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APRIL-JUNE 2022

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April-June 2022	4	3	2,499	10,896
April-June 2021	3	2	1,832	9,532


LIST PRICE	SOLD PRICE	PRICE SF
\$1,676,547	\$1,832,942	\$764
\$1,194,954	\$1,271,259	\$724

CONDOMINIUMS

SFR AVERAGES	BR	BA	SF
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LIST PRICE	SOLD PRICE	PRICE SF
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 source: CoreLogic, Freddie Mac, Bankrate

RESIDENTS AND ALVERNO CONTINUE BATTLE OVER CLOSING TIME AND NOISE

By Kevin McGuire

Aloha. Before heading out on their August vacation break, City Council met for one last meeting in their best Hawaiian apparel and flowered lays to tackle a few previous action items before the lava flows flow. One of those items was a very familiar—filming in Sierra Madre. The city's wonderful charm, as many know, draws the interest of both amateur and professional photographers and filmmakers. Locations often include the Kersting Court area and the 12 acres of Alverno Heights Academy. Over the years, residents have raised concerns regarding noise, bright lights, and extra traffic in the area. Events and filming are supposed to wrap up by 10 p.m. Still, there have been complaints from residents near Alverno that noise from filming and photo events extends past 10 p.m. Alverno attributes that to clean-up from vendors of glassware, trash, linens, and other items left over at the events, which must be attended to after the functions have ended. There are currently 11 listed insurance requirements for filming in Sierra Madre. Number 11 states that any variance of the other ten requirements "may be approved in writing by at least 75% of occupants within a 250-foot radius of the property for film and photography activities." Earlier this year, Sierra Madre Police opened up an investigation into resident allegations of fraudulent signatures on a filming permit application when crews showed up "unannounced" to shoot an upcoming ministries series. (See related story below).

Amending the Ordinance

Before the Council on Tuesday night on July 26, before a pretty empty room, was the consideration of Ordinance 1459 Amending Chapter 5.36 (Commercial Photography and Motion Picture Filming) of Title 5 (Business Licenses and Regulations) of the Sierra Madre Municipal Code. Amendments for approval have been bounced around for over three months since the initial set of amendments was sent to the Planning Commission in April. The Community Services Commission then worked through revisions until June 20, when they voted for approval and sent it off to City Council.

City Council made several amendments during their June 28 and July 12 meetings.

At its June 28th meeting, the City Council made the following amendments:

- A clarification that this ordinance applies to "film or photography activity";
- An exemption for institutionally designated properties with a master plan or conditional use permit that regulates filming;
- That notice of filming must be provided seven days before the film or photography activity commences;
- That notice shall be provided to tenants "and" owners;
- An appeal may be heard by the city manager or their designee; and
- The appellant's fee will be refunded if the appeal is successful.

At its July 12th meeting, the City Council made the following amendments:

- The definition of film or photography activity was amended to include base camp, preparation, filming, and strike days;
- The exemption for institutionally designated properties does not include those properties that do not have a master plan or conditional use permit;
- All references to "tenants and owners" were changed to "occupant";
- The maximum number of film or photography activities per year in the residential area was reduced from 60 days to 30 days; and
- A clarification regarding the signature requirement for film or photography activity in the non-residential area.

Despite these amendments, staff suggests that more needs to be added and subtracted. For example, the existing Commercial Photography and Motion Picture Filming ordinance does not adequately consider the differences that exist and the potential adverse impacts associated with commercial photography and filming activities in residential versus non-residential areas of the city, according to the staff report.

A handful of residents came to express their thoughts before the Council; the first was the President of Alverno, Ken Farsing, who felt the Temporary

Use Permit (TUP) they've had in place for 11 years works just fine. "I think this raises a more fundamental question. In your TUP ordinance, you have the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for institutional use, and we are grateful for that. But it raises the question of what type of facts and customization can occur within that CUP?" Farsing inquired.

Farsing stated that closing the events at Alverno at 10 p.m. works fine and that all the clean-up is done inside. He noted that having to be done entirely by ten won't work because that would mean that events such as weddings would have to be completed by 9.

Leesa Puleo was one of the residents who claimed her signature was forged on a filming permit application. "The TUP that Mr. Farsing is referring to is from 10 years ago, and their behavior has changed quite a bit since then," Puleo said. "Partygoers continue staying there well after 10. We were hoping we had a hard close at 10'clock so we can make sure people are leaving," she said.

Resident Kristin Stephens also claimed her signature was forged and stated on ABC 7 that all the signatures were in the same handwriting. "We haven't made formal complaints about the violations of the TUP because it's very time-consuming," Stephens stated. Stephen also felt that the events are loud and should end at 10. "They now have dancing outside; I don't know how that happened...dancing on the patio?"

