

# Mountain Views News

Sierra Madre

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Altadena

South Pasadena

San Marino

SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 2022

VOLUME 16 NO. 17



the webb-martin group



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## SHRED EVENT

Looking To Dispose Of Your Sensitive Documents? Stop by and drop-off your documents safely.

**DATE** Saturday, April 23rd  
**TIME** 8:30am to 2:00pm  
**PLACE** 30 North Baldwin Avenue  
Sierra Madre, CA 91024



**NEW PRICE** 471Auburn.com  
Contemporary Craftsman Listed at **\$2,399,000**  
471 Auburn Avenue 4 Beds | 4 Baths | 3,679 sf | 11,179 sf Lot  
Sierra Madre 91024

## ART OF THE GARDEN

**Sunday, April 24, 2022**  
10:30am - 4:30pm

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



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**Jan Greteman** 626.975.4033  
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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.



## SIERRA MADRE LEADS THE WAY

### City's 2022 Water Distribution Solar Energy Project is the first of its kind in the 88 cities of Los Angeles County



Front Row (l to r) : Former Mayor Rachelle Arizmendi, Mayor Gene Goss, Congresswoman Judy Chu, LA County Supervisor Kathryn Barger, CA State Senator Anthony Portantino; Back row (l to r): Mayor Pro Tem Edward Garcia, Councilmembers Kelly Kriebs and Robert Parkhurst, City Manager Jose Reynoso and SGVMW Director Miles Prince.

On Earth Day, Friday, April 22, 2022, Sierra Madre made history! Sierra Madre became the first city in Los Angeles County to install a Photovoltaic Solar ground-mount system of solar panels near the groundwater replenishment basins, City Yard, and water production facilities.

The project, known as Sierra Madre's 2022 Water Distribution Solar Energy Project will absorb

and convert sunlight directly into electricity. The project is estimated to offset 948,332 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of energy from the Water Department's production facility. The savings account for approximately 38% of the energy use in the production and distribution of the City's water supply. In addition, the Solar Project will eliminate 693 tons of CO2 emissions and save 1,457 barrels of oil per year. The

panels will consume no fossil fuels and produce no air emissions. As promised, the ground mount system has little to no impact in modifying the scenic view of the San Gabriel Mountains.

Appropriately, on Earth Day, Mayor Gene Goss, the city council and Congresswoman Judy Chu, State Senator Judy Chu and LA County Supervisor Kathryn Barger cut the ribbon indicating the completion

of the project.

Construction began in late January, 2022. For additional information on the project and its impact go to:

[http://mtnewsnews.com/old/mvnews/v16/MVNews\\_2022\\_01\\_29.pdf](http://mtnewsnews.com/old/mvnews/v16/MVNews_2022_01_29.pdf)

S. Henderson/MVNews  
Photo Courtesy City of Sierra Madre

## DISTURBING ARREST MADE IN CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CASE

For the second time in just over 6 months, an arrest has been made of a Sierra Madre resident charged with possession of child pornography.

A press release issued by SMPD Captain Henry Amos, stated, "In early 2022, the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Taskforce forwarded the Sierra Madre Police Department a cyber-tip regarding downloaded child pornography. After a thorough follow-up investigation, a suspect was identified.

On April 20, 2022, the Sierra Madre Police Department served a search and arrest warrant at a residence in the City of Sierra Madre, collecting electronic devices and other evidence. Suspect Eduardo Carralero has been taken into custody and is currently being held at Los Angeles County Jail for possession of child pornography."

Since that time, Carralero has been released on bail.

In October, 2021, Jared Mason was also arrested by SMPD and booked and charged with possession of Child Pornography as well as charges for possession of a firearm without a serial number and illegal possession of an AR 15.

Both defendants are in their 20's with court dates pending. Even though the California legislature has made crimes against children a priority - stating that they should be brought to trial as soon as possible - LA County District Attorney Gascon's policies do not follow the states mandate or guidelines. Another possession of child pornography case involving a long time Sierra Madre resident in 2020 has not yet been adjudicated. The accused was released from custody without bail on Gascon's watch.

According to the ICAC Taskforce, "the best tool we have to prevent Internet crimes against children is education." On their website the statistics on Sextortion, the online exploitation crime directed towards children, is staggering. (Sextortion (icactaskforce.org)).

It is unknown the origin of the pornography in the incidents mentioned above, however, parents are encouraged to become educated and to educate their children on how to protect themselves against internet predators.

The ICAC website is an excellent resource for information on how to protect children Internet Safety - ICAC (icactaskforce.org).



## DAVID BENOIT: LIVE CONCERT FOR UKRAINE

A BENEFIT CONCERT



A special live concert featuring internationally acclaimed Jazz Pianist - Producer David Benoit streamed live Sunday, April 3, 2022 from the home of Tom and Julia Brady in Sierra Madre. Backed by Roberto Vally on bass and Daniel Schnelle on drums, the trio dazzled guests with a memorable performance, with proceeds benefitting the Ukrainian relief efforts of the Ukraine Rotary clubs in Kyiv and Lviv, Ukraine.

This rare concert was streamed live to friends and family on YouTube in 63 countries who wished to support our Relief for Ukraine Concert.

Special thanks to [www.DavidBenoitMusic.com](http://www.DavidBenoitMusic.com)

Thank you to David Benoit, Julie Brady, Sierra Madre Rotary Club, Club President Marc Garlett, Karen Swisher, David Palomares, and Community Media of the Foothills, Monrovia, for their technical assistance. ([www.FoothillsMedia.org](http://www.FoothillsMedia.org))

### DONATIONS FOR RELIEF IN UKRAINE

Your donations will be used to provide immediate food, shelter, and medical supplies for families displaced by the war in Ukraine. Partners include ShelterBox USA, Kyiv Rotary Club, Ukraine, Lviv Rotary Club Ukraine, and the Rotary Club of Sierra Madre, California.

### HOW TO DONATE

Come to a Rotary meeting at the Hart House on Tuesdays at 7:00am-8:30am for a non-host breakfast and donate in person through 12/30/22.

Or mail your checks to  
The Sierra Madre Rotary Club  
PO Box 863 Sierra Madre, CA 91025  
Attn: Ukraine Fund, Georgia Carpenter, Sierra Madre Rotary Treasurer

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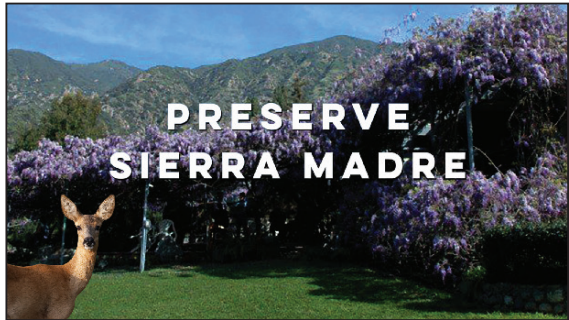
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ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS

As objections arise in the community about New Urban West and its investor-supported plans to build a 42 unit tract housing project below the Retreat Center, concerns are being raised by the Passionists that opposing this project will impact their ability to expand the Retreat Center and their religious mission.

Taking a closer look, we learn that the property is currently zoned institutional and has been since 1996, when the General Plan was updated to reflect its then-current use. Hearing no objection from Mater Dolorosa within the 90 day period required by law, the General Plan was adopted.

Under its present institutional zoning, Mater Dolorosa can expand the Retreat Center or build an additional religious institution to expand their mission. But they have chosen not to do that – instead choosing to build a 42 unit tract housing development with no religious purpose.

During the time of its institutional zoning, there were no attempts to expand the building and its mission beyond the existing facilities. Realistically, there was no need as the Retreat Center has almost 90 single and double rooms plus conference rooms, a library, breakout rooms, a Chapel and a kitchen capable of feeding over 100 guests 3 meals a day.

Prior to that, it had been zoned Residential for many years with no plans to build housing for any purpose. Two large buildings were on the grounds: the Monastery Building (built in 1929) and the Retreat Center (built in 1950 and last expanded in 1985, almost forty years ago).

When the Monastery building was damaged by an earthquake in June 1991, they could have rebuilt it and continued its religious use. But they chose not to do that - instead demolishing the building in 1992, leaving only the Retreat Center. Perhaps they could clearly see the future and the diminishing need for facilities like this going forward. And this trend continues to this day. Young men and women are increasingly not interested in pursuing this way of life and there are not enough of them to support the aging Fathers.

Interestingly, the Mater Dolorosa Retreat Center and the property are owned by the Passionists of Chicago. They are one of many Passionist groups selling off land, retreat centers and monastery property throughout the country. Unfortunately, it is not a growing industry.

Retreat Centers, summer retreat camps, Passionist headquarters in Massachusetts, Missouri, Kansas, Kentucky, Chicago, Cincinnati, Iowa....

Let's look at Preserve Sierra Madre's (PSM) April 9th article where they discussed Measure V. This measure was not spot-zoning, targeting a single property for an overly restrictive zoning change which would make all existing development non-conforming and any future expansion illegal. It was applicable to the downtown area and placed limits on building heights and density. They also mentioned that the opposition spent a large amount of money in their fight. That is the case, but it is not a sound argument that spending more money means one's position is wrong. This sort of attack is a fallacious argument attacking the person and not their position.

One thing that does seem to have been learned from the Measure V fight is in reference to PSM's criticism of things like this: "Dire consequences if you signed the petition... pictures of apartment buildings in back yards." Oddly enough, Protect Sierra Madre - Stop the Housing Project (STOP) has been doing the same thing. They have been making exaggerated claims (virtually all dispelled by the EIR) and showing pictures of developments that have considerably higher density than the proposed project. They have been called out on this numerous times and continue these misrepresentations. Let's see if they are using the same misleading pictures on Saturday at the Earth Day festivities.

Even this last week STOP continued spreading misinformation in an email where they said, "Again, our petition does not stop development entirely nor does it limit in any way the current services that the on-site Passionist fathers provide, though New Urban West is spinning to scare residents with that fabrication." Where has anyone opposing the initiative made those specific claims? This is just a strawman. Why won't they address the fact that their initiative will stop all FUTURE institutional development of the Passionists, thus violating their religious rights?

all suffered the “heartbreaking” decision to close and sell, due to the declining number of new priests coming into the order and the costs of caring for an older population of clergy whose average age is 78.

Presently, the Passionists Holy Cross Province has only four operating Retreat Centers in the US including our Mater Dolorosa in Sierra Madre. Throughout the country, Passionist Retreat Centers and Monasteries have closed their doors, been torn down or sold for other purposes.

Zoning is not whimsical. It is based on years of hard work by Sierra Madre citizens, staff and officials to carefully create the Sierra Madre of the future. When adopted by the City Council in 2016, the General Plan established significant goals, objectives and policies to implement its vision for the community. Now, less than four years later, New Urban West and its investors seek to disregard this plan and its current institutional zoning and replace it with their own special vision of Sierra Madre outlined in its ‘Specific Plan’. Many in Sierra Madre feel this ‘vision’ is inconsistent with the plan we drew up for our future and feel Hillside Residential zoning accurately implements the objectives and policies of the General Plan. This parcel of land, adjacent to the mountains is a Wildlife Urban Interface, a Very High Fire Severity Zone and, critically, is located on the last open alluvial fan bordering the San Gabriel Mountains. It should be protected by the SAME Hillside restrictions and hillside residential zoning that the City has applied to ALL other large parcels that are adjacent to the Mountains. And like all those other rezoned properties, any existing use when they were rezoned would become - UNDER OUR ORDINANCES - a nonconforming use.

Hillside Residential Zoning would fairly apply to the Mater Dolorosa parcel the same protections that our City (and many other Hillside communities) has enacted to preserve the land and protect it from excessive overdevelopment.

Their practice of religion as they have for decades can continue. Despite their website FAQs indicating they had no plans to build, the 70,000 sqft/90 bedroom building can be renovated as necessary to expand their mission and their kitchen. They can subdivide and sell any part of the parcel for hillside residential development. Any part they choose to keep and use for religious purposes can be used as it is now - for retreats - and for a food ministry like the one they did during the pandemic. A win-win for everyone.

