this League stronger than it has ever been before. He has shown leadership by teaching and inspiring others to be their best. He has also created an environment that people want to be a part of, enjoy and grow within. He has taken all the failures and has grown our league. You will find him most weekends with his brother-in-law Justin G. at the fields doing upgrades and/or moving equipment. When he is not at practice, or driving his children to their activities, you can find him training for marathons, fishing at Bass Lake, or drinking Lotus Coffee at the Diner. Rob hopes to see his son Nolan riding his bike to practice one day, and enjoying the game as much as he did! We are so grateful for Rob and for all of his hard work and nonstop efforts to make this league great for all of our players!



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**WHETHER LOOKING TO SELL OR BUY A HOME**

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  
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SRES – Seniors Real Estate Specialist Broker's License: 01135433  
Specialty: Residential & Income Properties  
Designation: CRS, GRI, SRES  
Languages: English, Greek



**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!**

GOOD FRIDAY

A WALK-THROUGH EXPERIENCE

Fri, April 15  
8a - 8p

A visual journey through the multi-layered significance of the cross.

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

CHRIST CHURCH  
SIERRA MADRE

EASTER  
EGG HUNT

CRAFTS | CANDY | PHOTO BOOTH

Sat, April 16  
10a - 12p

Free event for families with children ages 11 and under. Register online by April 10!

170 W SIERRA MADRE BLVD | [CHRISTCHURCHSM.ORG](http://CHRISTCHURCHSM.ORG)

EASTER  
SUNDAY

SERVICES

Sun, April 17  
9a & 10:45a

Join us as we celebrate the true life we find through the resurrection of Jesus!

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