Julia Fanara, Head of School at Alverno, claims they have been following the rules as far as closing but said they need from 10 -11 p.m. for the vendors to leave.

The Cutting Room Floor

City Council asked staff for revisions to the ordinance to reflect a variance of 75% if certain standards are not met for events, mirroring the filming ordinance. That's a wrap. A sequel to come.

ARREST WARRANT SOUGHT IN FILMING PERMIT SIGNATURE SCAM

The Sierra Madre Police Department, after months of investigation, has filed for an arrest warrant to apprehend at least one person who may have been involved in forging signatures of local residents in order to ascertain a filming permit from the City of Sierra Madre.

As previously reported in the Mountain Views News in March, both the City of Sierra Madre and residents who live within 250 feet of Alverno Heights Academy, were believed to be victims of "unscrupulous signature gatherers" (<http://mtnviewsnews.com/v16/htm/n11/index.htm>).

At that time, former SMPD Chief Rodrick Armalin and then Captain Henry Amos made a visit to the home of one of the residents and determined that further investigation was warranted. SMPD Sgt. Charles Kamachamian headed the effort and subsequently filed a complaint with the district attorney's office requesting a warrant for the arrest of one suspect.

According to Kamachamian, Paramount Studios, who was requesting the permit to film episodes of the mini-series "The Offer", about the making of "The Godfather", contracted with Stanley Production Services to gather the signatures/permission of 51% of the residents who live within the designated proximity of the school. Upon further investigation SMPD learned that Stanley Production subcontracted the signature gathering out and it is an individual connected to that company that is being charged with Misdemeanor Forgery.

S. Henderson/MVNews

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REMEMBRANCE

STEVEN JOSEPH DROLET

Forever Loved

Steven Joseph Drolet, of Sierra Madre, CA, age 61, passed away July 6, 2022 at his home surrounded by his family. He was the youngest of nine children born to Muriel Marie (Duffy) Drolet and Edwin George Drolet, in Los Angeles, CA. Steven grew up in Alhambra, where he attended Alhambra High School. In his early twenties he moved to Dana Point with his parents where he began his 30 year employment as a courtesy clerk with Ralph's grocery stores. His achievements and pride in his work earned him many accolades and acknowledgements. Steven attended Saddleback Junior College where he explored many fields of study, including Russian history and art. The latter inspired his life long passion and artistic creativity.



In 2002, Steven moved to Sierra Madre, CA where he lived with his brother, sister-in-law, and nephew. While continuing to work at Ralph's in Arcadia, he began his many years of volunteer work in the community. Steven was active in working at the Women's Club, The Spero Foundation, Sierra Madre Rose Float Association, and Civic Club. Steven was a staple at the many businesses in town during his daily walks and enjoyed spending time talking with the people he met, all of whom became friends.

Steve greatly enjoyed his independence. In 2011, he moved into his own apartment in Sierra Madre. It had been his often stated desire to have his own place "down the road". Steve's passion for art led him to the Adaptive Recreation program where his art was shown at numerous galleries, including the Pasadena Art Walks. He was a member of the Pioneer Group, a program developed for special needs adults. Villa Esperanza Services provided him with daily programs at Dimensions, which included day trips, classes in math and geography, and art.

Steven was fortunate to have travelled the world. His adventures included Canada, Greece, France, Ireland, England, Portugal and a number of European countries while cruising the Seine and Danube. His love of photography allowed him to relive these trips through the albums that he enjoyed putting together.

Steven will be deeply missed by his siblings: Brian (Barbara) Drolet, Diane Drolet, Bonnie (Tom Harvey) Drolet, Patrice (Robert) Martin, Nancy (Tim) Waters, Greg (Christy) Drolet, Kevin (Colleen) Drolet, and Frank (Jennifer) Drolet. Steven was a loving uncle to 25 nieces and nephews and 15 grandnieces and nephews. He leaves behind hundreds of friends from the time he grew up in Alhambra, to his 20 years in Sierra Madre, and all of these people he considered to be his family. A very special thank you to the wonderful caregivers, Felipe, Myra, Jesus, Danielle and all the others who cared so deeply for Steve over the past years. The family wishes to thank the compassionate, caring staff of Vitas Hospice for providing exactly what Steven, and his family, needed over the past 10 months.

Steve was a great story teller, and those stories will live on for generations. Steve had a well-lived life, was a great brother, and terrific uncle, and a good friend to all who knew him.