Realistically, Retreat Centers don't have much of a future and it would be foolhardy to believe that our Mater Dolorosa, a special, unique - almost magical place filled with nature's beauty - will be around for another hundred years, especially after a dense housing development removes the trees, destroys the habitat of the wildlife, and ruins the peaceful tranquility that visitors have enjoyed for many decades.

It is far more likely that the Retreat Center on 23 acres will be put up for sale. And if the 'Specific Plan' proposed by NUW is approved, it will pave the way and set the precedent for another high density development with another 'Specific Plan' to be built on the rest of the property.

This has been expressly stated now at least half a dozen times and backed up with evidence.

Continuing with PSM they said they “promised residents to be fact finders in our fair town” and also claimed that the developer was spreading misinformation. They said, “The petition will not hurt the Passionist Fathers, who will still be able to ... use their property for any religious purpose.” That's a nice opinion, but it isn't backed up by the facts. If they have a religious purpose that includes expanding their development or changing the use of a building then they can't do it! In Sierra Madre Neighbors for Fairness' editorial on the same page, we cited both the initiative and relevant federal law to show how the zoning change would violate the rights of the Passionists. Again, this is the difference between sharing an opinion and sharing facts. Their opinion is wrong.

PSM went on to say “All it will do is change the designation from Institutional Zone to Hillside Management Zone, like the majority of other properties along the hillside.” It is a fact that the initiative will change the zoning. It is not a fact that there are no consequences to the zoning change or that an institutional property should be zoned the same as residential properties. For weeks now we and others have been spelling out exactly how the zoning change will violate the Passionists' rights as a religious institution, and we have been backing it up with facts. We have yet to see it shown that the facts or conclusions drawn from them are wrong.

Are you starting to understand what is happening here? We keep showing how the initiative will violate the religious rights of the Passionists and the other side keeps ignoring it. This has to be a PR nightmare for the proponents of the initiative if they must continually obfuscate what is happening and ignore the facts.

Opposing the initiative is not about supporting the housing project, it is about supporting the rights of the Monastery. We unashamedly support property rights in Sierra Madre in the name of fairness and we do so with the Monastery's and the developer's support. For more information visit [www.sierramadreneighborsforfairness.org](http://www.sierramadreneighborsforfairness.org)



**WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN THE CITY BUT NOT SURE HOW? APPLY TO JOIN A COMMISSION!**

The City is expected to have vacancies on our commissions soon so you can get a head start by applying now.

Applications and more information can be found here: [cityofsierramadre.com/cityhall/commissions](http://cityofsierramadre.com/cityhall/commissions)

Planning Commission has one (1) expected vacancy.

Community Services Commission has one (1) expected vacancy.

Library Board of Trustees has two (2) anticipated vacancies.

Natural Resources Commission has one current vacancy and one anticipated vacancy for a total of **two (2) vacancies**.

**Interested? Go To: <https://www.cityofsierramadre.com/cityhall/commissions>**

MONASTERY MINUTE:

By Robert Gjerde

HOW WILL THE MEADOWS PROJECT PROTECT THE HILLSIDES?

One of Sierra Madre's greatest resources is its mountains. There has been a lot of discussion about making sure the Meadows project protects the hillsides. The reality is that it won't directly protect the hillsides because the homes, which will be 500 feet to the south of the hills, will not be in the hillside area. The 45 acres of the Monastery lot is one of the few remaining large buildable lots in the city. Only the 10 acres to the north is in the hills.

The grade below that section quickly drops off to less than 15%, which Sierra Madre calls Slope Category 1, and is where the vast majority of homes in the city are built. To be fair, the “hillside environment” doesn't only consist of hillsides.

The city's zoning code also mentions protecting prominent hillside features like swales, canyons, knolls, ridgelines, and rock outcrops, none of which exist in the area where homes are proposed. For comparison, we can look to the R-1 zoned homes directly west that are built on the same slope with the same type of cut and fill grading that the project would have.

It should be mentioned that as part of the Memorandum of Understanding it was agreed that lots owned by the Monastery further to the north will be given to the city and placed in conservancy.

Why this is important and how it should be done to meet the goals and objectives of the city's General Plan is still being discussed.



Regarding the highly controversial Monastery project (a/k/a The Meadows), there's so much misinformation out there - what to believe? We'd like to set the record straight...Anti Catholic? Trying to limit the Mater Dolorosa property rights and stifle their ability to do their good works? All because of a petition to give us residents a vote of what happens in our town rather than leave it up to five members of City Council who don't seem to hear anything that is said.

What the petition that is being circulated by the Protect Sierra Madre group will do is give residents a vote in November, (when we vote for three City Council members as well as state and national mid-terms). The vote is to hold the owners of the Monastery property, the Passionist Fathers in Chicago to the same zoning laws as the rest of us. Every large property north of Grand View is in the Hillside Management Zone, limiting placing very large homes crammed together. This will also limit the very real damage of cutting down over 100 trees.

New Urban West representative Jonathan Frankel told the Planning Commission that they plan to plant 500 saplings, including many cypress and deodar trees. We know we are in a severe drought, and we know that these saplings will take substantial water for their roots to take hold - water that we don't have according to our own City Manager. These trees are highly flammable, according to a local fauna expert, being planted in the high fire zone.

What the initiative will not do - limit the Mater Dolorosa Fathers' good works. Not only have they not added on to their current building, but they tore down one after the 1991 earthquake, over the objections of many protestors. We know young men are not joining the priesthood, Retreat Centers have been closed throughout the US. Restrictive? How will this hinder what they are already doing - feeding the hungry, renting out their property for a Retreat.

Anti Catholic? How about anti Sierra Madre? If you attended or watched the Planning Commission meeting on April 7, you saw all the green shirted people in the audience supporting the Meadows project. Sadly, over 50% of those people had received a post card at their Hastings Ranch home, were fed dinner at the Only Place in Town, before taking up the majority of seats, including two rows of "reserved" seats.

This project controversy will heat up as the Planning Commission and City Council study the facts. Let's us stick to the facts as well!

Citizens for the Truth

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# SIERRA MADRE

SIERRA MADRE

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## SIERRA MADRE SPOTLIGHT:

By Meghan Malooly

### Annette Pizzo-McGill and Gigi Hutchinson: Supporting Women One Day at a Time

I am so excited to introduce this week's spotlight duo. They have created a women empow-ered small business collective where everyone can support one another called, 'The Traveled Path Collaborative'. The two geniuses behind this incredible group are Annette Pizzo-McGill and Gigi Hutchinson. Not only do these women host this group to support women in their business dreams, but they themselves each own a small business here in Sierra Madre, Rockin' Rollers and Nettie Creations.

Annette is a yogi & yoga teacher and also owns Nettie Creations which is the sweetest (pun completely intended, I like to think I'm funny) home bakery that does everything from cake pops and cookies to diaper cakes. Over the last year I have had the absolute pleasure to work with her at most of the events that I plan and I can tell you that not only are her products adorable and amazing but when she is the one to arrange the actual dessert table it is always drop dead gorgeous! She is an unbelievably hard worker and a joy to work with. Her chocolate covered oreos are my favorite and not just because I'm a chubby girl, they're just that good! One of the things that is so impressive about her is that she is the sugar queen but doesn't eat sugar herself. She lives a very healthy lifestyle which goes hand in hand with running a health and wellness business where she teaches yoga. She has been a yoga teacher for many years hosting both adult and kid classes. Both Annette and Gigi have a passion for healthy living which is one of the reasons that led them to create The Traveled Path.

Gigi owns Rockin' Rollers, a fantastic salon right on Montecito! One of my favorite things is to go by when her husband is performing (he's a musician who sings and plays guitar) outside the salon. You can get your hair done and get a free concert all at once! Gigi is a very talented hair stylist but it doesn't stop there. She not only wants to help people look their best but to also feel their best, "I am a fan of beauty and wellness products & lifestyle, as well as all things creative and transformative." - Gigi. She is a special needs mom and credits that to partly why she loves to empower others and help them on whatever journey they may be on. Whether it's by helping them at her salon or through another group of hers "Favorite Picks" where she offers "recommendations, and shares about people, places and things!"

The reason for The Traveled Path Collaborative is to help women feel supported. Gigi and Annette explained it best when they said, "Our goal is for women to feel uplifted, inspired, motivated, and excited." There is no charge to join this group, they host it purely to help their fellow woman. They have created this amazing community where people can feel comfortable leaning on one another and asking for advice in a judgment free space. Every week they highlight a woman in their 'Featured Female' series. Each highlighted woman is asked the same questions and what I love about it is by everyone answering the same things it really showcases how unique each person is, as all the answers are different. "As a female entrepreneur, I am very aligned with the struggles and joys of this endeavor and it is my desire to spotlight other women who work hard to bring their creative passions to life!" - Gigi They started this group



during Corona because they felt an urge to do something positive and bring some light into an otherwise pretty dark couple of years.

I met both of these women randomly about a year ago and the more I get to know them the more impressed I become. They have both done so much in their lives and have dedicated themselves to helping others through customer service and this community group. I have no idea how they find the time to do it all! On top of everything they both have families and friends and lives outside of their businesses and groups. It's truly amazing to see that you really can have it all! I urge everyone to take a page from their book and follow your passion, whatever it might be (well maybe not me, if I followed my passion of loving all things zombies, things could take a turn!) but definitely everyone else! Thank you ladies for supplying us with not only all of the sugar and hair care that we need but also for creating somewhere where people can be there for one another without fear of being mocked or ridiculed. Social media can be a great thing but sometimes I have seen some pretty rough reactions to people's posts and I know that fear has stopped others from posting, but they do their best to make sure that doesn't happen so we can all feel safe and supported! I can't wait to see how The Traveled Path is going to grow and what the future will bring, because with everyone I know about both of them, this is just the beginning!

#### Social Media Links:

[www.thetraveledpath.com](http://www.thetraveledpath.com)

[www.facebook.com/TheTraveledPathCollab](http://www.facebook.com/TheTraveledPathCollab)

[www.instagram.com/TheTraveledPathCollaborative](http://www.instagram.com/TheTraveledPathCollaborative)

#### Annette:

[www.nettiecreations.com](http://www.nettiecreations.com)

[www.annettepizzomcgill.com](http://www.annettepizzomcgill.com)

Instagram @nettie.creations

#### Gigi:

<https://rockinrollersusa.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/MyFavoritePicks>

<https://www.instagram.com/favorite.picks/>

## WALKING SIERRA MADRE - The Social Side

by Deanne Davis

*"We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children."*

*Native American Proverb*

"He that plants trees loves others beside himself." Thomas Fuller  
 "The earth has music for those who listen." William Shakespeare

"The earth does not belong to us; we belong to the earth." Chief Seattle

"Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts." Rachel Carson



"Guy's really a bummer, dude!"

The time is near, tiny clouds are forming in the sky but Noah's neighbors don't notice at all. What they do notice is there seem to be more bees buzzing around than usual. The bees take a look at the people, smell the margaritas and move on quickly. Nothing there to eat.

Noah notices them, too, and has a brief consultation with The Lord as to how to bring the bees onboard. He notices there seems to be a tree branch that is hanging heavy with something that is attracting the bees. Slipping his hammer back into his tool belt, Noah follows the bees, who seem to be inviting him to come see what they are doing. Taking a moment to stretch his aching back and sip a little water, Noah steps off the Ark and follows the bees, noticing as he goes that they are flying in and out of the fragrant flowers along the pathway to the tree. The air is fragrant and Noah appreciates a moment away from his labor.

A bee larger than all the others flies to Noah and perches on his hand. She seems to nestle there, knowing she is safe. God opens Noah's ears and he can hear what she is asking, entreating. "Please, Noah, bring us all. Bring our family." She lifts her heavy body off his hand and leads him forward. As Noah walks toward her home, more bees begin to cluster around the queen and link to each other's bodies, hanging onto their legs and arms to create a form that keeps the family together.