A celebration of his life will be held on Friday, August 5, 2022 at St. Rita Church at 4pm. In lieu of flowers, please donate to Villa Esperanza Services in Steven's name at villaesperanzaservices.org and follow the donation prompts to acknowledge the gift is in Steven's name.

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Sierra Madre Rotary is dedicated to the learning and development of our community's youth. One of the Club's 2022-23 projects is to grow our Interact Group which brings together young men and women ages 12-18 who take action to make a difference in their schools and community, to discover new cultures and promote international understanding and to have fun while making new friends locally and abroad.

To learn more about the Sierra Madre Interact, send a letter of intent to
SierraMadreRotaryClub@gmail.com

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THANK YOU!
Thank you, Susan, for publishing the ‘Meadows’ arguments. I really appreciate your showing all sides/opinions. No, I have not made up my mind, yet; I’m just starting to ‘READ’ the arguments.
Alice Clark, Sierra Madre

WHO DOES OUR CITY COUNCIL REPRESENT?

At their July 12th meeting, the City Council voted to place the “Stop Development” Initiative on the November 8th General Election Ballot. They did so after reviewing a 42-page Staff Report from the City’s Attorney, and after a lengthy presentation by the City Attorney giving facts, figures, risks and positives. Each Council Member, as required, gave an individual appraisal to either support the Initiative or oppose it. All five members of the Council voted to oppose it.

The main reason given was that changing the zoning to Hillside Residential would open the door to development with houses of up to 6500 Sq. Ft. Also was the consideration that State mandates of allowing lot splits, Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) – which are detached living units, would be allowed along with Jr. ADU’s that are attached living units to incorporated in a main residence. This, along with a chance that the initiative would be declared biased against a religious institution was all the Council Members needed to be convinced the Initiative was poorly designed and ill-conceived.

The members of the City Council thoughtfully considered what was right for the City of Sierra Madre, and what was right for their Citizens. They represent All of Sierra Madre, not just a few neighbors looking out for their own interests. The proponents insist that the 1300 signatures on their petition are enough to provide a definitive majority. However, many voters in the City have not had a chance to review or understand the ramifications of this initiative.

Let’s hope that the voters of our fair City will understand the consequence of such a blatant attempt to undermine the planning process of the city against a property owner who in good faith, applied for a fair hearing for their project. Vote No on the destructive Initiative being placed on the ballot.
Pat Alcorn, Sierra Madre

CITIZENS FOR TRUTH

THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH

This is getting so tedious countering the lies bought and paid for by New Urban West. As I gathered signatures for the well-designed initiative to give residents the vote as to whether New Urban West developers should be allowed to make up their own rules regarding building in a very high fire zone, many people told me, “The fix is already in. I’ll sign, but this City Council is already in the pocket of the developer.” Another favorite, “Money talks.” I argued with them at the time, said that City Council is doing the best they can, and attempting to keep an open mind. Sadly, they were right, and I was so wrong, evidenced by:

- The many full page ads, paid for by New Urban West that leads us to believe it is the nebulous Neighbors for Fairness (what an oxymoron of a name!) The latest puts our very own Mayor Goss promoting a lie that 42 large homes crammed together on very small lots is more Sierra Madre than fewer homes on larger lots, with less destruction of the environment, saying about the voters’ initiative “There is no way I could support anything like that. I think that is just not Sierra Madre.” So, Mayor Goss, how does it feel to be blatantly so biased in a full page ad paid for by a developer?
- Two pro initiative speakers before City Council were cut off by Mayor Goss even before their three minutes were up. Gary Hood took him to task for cutting people off in the middle of a sentence. He tried to lamely backtrack and say he didn’t do that – even though he just had, twice, as he has often done in the past.
- Council Member Kriebs, the liaison to the Planning Commission, but seldom in attendance, was missing but sent in an email. More evidence that the fix is in – where are the emails from concerned citizens to the Council describing the Hillside Management ordinance? Obviously not read by the Council as it continues to appear that they have not read the ordinance and are clueless.

Mayors Arizmendi and Goss repeatedly not only refused to allow impartial experts not paid for by New Urban West to speak before Council, but they also refused reading their letters to the Council so the public could hear. These letters refute the “facts,” as the paid for by New Urban West. Gary Hood’s comment on Tuesday night: Bats don’t come out on a 9 to 5 schedule (when one biologist “expert” observed them one day). Observe them at night when they are more active. It is written into the Development Agreement that any lawsuits against the City for approving the development will be paid for by New Urban West. The City can fear a lawsuit from the developer, but don’t have to worry about the cost of a lawsuit filed by the residents. No wonder NUW is spending thousands on misleading ads. Sadly, since it is readily apparent that the Council has already made up its collective mind to go lockstep approving the ill-conceived project, even before hearing the Planning Commission’s recommendations, what can we do?