"Yes!" God says. "Bring them all and they will give you honey to make your bread and comfort at the end of the day to sweeten your tea."

Noah sees that the branch can easily be broken off and he gently does exactly that. With the bees dancing happily around him, he takes the hive back to the Ark. Nailing a crosspiece across two beams, he secures the hive and goes back to work. "We will need these when we reach land," he says, and thanks God for providing bees which will bring new life in a new land.

"My bees cover one thousand miles of land that I do not own in their foraging flights, flying from flower to flower for which I pay no rent, stealing nectar but pollinating plants in return." Sue Hubbell

If you're looking at seed packets at Home Depot, why not bring home some sunflowers, dahlias, rosemary, zinnias. They look fabulous, smell wonderful and bees like them.

My book page: Amazon.com: Deanne Davis  
 Where you'll find "Sunrises and Sunflowers Speak Hope"  
 And "A Tablespoon of Love, A Tablespoon of Laughter"  
 Both of these books are stuffed with hope and a good recipe or two.  
 The Emma Gainsworth Kindle novelettes are there, too.  
 Along with other goodies like "Noah and The Unicorns."

## 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 [4thofjulysiamadre@gmail.com](mailto:4thofjulysiamadre@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>

## NEW - SIERRA MADRE 'PEOPLE'

By Justin Matthews

Ten years ago, **LAWRENCE JACKSON** felt as though he had "landed in Mayberry". Since 2012, he has been romanced by the city that he proudly calls home.

#### Lawrence walks a lot.

Lawrence walks in the morning, he walks in the evenings, and sometimes, you may catch him without his dogs walking at midday. Lawrence is a walker, and when asked if someone knows Lawrence the response is always the same, "oh yeah, the man who walks with his dogs".

I would imagine it is impossible to spend a full day in Sierra Madre without seeing Lawrence walk by at some point, motioning a generous waive or offering a thoughtful greeting to a neighbor.



I jumped at the opportunity to sit and learn more about Lawrence because I knew I would get to ask the question that I have been curious about for years, "Lawrence, why do you walk so much!?" I must admit that I had my own assumptions about what his answer would be to that question, and his answer rendered me more cynical than I realized. I figured that Lawrence was walking to "clear his head" "to stay fit" or perhaps even to avoid something.

His answer surprised me, and it might surprise you too. "Growing up on the southside of Chicago you went where you had to go and you knew which areas you had to stay away from. Walking where I grew up could be a very stressful thing. Here in Sierra Madre, the weather is always wonderful, the people are so friendly, and I get to walk my dogs twice a day. It makes me feel good to walk, and to see people. Walking is a way to enjoy the freedom I have here."

Lawrence has intentionally de-cluttered the stress from his life, and has created a lifestyle where he gets to be happy on his terms.

For Lawrence, walking is not an exercise in escapism or avoidance, but rather, walking is a declaration of gratitude for the life that he lives and the opportunities that are available to him. Being from a place where walking for enjoyment was unheard of, here, Lawrence takes full advantage of being able to connect with nature as well as his greatest love - people.

With each step and warm smile, Lawrence reminds us to ask ourselves the question we so often neglect: "What does happiness expressed look like in my life?"

Maybe the answer to that question is closer than we thought, perhaps just one walk away

## This Week's Highlights:

2	CONVERSATIONS: The Meadows	6	SURROUNDING CITIES	10	EDUCATION & YOUTH	NEW! SIERRA MADRE CROSSWORD PUZZLE CONTEST  10 LOCAL RESIDENT OFFERS A CHALLENGE GOOD WITH CROSSWORD PUZZLES? THINK YOU KNOW THE CITY?
3/4	SIERRA MADRE NEWS WALKING SIERRA MADRE .....NEW: PEOPLE .....SM SPOTLIGHT CALENDAR	7	AROUND SAN GABRIEL VALLEY POLICE BLOTTERS LA COUNTY HEALTH	12	OPINION	
5	PASADENA/ALTADENA	8	BEST FRIENDS & MORE	13/14	LEGAL NOTICES	
		9	THE GOOD LIFE	15	YOUTH SPORTS	



## Weather Wise

6-Day Forecast Sierra Madre, Ca.

<b>Sun</b>	Sunny	Hi	80s	Lows	50s
<b>Mon</b>	Sunny	Hi	80s	Lows	50s
<b>Tues</b>	Sunny	Hi	80s	Lows	50s
<b>Wed</b>	Sunny	Hi	70s	Lows	50s
<b>Thur</b>	Sunny	Hi	70s	Lows	50s
<b>Fri</b>	Sunny	Hi	70s	Lows	50s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

### SIERRA MADRE CITY MEETINGS SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

April 26, 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 [foothillsmmedia.org/sierramadre](http://foothillsmmedia.org/sierramadre) and broadcast on Government Access Channel 3 (Spectrum)..

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

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

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

Your event must:

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

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

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3rd Wed: 11 am - Members Only "Zoom" Book Club

"Christmas Shopaholic" by Sophie Kinsella

Contact 626-355-6225 (mornings) by Tues, 1/18  
for Zoom link (if you've read it!)

Extra Credit if you also read Sophie's "That Twenties Girl"!

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SierraMadreWomensClub 355-4379



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April 25—30

#### 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

#### Thursday

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

#### Saturday

Community Mosaic Art Ends—In-person all  
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Zen Shin



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# Pasadena Altadena

News From Your Community For Your Community

## Detectives Looking for Assault Suspect



The Pasadena police are asking for the public's help identify a suspect (pictured) wanted for assault.

According to officers, the suspect and the victim were in the 7-11 store at 690 N. Lake on March 23 when the two got into a verbal argument. The suspect then punched the victim in the face several times and threw hot coffee on them.

Anyone with information is being asked to call the Pasadena police department at (626) 744-4501 or report the information anonymously through @LACrimeStopper1.

## Police Arrest Pasadena Sex Predator

*Investigators are asking the public's help seeking additional victims*

Police detectives are looking for more victims after arresting a former high school basketball coach and referee earlier this month for lewd acts on a child after he preyed on a young girl through Snapchat.

According to police, an unidentified 13 year-old female victim told deputies in October and November of 2021 she was contacted on "Snapchat" by a person who offered to provide her alcohol and narcotics in exchange for explicit pictures and videos of the victim.

On April 15, Miles Alexander of Pasadena was arrested and booked at the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station. They said, Alexander is believed to have been a high school basketball coach for several schools in the San Gabriel Valley and a high school basketball referee in the Los Angeles area.

During the investigation, it became apparent that Alexander was communicating with many individuals, mostly female, via the social media application, "Snapchat." Investigators believe there may be additional victims. Anyone with information about the suspect or believes they are a victim are encouraged to contact the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Special Victims Bureau.

Alexander was charged with three counts of lewd act on child under age 14, and one count of using a minor for sex acts. He remains in custody on \$340,000 bail.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Special Victims Bureau toll free tip line at (877) 710-5273 or anonymously at (800) 222-TIPS (8477). Information can also be email to specialvictimsbureau@lasd.org.



## City to Enact Military Equipment Use Policy

The Pasadena city council to set Monday to discuss enacting an ordinance, to comply with a new state law, that will annually review the use of all police owned military equipment in order to continue use of the equipment past May 1.

According to Assembly Bill (AB) 481 the city must:

- Draft a military equipment use policy that describes each piece of military equipment, including quantity, capabilities, purchase cost, purpose, authorized uses, and fiscal impact for each piece of equipment;
- Seek approval of the policy from their governing body by ordinance; and,
- Make publicly available on the agency's website any proposed or final military equipment use policy for as long as the military equipment is available for use.

The city ordinance would also prepare an annual summary of, the prior year, any complaints or concerns received, the results of any internal audits, policy violations, total annual cost, quantities and new acquisitions planned in the next year.

"The City of Pasadena is an international destination with global events and large

capacity venues, home to many company headquarters, major universities and institutions and attracts visitors from around the globe," Police Commander Mark Goodman said in the staff report. "As a result, Pasadena could be seen as an ideal location for domestic terrorism or a high-level terrorist incident."

He continued, "The posting of the military equipment use policy and a future approval of the policy by ordinance ensures that law enforcement continues to have access to equipment that will provide police officers as many options as possible to safeguard lives and ensure public safety. It also ensures that there are safeguards, including transparency, oversight, and accountability measures in place, for the equipment used within the city."

The city attorney is expected to draft a military equipment use ordinance and presented to the council in the next 30 days.

If the city council does not approve an ordinance to continue use of military equipment within 180 days, the police department would stop using any military equipment.

Military equipment includes:

"unmanned aerial or ground vehicles, armored vehicles, command and control vehicles, tear gas, pepper balls, less-lethal 40mm projectile launchers, specialized firearms and ammunition, and light-sound distraction devices commonly known as "flash bangs." With the exception of three Bell OH-58 helicopters, which were obtained from the military, all other equipment in PPD's inventory has been sourced through direct purchases and seizures."

The Community Police Oversight Commission would also review the policy at their next meeting.

For more information and/or to comment on the policy visit: [cityofpasadena.net/policy/news/ab-481-military-equipment-policy](http://cityofpasadena.net/policy/news/ab-481-military-equipment-policy).

## South Pas Free Eclectic Music Festival



The Free Eclectic Music Festival & Arts Crawl is back April 30. The festival is a celebration of the arts in South Pasadena. Started in a parking lot with a couple of local bands and a few dozen attendees, the Eclectic has grown into an attraction that brings residents and visitors from all over Southern California to enjoy an afternoon and evening of music, art, food, shopping, and activities. This free event returns after a Covid related 2-year pause. The musical line-up will include over 50 bands and performances. This year, the expanded Artisans' Alley will showcase makers' and crafters' unique, handmade designs for purchase. South Pas Vintage, new in 2022, will bring an eclectic array of vintage sellers to South Pasadena.

For more information and a complete list of participants visit: [southpasadenaca.gov](http://southpasadenaca.gov).

## Symphony to End Season with Beethoven's Symphony No. 5



The Pasadena Symphony will conclude its season April 30 with the four most well-known notes in Classical music – Beethoven's Symphony No. 5.

Relentless, emotional and triumphant all describe Beethoven's most famous symphony, which will be led by internationally renowned conductor Keitaro Harada, who currently serves as Music Director of the Savannah Philharmonic and Associate Conductor of the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, and who is making his debut with the Pasadena Symphony as part of its search for a new Music Director. The program opens with the world premiere of In Nomine by Composers Showcase artist Brett Banducci, performed by the orchestra's Principal Horn James Thatcher. Technically dazzling and intellectually probing, pianist Ran Dank delivers passion and pyrotechnics with Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 3. Dank replaces pianist Valentina Lisitsa who was previously scheduled to perform. Performances will be held at 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. at Ambassador Auditorium.

Dank recently performed at the National Gallery in Washington, D.C., with the Portland Symphony, and in recitals at the San Francisco Performances Series, Gilmore, Ravinia, Carnegie Hall's Zankel and Weill Halls, Steinway Hall, Gardner Museum, Kennedy

Center and the Yale School of Music. His performances have garnered critical acclaim from The New York Times and the Washington Post.

The Pasadena Symphony holds the safety of its audience, staff and musicians as its top priority. The Pasadena Symphony requires all concertgoers to be fully vaccinated, including a booster dose for those who are eligible, to attend concerts at Ambassador Auditorium. Masks are now optional inside the venue. Covid-19 protocols for concerts at Ambassador Auditorium are evolving with L.A. County Health Department guidelines and will be updated here: [pasadenasympphony-pops.org/safety](http://pasadenasympphony-pops.org/safety).

To learn more about the music, come early for Insights – a free pre-concert dialogue with Conductor Keitaro Harada and Composer Brett Banducci, which begins one hour prior to each performance. Patrons who arrive early can also enjoy a drink or a bite in the outdoor, tented Rusnak Symphony Lounge. In order to provide the safest possible experience, all food must be pre-ordered. For more information, visit: [bit.ly/symphony-dining](http://bit.ly/symphony-dining).

All concerts are held at The Ambassador Auditorium, 131 South St. John Ave. Tickets may be purchased online at [pasadenasympphony-pops.org](http://pasadenasympphony-pops.org), by calling (626) 793-7172 or at the Ambassador Box Office starting at noon on concert days.

## San Marino Annual Striping, Signing, and Marking Plan

### Thermoplastic Striping Installed at Intersections

On April 15, Parks & Public Works staff and Superior Pavement installed thermoplastic striping in the form of a ladder-pattern crosswalk at the intersection of Lorain Road and West Drive, as part of the City's Annual Striping, Signing, and Marking program. This installation of new striping is intended to improve the safety of pedestrians at the intersection by making the crosswalk more apparent to motorists.

Additional striping was also installed at the intersection of Darby Road and Granada Avenue as well as Roxbury Road and Granada Avenue, including lane separators and raised pavement markers (RPM's). By doing this, the City strives to improve both traffic and pedestrian safety at this busy intersection.



The installation of thermoplastic (as opposed to painted) striping will ensure durability and makes the markings easier to see for drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians.

### SMSF Street Pole Banners Installed

Earlier this week, Parks and Public Works staff also hung approximately 50 street pole banners along Huntington Drive. These banners are in recognition of donors to the San Marino Schools Foundation (SMSF) and their educational programs. For more information visit: [cityofsanmarino.org](http://cityofsanmarino.org).

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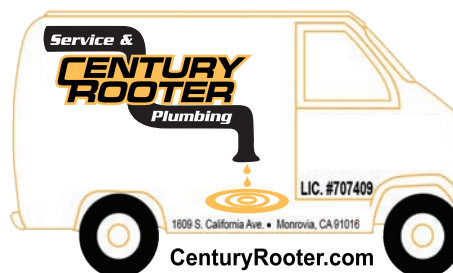
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## Holden's Bills for Clarity in Public Safety and Security Pass Committee

Assemblymember Chris Holden's bill, AB 2515 relating to proprietary security services reporting passed the Assembly Committee on Business and Professions Tuesday.

Current law requires a person licensed as a private patrol operator, as defined, to deliver to the director a written report describing the circumstances surrounding the discharge of any firearm, or physical altercation with a member of the public while on duty, by a licensee or any officer, partner, or employee of a licensee while acting within the course and scope of their employment within seven business days after the qualifying incident, as specified. Existing law imposes a \$2,500 fine for failing to deliver that report. There is nothing to date that requires proprietary private security employers to adhere to the same requirements.

"We need to expedite the safety communication process," said Assemblymember Holden. "AB 2515 ensures that the right people know what has happened as soon as possible."

Other bills that moved from



the Assembly Committee on Public Safety are AB 2632, which would ban the use of solitary confinement for certain populations including people who are pregnant, have disabilities, or fall within certain age limits and AB 2085, which would address the over surveillance and overrepresentation of families of color in the child welfare system by reforming mandatory reporting requirements.

"Many times we say where California goes, the example is set for the nation, but we are behind in human rights. Solitary confinement is a vicious attack on the psyche, mandatory reporting that disrupts families is a disservice to families everywhere. These bills promote accountability, safety, and I hope others will see that too," said Holden.

## Pasadena Unified Every Kid Healthy Resource Fair

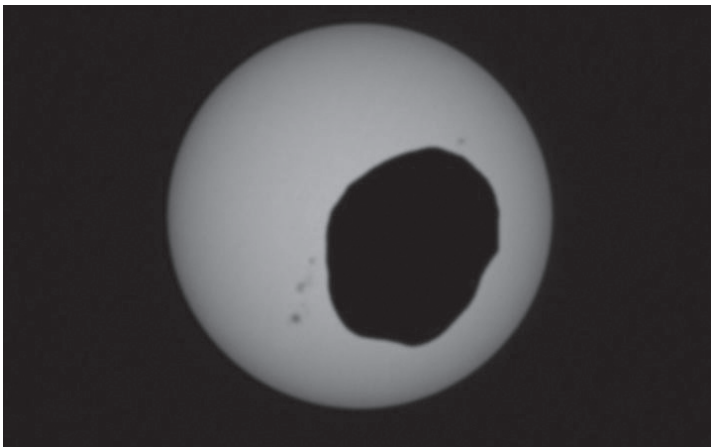
Saturday, May 7, 2022

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

In recognition of Every Kid Healthy Week, visit your PUSD Health Programs Team and community partners at the PUSD Every Kid Healthy Resource Fair. This is an opportunity for PUSD families and employees to receive information about best practices regarding overall good health and prevention and get a COVID-19 vaccination. Please join the PUSD as they

improve and strengthen our health and wellness together. Community partners include the Pasadena Public Health Department, the Rose Bowl Aquatic Center, Young & Healthy, and DayOne. To get a COVID-19 vaccination, register at: myturn.ca.gov.

Pasadena Unified School District Education Center 351 S. Hudson Ave. - North Parking Lot. Parking is available in the south parking lot off Oak Knoll Avenue.



NASA's Perseverance Mars rover has captured dramatic footage of Phobos, Mars' potato-shaped moon, crossing the face of the Sun. These observations can help scientists better understand the moon's orbit and how its gravity pulls on the Martian surface, ultimately shaping the Red Planet's crust and mantle.

Captured with Perseverance's next-generation Mastcam-Z camera on April 2, the 397th Martian day, or sol, of the mission, the eclipse lasted a little over 40 seconds – much shorter than a typical solar eclipse involving Earth's Moon. (Phobos is about 157 times smaller than Earth's Moon. Mars' other moon, Deimos, is even smaller.)

The images are the latest in long history of NASA spacecraft

## San Marino Upcoming Events & Programming

### Painting with Mom

Today at Lacy Park  
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!

**Brain Aerobics & Lip Reading**  
Monday, April 25 from 12:30 – 2:30 PM;

Tuesday, April 26 from 9:30 – 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.

### Coffee, Tea, & Chat

Friday, April 29 at 9:30 – 11:30 AM at the Thornton Conference Room

Connect with your neighbors to learn about the community and its traditions, as well as tools to navigate the challenges of our busy, modern lives. This program is presented in Mandarin by the United Charity Foundation for ages 18+. Registration is not required.

**Matinee Movies at the Library**  
Thursday, May 5 from 1:00 – 3:30 PM at the Barth Community Room

Join Crowell Library Staff for a specially curated selection of classic and international films, paired with a program of scholarly essays and popular criticism. Registration is required.

For more information about any of these events visit: [cityofsanmarino.org](http://cityofsanmarino.org).

## Mars Rover Captures Video of a Solar Eclipse on Mars

capturing solar eclipses on Mars. Back in 2004, the twin NASA rovers Spirit and Opportunity took the first time-lapse photos of Phobos during a solar eclipse. Curiosity continued the trend with videos shot by its Mastcam camera system.

But Perseverance, which landed in February 2021, has provided the most zoomed-in video of a Phobos solar eclipse yet – and at the highest-frame rate ever. That's thanks to Perseverance's next-generation Mastcam-Z camera system, a zoomable upgrade from Curiosity's Mastcam.

"I knew it was going to be good, but I didn't expect it to be this amazing," said Rachel Howson of Malin Space Science Systems in San Diego, one of the Mastcam-Z team members who operates the camera.

Howson noted that although Perseverance first sends lower-resolution thumbnails that offer a glimpse of the images to come, she was stunned by the full-resolution versions: "It feels like a birthday or holiday when they arrive. You know what's coming, but there is still an element of surprise when you get to see the final product."

Color also sets this version of a Phobos solar eclipse apart. Mastcam-Z has a solar filter that acts like sunglasses to reduce light intensity. "You can see details in the shape of Phobos' shadow, like ridges and bumps on the moon's landscape," said Mark Lemmon, a planetary astronomer with the Space Science Institute in Boulder, Colorado, who has orchestrated most of the Phobos observations by Mars rovers. "You can also see sunspots. And it's cool that you can see this eclipse exactly as the rover saw it from Mars."

As Phobos circles Mars, its gravity exerts small tidal forces on the Red Planet's interior, slightly deforming rock in the planet's crust and mantle. These forces also slowly change Phobos' orbit. As a result, geophysicists can use those changes to better understand how pliable the interior of Mars is, revealing more about the materials within the crust and mantle.

Scientists already know that Phobos is doomed: The moon is getting closer to the Martian surface and is destined to crash into the planet in tens of millions of years. But eclipse observations from the surface of Mars over the last two decades have also allowed scientists to refine their understanding of Phobos' slow death spiral.

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

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

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

NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, which is managed for the agency by Caltech, built and manages operations of the Perseverance rover. Arizona State University leads the operations of the Mastcam-Z instrument, working in collaboration with Malin Space Science Systems in San Diego. For more about Perseverance: [mars.nasa.gov/mars2020](http://mars.nasa.gov/mars2020).

## ARCADIA/MONROVIA-DUARTE

## ARCADIA RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY AND ROBBERY APRIL 18, 2022 AT 4:00 A.M.

On April 17, 2022, at 10:28 p.m. Arcadia Police Officers responded to the 700 block of Carriage House Lane, in response to an armed residential burglary that had just occurred.

The residents, who were home at this time, told officers that two suspects, one armed with a handgun, entered their home, and tied the couple up to restrict their movement.

With the victims limited in movement, the suspects gathered backpacks and bags belonging to the couple that contained numerous personal and miscellaneous items inside.

In addition to stealing the bags, the suspects also stole a late-model Tesla, which was parked in the garage.

During this event one of the victims sustained visible injuries to the cheek and lip, because of being struck by one of the suspects.

The suspects are both described as being male Hispanics, 5'-06", heavy-set, wearing dark clothing, masks, and gloves.

The suspects left the location in the stolen Tesla, which was recovered a short time later in the 3800 block of East California Boulevard, in the city of Pasadena.

This case is currently under investigation. Anyone with information on this incident is encouraged to contact the Arcadia Police Department at (626) 574-5151, case number 22-1575.

If you prefer to provide information anonymously, you may call "Crime Stoppers" by dialing (800) 222-TIPS (8477), use your smartphone by downloading the "P3 Tips" Mobile APP on Google play or the Apple App Store, or by using the website <http://lacrimestoppers.org>.



# AROUND SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

## A FATHER'S MISSION: CHOOSE TO LIVE

By Joan Schmidt

Michelle Wright suffered a tragedy no parent should endure. His first born son, Michelle Jr., his pride and joy, died by suicide at age 30.

Michelle Jr. was raised in a loving, Christian family, not a gang member, but shot five times in the back in 2001. His recovery was long and painful. The horrific experience, and medications prescribed over the years affected his mind: depression and hearing voices telling him to do evil things. Michelle Sr. tried to get help for his son: called various “hot lines” only to be put on hold, or transferred to a different number, and again put on hold.

When Michelle Sr. was in Hawaii, he first received the devastating news that his son was shot and not expected to live. He was heartbroken and angry. For six years, Michelle did everything to help his son heal physically and mentally.

After his son’s untimely death, Michelle began the challenge to do something. No other parent should suffer the pain he and his family endured.

Ten years ago, Ulisses Gutierrez began helping others with “Healing Connections”, a nonprofit began after a five year increase in teen suicide. Wright reached out to Healing Connections. Back then there were issues of the counselors’ availability. (Their services have expanded! Visit Facebook )

Wright rejoined the Monrovia Arcadia Duarte Town Council two years ago. His pastor advised him that Suicide Prevention should be his goal while on the Council. He would be a conduit to spread the word of the various resources.

Wright held a “Choose to Live Event” and also submitted the Suicide Prevention Resource phone numbers to the County for publication in the County Handbook. Twice he was promised the info would go in, but it didn’t.

After the Town Council met with Supervisor Barger, she assured Michelle the Suicide Prevention info would be in the handbook.