- Take whatever Council says/writes with a grain of salt, after all, they get their information from the City lawyer, who collaborates with New Urban West for the “facts.” And they have failed to demonstrate that they have read the many documents produced for the project.
- Write to the Council to let them know how disappointing their behavior is. Addresses are: first letter first name, last name @cityofsierramadre.com (eg. ggoss@cityofsierramadre.com).
- Vote for the initiative on November 8 – tell your friends how biased Council is on this project!
- Think about running for City Council yourself, or any one you know who would care about Sierra Madre. Papers must be filed by August 11. Call City Clerk Laura Aguilar, 626-355-7135 for more information.

HISTORY (continued from page 1)

is being pushed through relatively unimpeded and appears destined to get a zoning change and a waiver that will allow for 42 track homes to be built in such a structure size and lot size that is not allowed under our current zoning code, codes the rest of us must adhere to. Residents of Sierra Madre will have no say in this process (other than pesky, unaddressed monologues at city meetings) approving a project that doesn’t meet the general plan and our building codes. By the time the project gets jammed through, it will be too late for residents to do anything about it. Naturally, residents who understand this have reached the point of not trusting our city council.

Our city council, likely thinking back to the legal opinion backfire of Measure V, appears to have left less to chance by not hiring an independent law firm to evaluate the Mater Dolorosa Hillside Zoning Initiative. Instead, they were provided a flawed evaluation by the city’s attorney. It appears to have given them enough cover to proclaim immediately their opposition to the initiative. No independent thought on their part, no analysis, no reflection. At least none provided publicly. The evaluations were surprisingly quick, though as we have learned from the past, inevitable. With all this in mind, we need to be reminded of the claims that were made by city council and other anti-Measure V supporters at the time because the play-book and claims sound very similar to today and the evidence is now in. History is the best teacher and proved them wrong, if not corrupt. Following is a review of some of the most popular claims against Measure V and how things fared 15 years later.

- The initiative was going to cause developers to build strip malls and chain stores downtown. – Clearly this did not occur.
- Major drafting error means voters will not get to approve individual projects. Drafters of the initiative made a major error when they created the initiative. – At least one project that proposed to exceed standards came to a vote and it

was approved by the residents. It worked as expected. Pushes development into residential neighborhoods because there is a conflict between the initiative and state law. – The state is doing all it can to force unwanted development on citizens but the Measure V initiative did not result in additional residential development and, anyway, a developer can successfully build a project in town by way of a vote of the residents. Taxpayers will foot the bill for Measure V votes for tens or hundreds of thousands of dollars, not the developers. – there is certainly some cost to include a vote during a regular voting cycle but it has been minimal at most (in fact not even mentioned) and certainly worth it. The city will face a cascade of lawsuits. – no known lawsuits attributed to Measure V except the early failed attempt to stop it from allowing citizens to vote on it. This boogeyman is wheeled out at every opportunity. Legal threats by developers are assured when they don’t get their way but this is not reason to roll over. Some people want no new development at all, but Measure V takes that choice away from us and leaves us with bad development. – Clearly that claim is put to rest. The money wasted on the initiative and lawsuits will result in higher taxes to residents. – No wasted money or higher taxes has been attributed to Measure V. This is always a favorite of anyone opposing an initiative, especially when they lack grounds to address the initiative itself. The flaws in Measure V are so severe that the measure doesn’t even do what its proponents say it will do. – This statement was clearly proven wrong.

There are similarities in what is being said today of the current initiative we have before us. Indeed, some of these same arguments and the consequent tantrums have already begun to emerge. Did the people who made the anti-Measure V claims ever come back and say they were wrong, as they so clearly were. Of course not, that is not to be expected. But thankfully, voters saw through their lies and the city has greatly benefited from the efforts of those residents who fought so hard to preserve Sierra Madre.



WHO IS REALLY PROTECTING SIERRA MADRE?

The proposed Meadows project has been a very contentious topic in the city. We have Preserve Sierra Madre and Protect Sierra Madre supporting the initiative which will stop the Meadows project. One needs to ask, “What is their true goal?”

Are they really looking out for the best interests of Sierra Madre or are they just opposing a project, or any project, that is put on the table? You only need to look at their underlying arguments to find the truth.