To get this information to the public, Barger suggested contacting various Church Ministries; who would share it with their Congregations. Wright’s first task was to speak at the Monrovia Ministerial Association’s monthly meeting. (They formed to seek the welfare of Monrovia, actively pray on its behalf, and seek unity and peace in the community.) Pastor Father Neil Tadken, St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, hosted. Attendees included Pastor Chris Bourne, Second Baptist Church; Dave Hall, All Nations Seventh Day Adventist Church; Roy Tucker; Wendy Stephens; Sheree Johnson; Karen Mastrogiovanni, Oasis of the Valley; Ernest Torres, BKF; First Evangelical Church and a few others

Wright told of his tragedy and has shared these helpful resources:

National Suicide Prevention Hotline: (Didi Hirsch 24/7) 800-273-8255

Crisis Text Line: (24/7) Text LA to 741741

Teen Line: 310-855-4673 (6pm-10pm daily) or Text TEEN to 839863 (6pm-9pm)

The Trevor Project for LGBTQ Youth: (24/7) 1-866-7386 or Text 678678.

Didi Hirsch Survivors of Suicide Attempts Groups (SOSA): 424-362-2901

Didi Hirsch Survivors After Suicide Groups (SAS) 424-2912 for adults and 424-362-2911 for teens.

LA County Dept. of Mental Health Help Line: 1-800-854-7771

LACounty Community Resource Info Line: 2-1-1

We are in this together. Everyone plays a role in suicide prevention.

## Rose Bowl 5K Run and Walk Renamed after Retiring CEO

Rose Bowl officials have announced that the Cinco de Mayo 5K Run and Walk will be named after retiring CEO / General Manager, Darryl Dunn (pictured).

The Darryl Dunn Cinco de Mayo 5K Run and Walk is set to take place on, May 1st at 9:00 a.m. prior to the Cinco de Mayo at the Rose Bowl family festival on the field. The 5K, with a 1K option for those who want to participate in a shorter distance, will be the healthy start of what promises to be a fun-filled day with access to resources, information and reconnecting on the field.

“We are proud to be a community partner and join the Darryl Dunn Cinco de Mayo 5K Run & Walk. We are excited to participate and celebrate the Rose Bowl Stadium’s Centennial,” said David Eads, Executive Director/CEO of the Pasadena Tournament of Roses.

Dunn is retiring June 30, after 27 years with the Stadium. Darryl is an avid walker who is often seen around the recreational loop just outside the gates of America’s Stadium. We invite you to join us for a fun run, brisk or leisure walk.

“During one of these walks around the stadium, we discussed the topic of bringing back Pasadena’s Cinco de Mayo celebration, after more than a decade of its absence,” said, Ramon Miramontes, the co-executive producer of the event with Dunn. “The idea got in Darryl’s head of making this return a reality and hosting the event inside on the iconic field of the world-famous Rose Bowl.”

The free Cinco de Mayo at the Rose Bowl event begins at 10:00 a.m. Families will be able to enjoy traditional music featuring live performances from mariachi to La Sonora Dinamita, Folklorico dancers, watch a soccer tournament and enjoy an active children’s play area, stroll an art and culture area featuring local artists and learn about local area resources and services from a health and wellness area.

Pasadena Mayor Victor Gordo and Alice Mijares Recendez whose mother, Jesucita Mijares founded Mijares Mexican Restaurant in Pasadena in 1920, will be honored as the inaugural Cinco de Mayo Co-Grand Marshals. Both have a long heritage and history in Pasadena which makes them the perfect fit. For more information and/or to register for the event visit: rosebowlstadium.com.

Photo credit: Ann Erdman



## Mt Lowe Chamber Players Concert: Woodwind Quintets



Join the Altadena Library as the MT LOWE CHAMBER PLAYERS perform from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Main Library on Sunday, May 1.

They will present a program that includes “Wind Quintet” by Carl Nielson, “Sea Shanties” by Malcolm Arnold, “3 Pièces brèves” by Jacques Ibert, “Piccola offerta musicale” by Nino Rota, and “Three Brazilian Choros (arr by Frank Morelli).

Musicians include Larry Kaplan (flute), Michele Forrest (oboe), Jim Foschia (clarinet), Phoebe Ray (bassoon) and John Mason (horn).

Sponsored by the Friends of the Altadena Library  
For More information visit: altadenalibrary.org.

LET'S STEP OUTSIDE

**PASADENA CHALK FESTIVAL**

Save the dates  
**FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND**  
**JUNE 18 & 19**

Back live and in person  
**Over 500 artists & 200 chalk murals**

the Pasadena Chalk Festival's  
*museum without walls*

FREE EVENT • ART GALLERY & SILENT AUCTION • ART ZONE FOR KIDS • LIVE MUSIC

10am to 7pm at The Paseo  
280 E. Colorado Blvd.  
Pasadena, CA 91101

A BENEFIT FOR LIGHT BRINGER PROJECT  
**PasadenaChalkFestival.org**

## A WORD FROM LOS ANGELES COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

## Public Health Continues to Require Masks in All Public Transit and Indoor Transportation Hubs Within LA County

Public Health is issuing Health Officer Order to note that masking in all public transit within LA County and in LA County indoor transportation hubs continues to be required.

Per the revised Order, masking continues to be required to be worn by everyone, 2 years of age and older, regardless of their COVID-19 vaccination status, on public transit within the County. This includes wearing masks on commuter trains, subways, buses, taxis, and ride-shares. Masking continues to be also required in indoor transportation hubs including airport and bus terminals, train and sub-way stations, seaport or other indoor port terminals, or any other indoor area that serves as a transportation hub.

Public Health will reassess the indoor masking requirement when COVID-19 community transmission in Los Angeles County drops to the Moderate level, OR the CDC’s assessment is that an order requiring masking in the transportation corridor is no longer necessary for protection of the public’s health, OR within 30 days of this Order, whichever occurs first.

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) on Friday released the latest data on COVID-19.

- 2,123 New COVID-19 cases (2,857,772 cases to date)
- 13 New deaths due to COVID-19 (31,913 deaths to date)
- 224 people currently hospitalized with COVID-19
- More than 11,804,000 individuals tested; 22% of people tested positive to date

A wide range of data and dashboards on COVID-19 from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health are available on the Public Health website at <http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov>

## Fire Station 31 to Get \$2.5 Million Seismic Retrofit

The Pasadena city council unanimously approved Monday allocating over \$2.5 million to bring Fire Station 31, on South Fair Oaks Avenue, up to the current building codes for seismic structural safety. The council also approved interior renovation of the station –to maintain basic operational standards for fire department staff.

According to city staff, the two-story, approximately 8,563 square-foot building located at 135 South Fair Oaks Ave includes the adjacent WickerCraft building. Seismic retrofit of the two structures will include upgrading the existing lateral force resisting systems and connections to the roof and floor structures, as well as retrofitting foundation elements to support the installation of new steel moment frames. Finishes will need to be removed from floors and ceilings to provide access to anchorage points according to the council’s staff report.

Renovation would include redoing the kitchen, living room, restrooms, offices, and dorms. “Scope of work includes but is not limited to, replacement of flooring, ceiling tiles, lighting, furniture, appliances and cabinetry; removal of office partition walls; new paint; re-roofing; new HVAC equipment; and some electrical improvements.” The council voted to accept a bid from Monet Construction, Inc, not-to-exceed \$2,018,456 for the work. Fire department staff, at the station, will be temporarily relocated off-site for around ten months at a cost of \$382,547. The Department of Public Works has leased a vacant lot, near Huntington Hospital, and will put temporary trailers for continued operations of the station. Corner Keystone Construction is expected to do minor grading, asphalt paving, install temporary utilities, widening the existing concrete driveway, and installation of an automatic chain link sliding gate at 95 Alessandro Place.

Station 31 is also home to a number of the departments historical artifacts. Pasadena Fire Deputy Chief Anthony James said all the items will go into storage. He also said they expect construction to begin in summer, most likely July.

## Pasadena Unified Armenian Genocide Remembrance

The PUSD Board of Education recently passed Resolution 2653 in remembrance of the Armenian Genocide of 1915-1923.

The Board also designated the month of April as PUSD’s month of commemoration to recognize one of the most atrocious violations of human rights in history. PUSD leaders and educators agree that every student and person, regardless of ethnicity or national origin, should be made aware of and educated about the Armenian Genocide so that it and other state-sanctioned forms of ethnic cleansing may never happen again.

Creative Arts Media and Design (CAMAD) sophomores at Pasadena High School have been working on an exhibition honoring the people who were terrorized, ravaged, and displaced and those who survived genocide through portraits and Haikus.

Their work highlights Armenia, Cambodia, Darfur, Herero, Holodomor, the Holocaust, Native American, and Rwanda. They used chalk for the work as it is a non-permanent material, much like our memories of these events if we allow it.



CHRISTOPHER Nyerges



THINKING ABOUT EARTH DAY

[Nyerges is the author of such books as “Self-Sufficient Home,” “Extreme Simplicity,” “How to Survive An-ywhere,” and “Guide to Wild Foods.” He has been teaching self-reliance skills since 1974. He can be reached at Box 41834, Eagle Rock, CA 90041, or [www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance.com](http://www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance.com).]

At one time, life stretched out like eternity, like the last scene from “The Good, The Bad, The Ugly,” where you knew there were winners and losers and fools, and you hoped desperately that you’d be a winner. Well, at least a good guy. That’s the perspective of a child, seeing the world through simplistic eyes, black and white, good and bad, right and wrong. That’s good, really, but as Mark Twain once noted, there is enough good in the worst of us, and enough bad in the best of us, that we should quit pretend-ing and start working together. At least Twain said something like that, and what he meant was that only in movies and childhood dreams do we ever get to see absolute clarity which doesn’t exist in the real world.

In childhood, I assumed that the older adults were more developed, and advanced, and therefore more objective and mature. I assumed that the educated adults of the world would objectively seek paths that were good for the planet, and therefore good for each of us in our own towns and neighborhoods. I be-lieved in the Jimmy Stewart world of “It’s a Wonderful Life,” even though I never found it.

I lived on a farm for awhile right after high school, and I felt that perhaps there, in the rough existence where your work resulted in a very tangible result that supported your existence, anyone could make a difference to creating an ethical and ecological world.

Could the urbanization of the world be part of the culprit in our fall from grace? After all, the urban dream – the dangling carrot that it holds out –is one of simplicity, ease, and modernity. Somehow, as we came together in cities, and as we invented ever more clever ways to avoid real work, we’ve made a bigger and bigger mess of the world. You know, pollution, undrinkable water, fish that are not edible, toxic metals in the soil, exhausts from cars and factories that collectively are actually affecting our weather. And it’s all on such a big scale that it makes you want to wring your hands and say that there’s nothing little ol’ me can do! Perhaps. But it’s still no excuse. You can always do those things that are in your power to do.

I recently talked to Michael Martinez, a man who started an organization called LA Com-post. He’s an evangelist of compost, teaching city people that they can affect their own environment and future by the simple act of not throwing their kitchen scraps into the city dump, but instead making compost in their backyards to grow your own good food.

And I recall meeting Andy Lipkus years ago, a young man who was so distressed about the environmen-tal damage done to our nearby forests from cars and industry. What did he do? He planted trees, since trees pull in toxins and breathe out oxygen. He started Tree People, and now he’s influenced many other communities to plant trees all the time, and to nurture them.

Earth Day is not a one day thing. Earth is our home. We need to have the focus of earth day every day.

Yes, there are problems that an individual cannot solve, so you begin with those choices you can make, such as the purchasing choices you make. Some products you should never buy, even though they are readily available in a free society. You can make a difference by what you do not purchase, as well as what you purchase.

You can be informed about what’s happening in your community, and vote with an informed voice.

One winter night during high school, my friend Nathaniel and I bicycled into a little side canyon of the Angeles National Forest, and we made a safe little fire in our campground and talked about the meaning of life and how we thought that civilization might fail. It had never occurred to us that we are barely civi-lized now, and we only believe we are “civilized” because of our material wealth and technological toys. We bemoaned the fact that society is on the fast road to uncivil barbarousness, and wondered what could be done, and what should be done.

We always toyed with the idea of becoming hermits and hiding out in a cave somewhere, but both of us were way too social to live out our lives in a cave. By whatever choices we made, we felt that everyone should be a good example, and no one should assume that there is no hope for the future. Our civility, our culture, our sense of civilization, after all, is an internal concept that we first keep alive inside our thinking, and expressed by our everyday actions.

The Chef Knows

By Peter Dills

DIVIDING UP THE PIE

My dearly departed pappy Elmer Dills would tell me, don’t argue sex, politics and or religion, I must add tipping to the list. I have used this topic many times on my radio show, Dining with Dills on Radio to get the phones buzzing. Last week a caller asked about tipping at Jersey Mikes.



There is a law on the books, actually an old law that is now being enforced. The IRS classifies automatic gratuities as service charges that are taxable as regular wages and subject to payroll tax withholding. That might sound like a bunch of tax law mumbo jumbo, but what it means is that restaurants have to treat those tips like regular wages.

Typically, the IRS left it up to the waiter or tipped employees to declare that money. But with this change the waiter won’t see those “tips” until payday—instead of the end of the shift. And restaurants will have to withhold federal income, Social Security and Medicare taxes on that money, too.

What it means for the diner is that those automatic 18% gratuity charges on tables of 6 or more may well be a thing of the past. The addition has been added onto large parties to ensure that servers are paid for catering to a large group.

That doesn’t mean you should use this an excuse to start stiffing people. Remember, the minimum wage laws here in the States for tipped workers is still at a shocking \$7.25 an hour. (California thankfully pays all of it’s workers, tipped or untapped, a minimum of \$15/hour.) The new rule actually went into effect in 2012, however the IRS postponed enforcement until later to give restaurateurs enough time to adjust and properly comply.

While it might seem great to have some freedom as a customer, the service industry isn’t so excited about the idea.

Tips... To insure proper service. Here is my rundown and no it hasn’t changed in twenty years of reviewing restaurants.

Anyone in any country that provides a service should be rewarded.

- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| 10% | buffet plus \$2 directly to busboy that brought you water and had to clean up after the kids through Jell-O on the ground. |
| \$1 | for each drink at the bar  |
| \$2 | for a to go order, as long as they got it right  |
| 12% | fair service, means they brought you the food and came back with your check  |
| 15% | Good service brought you your food and drinks and refilled drinks and asked how was it                                     |
| 18% | Very Good service all of the above plus asked you if your meal was prepared to your liking                                 |

20-25% All of the above, brought items in proper order, waited for you to ask for check, asked if there is a validation needed and please ask for me next time.

One more note... I subtract 5% when the server blames the kitchen for a mistake, got it !!

This a fun conversation please follow me on Facebook !!

Katnip News!



Beautiful Bella

Can you please help? Bella, age 9, 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. Bella will make a great compan-ion for an adult who has a quiet lifestyle. A typical tortie, she will be very loyal to that person. Bella would benefit from fun and happy play sessions. She is 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

Eight-year-old Possum is a sweet cat who enjoys being pet and brushed. She especially loves getting scratches behind her ears. Possum is a beautiful kitty who has been slowly coming out of her shell, and we can’t wait to see her blossom even more in a loving forever home!

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

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[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 hated 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, Bay-watch 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://sierramadreplayhouse.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).



## HOW TO FIND EDUCATIONAL TRIPS FOR RETIREES WHO LOVE TO LEARN

Dear Savvy Senior:

My wife and I planning to travel much more frequently in retirement and are very interested in educational trips and adventures. Can you recommend any groups or firms that specialize in this type of travel geared towards retirees? Love to Learn

Dear Love:

Educational travel, which combines travel with in-depth learning opportunities has become a very popular way of travel among retirees. Here are a few good places to turn to find these types of trips in the U.S. and abroad.

## Tour Organizations

One of the best places to start is with Road Scholar (RoadScholar.org), which in-vented the idea of educational travel for older adults in the mid 1970s. The Bos-ton-based organization offers 5,500 learning adventures in all 50 states and 150 countries.

You can search for learning adventures by location, interest, activity level and price. Road Scholar also offers "Choose Your Pace" senior travel tours that allow participants to adjust their level of challenge on a daily basis. And for skip-gen vacations, they offer tours designed specifically for grandparents traveling with their grandkids.

Another excellent option is Smithsonian Journeys (SmithsonianJourneys.org), a nonprofit travel group affiliated with the Smithsonian Museum. They lead 350 educational trips a year on every continent that are led by experts from a variety of fields — academia, the diplomatic corps, scientists and curators, among others.

If you're seeking more adventure, you may want to consider ElderTreks (www.ElderTreks.com), which offers 50-plus travelers small-group adventures by both land and sea in more than 100 countries. Their trips center on adventure, culture and nature, letting you get up close and personal with the locals.

## Academic Travel

Another good source for educational trips is colleges and universities. Some of my favorites include Cornell University's Adult University (SCE.Cornell.edu/travel), which offers a half-dozen educational trips and courses in the U.S. and abroad, each lasting a few days to a week or more. And Stanford Travel/Study (Alumni.Stanford.edu) that offers educational travel journeys to more than 80 countries each year.

Most college/university trips are led by faculty who share their expertise, along with regional experts and local guides, and you don't need to be an alumnus to participate.

Also check out the Traveling Professor (TravelingProfessor.com), a small-group touring company led by Steve Solosky, formerly a professor at the State Univer-sity of New York. They offer a dozen or so tours abroad each year and take be-tween 8 and 16 people.

## Cruising Options

If you enjoy cruising, consider Grand Circle Travel (GCT.com), which offers edu-cational travel aboard small ships, and Naturalist Journeys (NaturalistJourneys.com), which specializes in nature and birding tours.

American Cruise Lines (AmericanCruiseLines.com) also offers more than 35 river and coastal itineraries in the Northeast, Southeast, Pacific Northwest and along the Mississippi River. And it has themed cruises (Lewis and Clark, Mark Twain, Civil War, etc.) for people with specific historical, literary or other interests.

And Viking River Cruises (VikingRiverCruises.com), which is geared to older travelers, focuses on European art, history and culture. Each cruise makes one to two port stops a day as the ship winds its way up or down Europe's most famous rivers like the Rhine, Seine, Danube and Douro. A free sightseeing tour is included at all stops, and special-interest excursions are available for additional fees. Viking offers tours in the United States too.

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.



## 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, Chrisine 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

## THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE GROUCHY



Have you ever had a week where everything went just perfect? Neither have I.

Every Monday morning, I plan a perfect week, and I try my best to stick to that plan.

My problem is simple, I do not know the meaning of the word "perfect." So I asked The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage once, she looked at me and said with a smile, "Just watch me."

I flashed a smile back at her, knowing exactly what she was saying. I also knew that if I were as perfect as she was, she would not know how perfect she really was. I believe it's part of my re-sponsibility as a husband to show her how perfect she is every day. I hope someday to get a Nobel Peace Prize for this.

My plans are quite simple, I just want to have somewhat of a perfect week. To have a perfect week, I need to have a perfect plan. To have a perfect plan, I need to have perfect ideas. Thus, I have a great challenge before me.

Recently my week wasn't going very well, and I was getting a little, well, what should I say, grouchy.

Normally I'm never grouchy, so I did not know how to be grouchy until I was at the grocery store and saw the epitome of Mr. Grouchy.

I'm not sure the basis of this guy's grouchiness, but from my point of view, he has practiced this all his life. If there ever was a Mr. Grouchy, it was this guy. At the time, I had a little bit of pity for his wife. But, of course, I didn't know if he was married or not. If he was, she deserves my pity.

Not only could you see his grouchy demeanor, but he followed that up and supported it with words that I cannot repeat in public. Let me just say he was well-versed in French.

My curiosity got the best of me, and I just wanted to know more about him. I couldn't go up and talk to him, I knew how that would turn out. So, I followed him throughout the store from a distance and watched and listened. That afternoon, I got a Ph.D. in Grouchology. During these times, stores are not as well-stocked as they used to be. For example, I can't find the cans of cat food I used to get for my cats. They're just not there. And, many other things aren't on the shelves anymore.

Obviously, Mr. Grouchy did not know that the rough times we were going through were affecting our stores.

I didn't know all of the things he was looking for because his French got in the way of understand-ing what he was saying. Obviously, he couldn't find what he wanted, which fueled his grouchiness. Soon one of the employees walked by,

and Mr. Grouchy caught him and angrily told him a thing or two, No, make that a dozen, but then I stopped counting. Obviously, Mr. Grouchy knew more about the store than this poor employee. So I would say he was giving the employee a piece of his mind, but he's a sorry person if that was his mind he was giving.

"Is there anything I can do to help you?" The employee asked. After he asked that I'm sure he wished that he had never asked that question.

For the next 10 minutes, Mr. Grouchy lectured the store employee on what he should be doing. I couldn't help but stand in the aisle next to him and just listen to his lecture. I'm sure the store employee learned quite a bit from Mr. Grouchy's lecture.

I want to go back someday and meet up with the store employee and ask him how much he learned from those lectures.

When Mr. Grouchy paused to catch his breath the store employee said, "Please forgive me, but I have an appointment to go to, and I'm late for it." With that, he hurried away as fast as ever. I think I know what appointment he had and I'll ask him when I see him.

Even after the store employee had departed for his "appointment," Mr. Grouchy continued the lect-uring in his outdoor voice.

Then Mr. Grouchy realized that the store employee wasn't there. So he looked around and yelled, "Hey, where are you? Get back here."

I was so tempted to answer that question, and it took every resource I had available to keep from answering.

Finally, he went to the checkout counter and told the cashier how miserable his visit was in the store, while she rang up his purchases.

I wasn't too far behind, and I slowly came up to the same cashier to check out my things. I looked at her, smiled, and said, "Aren't you glad there are customers like me?" Then she laughed.

As I got in my vehicle to drive home, I realized that my week wasn't quite as crazy as Mr. Grouchy.

Driving home I was reminded of a verse of Scripture. "This you know, my beloved brethren. But everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger;" (James 1:19).

Everybody faces moments of anger. The key is not to let those anger moments control your attitude at the time. When I control my tongue everything else is under control,

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## FAMILY MATTERS

By Marc Garlett

## PROTECT YOUR CHILDREN'S INHERITANCE WITH A LIFETIME ASSET PROTECTION TRUST

As a parent, you're likely hoping to leave your children an inheritance.

In fact, doing so may be one of the primary factors motivating your life's work. But without taking the proper precautions, the wealth you pass on is at serious risk of being accidentally lost or squandered due to common life events, such as divorce, serious debt, devastating illness, and unfortunate accidents.

Creating a will or a revocable living trust offers some protection for your kid's inheritance, but often, you'll be guided to distribute assets through your will or trust to your children at specific ages and stages, such as one-third at age 25, half the balance at 30, and the rest at 35.

If you've created an estate plan, check to see if this is how your will or trust leaves assets to your children. If so, you may not have been told about another option that can give your children access, control, and airtight asset protection for whatever assets they inherit from you.

I always talk to parents about the option of creating a Lifetime Asset Protection Trust for their children's inheritance. These unique trusts safeguard your kids' inheritance from being lost to common life events, such as divorce, serious illness, lawsuits, or even bankruptcy.

But that's not all they do.

Indeed, the best part of these trusts is that they offer your kids the best of both worlds: 1) airtight asset protection and 2) the ability to use and control their inheritance. You can even provide your heirs with a unique educational opportunity in which they gain valuable experience managing and growing their inheritance. More on all of this below.

## Not Only for The Super Rich

Contrary to what you might think, Lifetime Asset Protection Trusts are not just for those with massive wealth. In fact, these trusts are even more useful if you're leaving a relatively modest inheritance because they can be used to educate your children about how to grow your family wealth, instead of quickly blowing through it.

Not to mention, the smaller the inheritance, the more at risk it is of getting wiped out by a single unfortunate event like a medical emergency, lawsuit, or serious accident.

## Don't Take Any Chances

Regardless of how much financial wealth you have (or don't have), if you plan to leave your kids anything at all, you should do everything you can to make it more likely that they grow what's left behind, instead of losing it. This way, your resources can have a truly beneficial effect on their lives—and even the lives of future generations.

A Lifetime Asset Protection Trust can achieve each of those goals and so much more.

## Not All Trusts Are Created Equal

When it comes to leaving an inheritance, most lawyers will advise you to place the money in a revocable living trust, which is the right thing to do. However, many of those lawyers would have you distribute the trust assets outright to your loved ones at specific ages, such as one-third at 25, half of the balance at 35, and the rest at 40. Check your own trust now to see if it does this or something similar.

Rather than risking their inheritance by leaving it outright to your children at certain ages or following

certain life events, such as graduating college, you can gift your assets to your children at the time of your death using a Lifetime Asset Protection Trust. When you gift the inheritance to your kids via a Lifetime Asset Protection Trust, the Trustee of the trust owns the assets, not your children.

Therefore, if your kids ever get divorced, file bankruptcy, have a major medical issue, or are ordered to pay damages in a lawsuit, they can't lose their inheritance because they never owned it in the first place.

Here's how it works: A Trustee of your choice holds the trust assets upon your death for the benefit of your child or children. Because a Lifetime Asset Protection Trust is discretionary, the Trustee has the power to distribute the assets at their own discretion, instead of being required to release them in a rigid structure. This discretionary power enables the Trustee to control when and how your kids can access their inheritance, so they're not only protected from outside threats like ex-spouses and creditors, but from their own poor judgment as well.

## A Lifetime of Guidance &amp; Support

Beyond these benefits, a Lifetime Asset Protection Trust can also be set up to give your child hands-on experience managing financial matters, like investing, running a business, and charitable giving. And he or she will learn how to do these things with support from the Trustee you've chosen to guide them.

For example, many of our clients add guidelines describing how they'd choose to make distributions in different scenarios. These scenarios might involve higher education, the purchase of a home, a wedding, the start of a business, and/or travel.

## An Educational Opportunity

Beyond these benefits, a Lifetime Asset Protection Trust can also be set up to give your child hands-on experience managing financial matters, like investing, running a business, and charitable giving. And he or she will learn how to do these things with support from the Trustee you've chosen to guide them.

This is accomplished by adding provisions to the trust that allow your child to become a Co-Trustee at a predetermined age. Serving alongside the original Trustee, your child will have the opportunity to invest and manage the trust assets under the supervision and tutelage of a trusted mentor.

You can even allow your child to become Sole Trustee later in life, once he or she has gained enough experience and is ready to take full control. As Sole Trustee, your child would be able to resign and replace themselves with an independent trustee, if necessary, for continued asset protection.

A Lifetime Asset Protection Trust gives you the opportunity to turn your child's inheritance into a valuable teaching tool. Do you want to give your child the ability to leave trust assets to a surviving spouse or a charity upon their death? Or would you prefer that the assets are only distributed to his or her biological or adopted children? You might even want your child to create their own Lifetime Asset Protection Trust for their heirs.

Lifetime Asset Protection Trusts offer you a wide variety of options that can be tailored to fit your values and family dynamics. Be sure to check your trust for these provisions if this is something that interests you.



YOUR CHILDREN AND THE INTERNET

Parents should stay involved in their children's digital world, know the apps they use, use parental controls where possible, and block and report people who make them feel uncomfortable. Kids should talk with a trusted adult so they understand online risks, only chat with people they know, ensure their online accounts are private, block people they don't know or trust, and trust their instinct—if something makes them feel uncomfortable, tell a trusted adult about it.

Kids and parents should stay alert—people aren't always who they seem in online environments where identity is easy to fake.

Stay safe at home. Stay safe online.

To report an online child sexual exploitation offense, call 911 or go to [report.cybertip.org](https://report.cybertip.org).

Due to school closings, stay-at-home orders, and hybrid learning because of the COVID-19 pandemic, children's increased online presence may put them at greater risk of child exploitation. Parents, guardians, caregivers, and teachers can take the following measures to help protect children from becoming victims of online child predators .

TIPS TO HELP PROTECT CHILDREN

Discuss internet safety and develop an online safety plan with children before they engage in online activity. Establish clear guidelines, teach children to spot red flags, and encourage children to have open communication with you.

Supervise young children's use of the internet, including periodically checking their profiles and posts. Keep electronic devices in open, common areas of the home and consider setting time limits for their use.

Review games, apps, and social media sites before they are downloaded or used by children. Pay particular attention to apps and sites that feature end-to-end encryption, direct messaging, video chats, file uploads, and user anonymity, which are frequently relied upon by online child predators.

Adjust privacy settings and use parental controls for online games, apps, social media sites, and electronic devices.

Tell children to avoid sharing personal information, photos, and videos online in public forums or with people they do not know in real life. Explain to your children that images posted online will be permanently on the internet.

Teach children about body safety and boundaries, including the importance of saying 'no' to inappropriate requests both in the physical world and the virtual world.

Be alert to potential signs of abuse, including changes in children's use of electronic devices, attempts to conceal online activity, withdrawn behavior, angry outbursts, anxiety, and depression.

Encourage children to tell a parent, guardian, or other trusted adult if anyone asks them to engage in sexual activity or other inappropriate behavior.

Immediately report suspected online enticement or sexual exploitation of a child by calling 911, contacting the FBI at [tips.fbi.gov](https://tips.fbi.gov), or filing a report with the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) at 1-800-843-5678 or [report.cybertip.org](https://report.cybertip.org).

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

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

Arroyo Pacific Academy  
41 W. Santa Clara St. Arcadia, Ca,  
(626) 294-0661 Principal: Phil Clarke  
E-mail address: [pclarke@arroyopacific.org](mailto:pclarke@arroyopacific.org)

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

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Preschool-TK-8th Grade  
Principal: Jonathon Hawes  
website: [www.bcslions.org](http://www.bcslions.org)

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

Foothill Oaks Academy  
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(626) 301-9809  
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[www.foothilloaksacademy.org](http://www.foothilloaksacademy.org)  
[office@foothilloaksacademy.org](mailto:office@foothilloaksacademy.org)

Frostig School  
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(626) 791-1255  
Head of School: Jenny Janetzke  
Email: [jenny@frostig.org](mailto:jenny@frostig.org)

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

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

La Salle College Preparatory  
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(626) 351-8951 website: [www.lasallehs.org](http://www.lasallehs.org)  
Principal Dr. Jamal Adams

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

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

Odyssey Charter School  
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(626) 229-0993 Head of School: Lauren O'Neill  
website: [www.odysseycharterschool.org](http://www.odysseycharterschool.org)

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

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

Sierra Madre Elementary School  
141 W. Highland Ave, Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024  
(626) 836-1428 Principal: Lindsay LUIS  
E-mail address: [LUIS.lindsay@pusd.us](mailto:LUIS.lindsay@pusd.us)

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

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Lisa Feldman: Head of School

Wilson Middle School  
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(626) 449-7390 Principal: Ruth Esseln  
E-mail address: [resseln@pusd.us](mailto:resseln@pusd.us)

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(626) 396-3600 Website: [www.pusd@pusd.us](http://www.pusd@pusd.us)

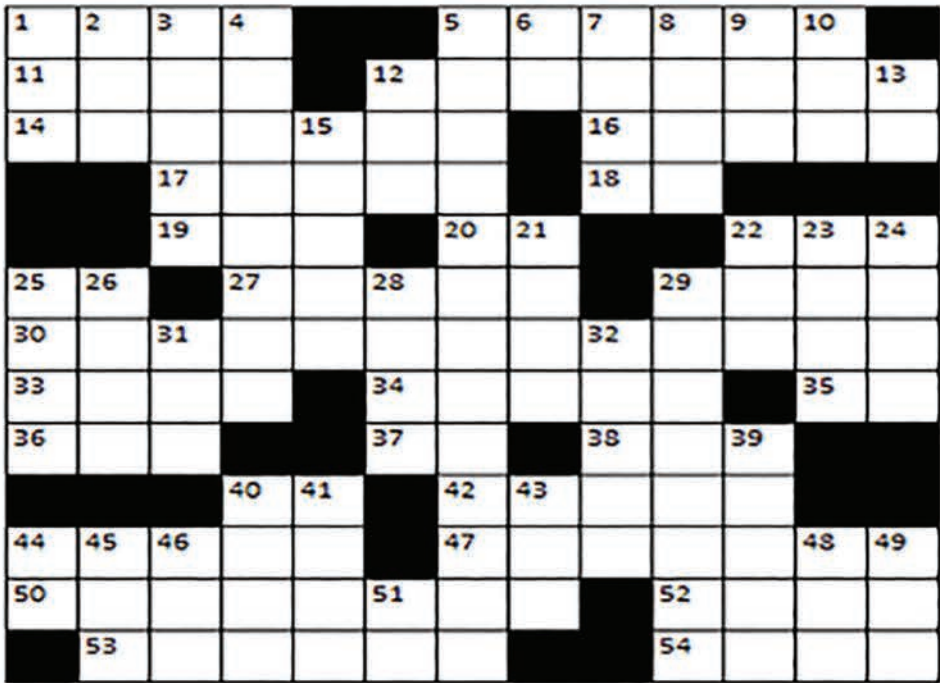
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(626) 821-8300 Website: [www.ausd.net](http://www.ausd.net)

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

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

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

"STREETS OF SIERRA MADRE"  
by Jonathan Elliott



ACROSS

- 1. Character actor Jack—
- 5. Sierra Madre street
- 11. Sierra Madre street
- 12. Sierra Madre street
- 14. Sierra Madre street
- 16. Greece region
- 17. Helped out
- 18. Metallic element
- 19. Networking protocol
- 20. Network
- 22. Canine expression
- 25. State abbr.
- 27. Augmented Reality firm
- 29. Concerns
- 30. Sierra Madre street
- 33. Concept
- 34. China region
- 35. French bone
- 36. Calendar abbr.
- 37. Eco-friendly car
- 38. Contract type
- 40. Race driver — Foyt
- 42. French school
- 44. — Profundo
- 47. Lease rule
- 50. Sierra Madre street
- 52. Vote category
- 53. Sierra Madre street
- 54. "— in the Wind"

DOWN

- 1. Sierra Madre street
- 2. Golf position
- 3. Moses sire
- 4. Sierra Madre street
- 5. Sierra Madre street
- 6. Famous corral
- 7. TV-drama franchise
- 8. Golf club
- 9. Moses number
- 10. "Do — do"
- 12. Grand — Opry
- 13. Bye
- 15. Not exactly a Caltech alum
- 21. Cactus part
- 22. "Sez—"
- 23. Aviation prefix
- 24. Attention-getters
- 25. Similar
- 26. Mulligan
- 28. French performer
- 29. Sierra Madre street
- 31. Gun
- 32. Sierra Madre street
- 39. Famous letter sequence
- 40. Way out there
- 41. English prince
- 43. French horn
- 44. Gender affinity
- 45. Bother
- 46. Camera type
- 48. Carson conductor — Brown
- 49. Fast plane
- 51. Time bandit

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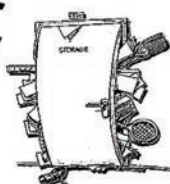
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### Mountain Views News Mission Statement

The traditions of community newspapers and the concerns of our readers are this newspaper's top priorities. We support a prosperous community of well-informed citizens. We hold in high regard the values of the exceptional quality of life in our community, including the magnificence of our natural resources. Integrity will be our guide.

## STUART TOLCHIN PUT THE LIGHTS ON QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



When I was in the second grade I remember the teacher calling me “the question man”. It’s true; I’ve always had questions, but seldom have I received answers. As I get older, and I am getting older as this coming Thursday is my birthday, I still have not received many important answers. In fact, as I now think about it, most human life is a search, a QUEST for answers. Really. I think what engages us most is the search rather than the solution. For example, every morning for the past couple of months, just after waking up, I play the New York Times puzzle game on my iPhone.

While I play the game I don’t worry about what I am supposed to do today or should have done yesterday, or what I am afraid will happen tomorrow. As I play the game I note amazing things happen. Words just pop into my head and after that popping I feel the rush of entering a bunch of re-lated words. This feeling as the words rush out of me is something like the pleasure I feel as I step under the morning hot water shower except that I don’t have to get out of bed, worry about falling down the stairs or tripping over something and struggling to properly adjust the water flow, direction, and temperature.

The difference between the shower and the puzzle is that with the shower it is not the quest that is enjoyable; instead it is that wonderful feeling as the water hits my body which is the great reminder that I am happy to be alive. The puzzle is very different. There is a short moment of success when I reach the Genius level of the puzzle, which I haven’t yet reached today, but the focused moments, minutes, sometimes hours of the quest are a great pleasure. It would be wonderful to feel that pleasure all day but eventually I have to get out of the shower. After the shower I feel the anxiety of living in this confused threatened world and wishing I did not feel so powerless.

I wish I was more content with myself. Internally I feel I have the resources to feel better but there is a lack. I am not alone. I feel that the whole culture surrounding us diverts us from realizing our own powers and looking elsewhere for acceptance. Many years ago I was having lunch with a Court Interpreter who had someone else’s child with her. The little six or seven year old girl told us that she was not with her mother because her mother was somewhere getting her car painted. I asked the little girl what the color of the car would be and she said “gold so that other people would know how rich they were”.

The little girl’s answer symbolizes something for me. I think the need to depend on other people’s opinion in order to appreciate oneself is universally crippling. The way we are all raised and educated contributes to a kind of selfishness and personal dissatisfaction. Even in Junior High School and High School I can remember resenting the fact that the teachers would evaluate term papers and written assignments with a grade and never explain what the grade was based on. That information was withheld I believe as a way of maintaining power over the young. Parents do the same thing of ten feeling that teaching their children to conform to wishes of others is the only way to keep them safe. Sadly, for me and a great many others the world that has been created no longer feels safe.

There has been a historical search for leaders to preserve or even create our feeling of safety. Religions and political systems promising answers have emerged but the representatives of these systems, no matter how humanely intended, have left us with leaders invariably interested in competitively maintaining dominance and control.

Right now it seems that the entire world feels unsafe and powerless no matter how much individual wealth they possess. Individual mansions and gold Cadillacs and Black Teslas are not going to do the trick. The change necessary will begin with the answering of young people’s questions and sharing whatever information that is already present.

Young people will then find the answers so long as they are not overly controlled and made to conform. Their inquisitiveness and curiosity is vital and should be encouraged rather than stifled. I hope that that is the answer.

A final question is - - what other answer is there?

## JOHN MICEK



a copy of “The White Mountains” by John Christopher into my eight-year-old hands.

Mrs. Bullock was her name. She was the mother of one of my schoolmates. She’d taken note of my reading habits, such as they were, and decided to take matters into her own hands. If I liked the book I’d been endlessly renewing, she argued, I’d love this one.

She was right. I read every volume in Christopher’s pulpy series, which followed the adventures of young people rebelling against alien overlords’ bent on keeping a servile population under their collective thumb with futuristic tech that suppressed their individuality and free will.

It was the start of my lifelong love of books and libraries. And viewed through the prism of 40-odd years, it was an oddly prescient choice.

Students and their teachers in schools across the country — and now public libraries — are waging a brave fight against the king of organized book-banning campaigns that once only seemed the province of the worst kind of totalitarian governments — or dystopian science fiction.

As Pennsylvania Capital-Star Washington Reporter Ariana Figueroa made astonishingly clear in a recent story, hundreds of books, across dozens of states, are being banned at alarming rates.

A majority of the bans we’re seeing across the country have targeted books written by authors who are people of color, LGBTQ+, Black and indigenous. The books feature characters, and deal with themes, that reflect the experiences of marginalized communities, Figueroa reported.

And while those behind these campaigns hide themselves behind the mask of parental control, what I think they’re really concealing is fear: Fear of a country and world that’s changing around them. Fear of voices that were kept silent too long who are now speaking up and demanding their seat at the table of power. Perhaps most importantly, fear of the erosion of their own privilege.

Books are more than printed matter. They’re conduits to an endless universe of knowledge. And they are the greatest democratizer we’ve ever invented.

## WHAT ARE BOOK BANS REALLY ABOUT? FEAR.

More years ago than I really care to count, the children’s librarian in my little town in rural northwestern Connecticut, apparently tired of my endlessly renewing the same book over and over again, pressed

Take one down off the shelf, read it, and finish it, and it will nudge you to another, and another. Before long, you’re navigating the twists and turns of human experience, letting your own curiosity be your guide, allowing it to bring you to places you’ve never been, and to introduce you to people, places, and cultures you might never have met or experienced on your own.

And that’s why, when they’ve sought to erase people and cultures, every authoritarian from the beginning of time until now has destroyed their books and burned their libraries.

After the Romans tore down ancient Carthage, brick by brick, and sold its people into slavery in 146 B.C.E., they gave the Carthaginians’ books to the city’s adversaries, who either destroyed or lost them, silencing them forever.

The Nazis held well-documented book burnings in 1933. And in a modern twist, Vladimir Putin’s Russia is struggling to keep the truth of its savage invasion of Ukraine from its own people.

Last year, students in a Pennsylvania school district about 40 minutes south of Harrisburg made nationwide headlines when they took on — and won a reversal of — a year-long ban on a list of anti-racism books and educational resources by or about people of color, including children’s books that dealt with the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks.

The school board’s president, Jane Johnson, told the Washington Post at the time that the board was trying to “balance legitimate academic freedom with what could be literature/materials that are too activist in nature, and may lean more toward indoctrination rather than age-appropriate academic content.”

Hear that? Indoctrination? That’s the voice of fear talking. It’s a way to push back, without appearing to push back, against arguments that you’re trying to silence or erase those whose voices badly need to be heard.

When a student — or anyone — picks up a book, it’s a moment of singular liberation. It’s their first step down that hallway of knowledge. It’s the start, rather than the end, of the adventure. And there’s no telling where it might take them — perhaps even to the halls of power themselves.

And if they’re very lucky, they will have their own Mrs. Bullock to help guide them down those twisting and turning corridors, always nudging them along, gently prodding and testing them, but never, ever standing in their way or blocking the path.

Only the fearful do that.



## RICH JOHNSON NOW THAT'S RICH



### 15 MURPHY'S LAWS OF COMBAT.

As is the hope of all of my columns, this column is intended to en-lighten your knowledge, lighten your load, tickle your funny bone, and, possibly, most importantly, equip you with the ability to light-en someone else’s load by passing the humor along.

1. If the enemy is in range, so are you.
2. Incoming fire has the right of way.
3. Don’t look conspicuous as it draws fire.
4. The easy path is always mined.
5. Try to look unimportant. They may be low on ammo.
6. Teamwork is essential. It gives the enemy someone else to shoot at.
7. The enemy diversion you have been ignoring will be the main attack.
8. If your attack is going well, you have walked into an am-bush.
9. Never draw fire, it irritates everyone around you.
10. Anything you do can get you shot, including doing nothing.
11. Never share a foxhole with anyone braver than your-self
12. If you are running short of everything but the enemy, you are in a combat zone.
13. When you have secured an area, don’t forget to tell the enemy.
14. Never forget that your weapon is made by the lowest bidder.
15. Friendly fire isn’t.

Recently, I challenged a very dear friend of mine to stop using the word “thing”. And I am challenging you to minimize your use of that bland, dull word. “Thing” is an example of what is referred to as vague language. A black and white word. Metaphorically speak-ing, add color to your use of the language!

Instead of, “I like that thing you are wearing”, say, “I admire that beautiful yellow dress you are wearing.”

“What is that thing crawling up your arm?” Instead, say, “What is that dangerous looking big black spider crawling up your arm?”

Use much more descriptive and specific words. People will think you are very smart and well read. I’ve been fooling them for years.

On another note, let’s continue to support local businesses. What-ever city you reside in, frequent the local merchants whenever you can. Your use of the local merchants will keep them open and well within arms reach.

I could speaking glowingly of most all of the restaurants in Sierra Madre. This week I mention Corfu. Your commitment in support-ing Corfu by being an active customer has paid off.

Corfu’s menu is varied and based on my first hand experience, eve-ry entrée is excellently prepared. If you order his chicken kebab dinner, you will be amazed (and delighted) how moist and tender the chicken is. All entrees are cooked fresh to order, so the wait for your chicken kebab dinner will be 15 minutes...but oh, it will be so worth it.

Corfu is on Sierra Madre Blvd one-half block west of Baldwin on the south side of the street. There is parking in front and in back. Their number is (626) 355-5993 and you can order food to go.

In conclusion, I like how things are turning out. There are things to keep a watchful eye on. And the thing is, watching these things closely will help things move along more better lol. Now is a good time to bring things to a conclusion. Think on these things.

-Rich







Website: [www.mtnviewsnews.com](http://www.mtnviewsnews.com)





## WORLD IMMUNIZATION WEEK

24-30 April 2022

endpolio.org | #endpolio

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Club of Sierra Madre



During WORLD IMMUNIZATION WEEK let's advocate for polio eradication and the importance of vaccines to the health and well-being of our communities.



Donate to **PolioPlus** to deliver polio vaccines to vulnerable children. All contributions will be matched 2-to-1 by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Sierra Madre Rotary donates regularly to the eradication of polio. To help us, send a check payable to Sierra Madre Rotary Club and mail to:

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### SIERRA MADRE LITTLE LEAGUE CORRECTION PLAYER OF THE WEEK APRIL 4, 2022



MAJORS SM RED SOX AKIRA T.

Akira threw only 58 pitches in a complete game shutout vs the PALL Marlins this past Saturday. 42 of the 58 pitches were strikes, he gave up zero walks and struck out 7. Akira also went 2-2 leading the Red Sox to a 6-0 win

### SIERRA MADRE LITTLE LEAGUE PLAYERS OF THE WEEK APRIL 11, 2022

T-BALL

SM RAYS

RANDOLPH "RJ" D

has been practicing on live pitching and moving away from only hitting off of the tee. He is picking up new skills fast and building and developing skills. RJ has a great attitude and works hard!

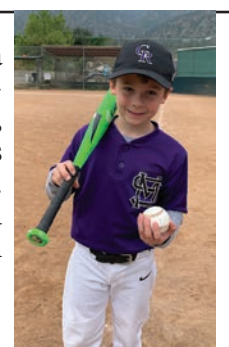


T-BALL

SM ROCKIES

GAGE H.

has been a dedicated Rockies player, coming to all the practices and games. As one of the older Rockies, Gage was eager to begin coach pitch and is always determined to do more and play all the positions. He has hit multiple balls into the outfield and had a few big hits during the team's first coach pitch game against the Cardinals on April 9.



A

SM PIRATES

Will H. is one of the friendliest players in Single A, and will strike up a conversation with anyone on the field. However, he's taken it to the next level over the past few weeks, and stood out at the plate and on defense in the Pirate's games this past week. Will has been focused at first base making several big plays, and has impressive opposite field power. He has been a great leader all season, and we're looking forward to more big games in the second half.



CHALLENGER

AIDAN T.

has been batting clean up for SM Challenger for several years - consistently clearing the bases and bringing his teammates home. Towering over the other kids, Aidan's intimidating stature is a foil for his kind, playful, generous heart. Way to go Aidan!

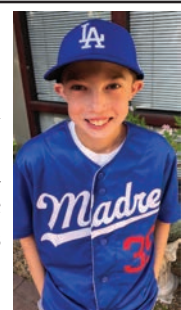


MAJORS

SM DODGERS

WILLIAM G.

is playing his 6th year with SMLL! Last week vs San Marino Dodgers he pitched, played RF and 2B. William had 2 hits and a walk, scored 2 runs, and had 2 RBIs for the SM Dodgers. In his 1st start on the mound in Majors, William pitched 2 1/3rd innings with 6 strikes outs.



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historically deasypennerpodley

## 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

GRI – Graduate REALTOR Institute

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!**



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



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