Protect Sierra Madre is the group of three neighbors of the Mater Dolorosa Retreat Center who created the ballot initiative. The purpose of the initiative is to protect the hillside environment from a residential project that is being built 500’ away from the mountains. They plan on doing this by rezoning the entire property to the Hillside residential zone which will allow 68 - 6,500 square foot mansions to be built right up to the mountains. They are promoting the opposite of what they are arguing.

Preserve Sierra Madre’s mission statement says they support responsible development and that they “have worked hard to prevent over-development and mansionization and to protect our historic properties and open spaces.” They also say, “We have all seen firsthand, in Arcadia, what can happen to neighborhoods under a development free-for-all.” Yet they, too, are supporting the initiative that will allow 68 – 6,500 square foot Arcadia-style mansions to be built in Sierra Madre with very little oversight. They are promoting the opposite of what they are arguing.

Both groups speak of protecting the rights of property owners, saving “meadow,” the open space, the wildlife habitat, and the vistas. They talk about the need to conserve water, stop the supposed fire danger from homes being built in the foothills, the problems of construction noise and pollution, and the reality of increased traffic. Their initiative will not prevent any of these things from happening! They are also willing to strip away the rights of a property owner to get their way, putting the city at serious risk of being sued. They are hypocritically doing the opposite of what they are arguing. This is how we know their true intent is just to stop the currently proposed project at all costs and not to Preserve or Protect Sierra Madre.

The initiative that is being promoted makes just about everything worse for the city with big mansions, no park, no hillsides in conservancy, and no net-zero water offsets. We at Sierra Madre Neighbors for Fairness are for responsible development and think the supporters of the initiative will be making the exact same arguments against any future projects. We respect the rights of property owners, including the Passionists, and want to see the best project for the city. We support the city leaders to make the best decision taking all factors into account. The initiative must be defeated. Join us at www.sierramadre-neighborshforfairness.org

News | Sierra Madre Neighbors for Fairness
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OPINIONS ARE NOT FACTS

The decision of the City Council to oppose the proposed Initiative at their last meeting was particularly disappointing because it was clear that our City Council is willing to make decisions without knowing the facts and issues. Critically, they are willing to argue their opinions to citizens who assume (incorrectly) that they would only express such important opinions after significant thought and study.

It is now clear that none of the Council members are familiar with the provisions of the Sierra Madre Hillside Ordinance which has been in place since 1994 and will govern any development under the Initiative. Mayor Goss was very emphatic in saying that he and Council member Arizmendi fought very hard when working on the 2015 General Plan and Zoning ordinances to keep McMansions out of our City.

They are now not aware that our Hillside Ordinance permitted the size homes they are now horrified by. That Ordinance has been approved and supported by City Councils for years and lauded for its protections of both the environment and the character of our city.

That Ordinance recognizes that owners of very large properties should be able to get an appropriate financial benefit by selling their land, while also protecting the environment. The Hillside Ordinance, like all other land use plans in our City, provides that large houses should be on large lots and should be regulated to provide the least possible impact to the environment or to the aesthetics of the City.

Apparently every one of our City Council is suddenly opposed to the protections of an Ordinance that have been in place and part of our City regulations for almost three (3) decades? An ordinance which was specifically enacted and approved by our City Councils to PROTECT our Willland Urban Interface. Does this council feel that all those enactments over so many years were “misguided”? If so, why have they left them in place since 1994?

Or is it only if they are applied to the Monastery property?

There were many misstatements by the Council that are concerning, and we will address them going forward. The most inaccurate arguments against the initiative were made by Councilmember Parkhurst (who we thought would be MOST familiar with the strong environmental protections of our Hillside Ordinance). Clearly he is not. He expressed three concerns that he erroneously argued as “facts”.

Argument #1
“The Initiative will not promote all electric homes, which is something I have pushed very hard for”.

In many ads and mailers, the Developer has claimed that the Project will have “All electric homes.” The truth is that all homes will have the “option” to be all electric. The ‘all electric’ claim is not true. Gas lines will be run to EVERY house. Like all developments, if all buyers choose all electric it will be an all-electric development. If all choose gas - it will be an all-gas development. The Development Agreement, if read by Council members, states clearly under the developer’s obligations that they will: (h) Encourage Electric Appliances by providing pamphlets, signage, model home and a website touting the benefits of electric.

In an email to the former city manager when asked if they have built all electric developments, the developer’s rep responded that ‘In the lower end of the market, we are looking into this but at the high end we really need to go with gas for cooking and heat etc. Hope that is not an issue. At the 2 mil price point people want big gas wolf and Viking ranges’.

The developer never had ANY intention of making it an all electric development and never expected buyers to choose all electric!

Argument #2 “The Initiative doesn’t address anything about wildlife”. Again, if read by council members, among the listed “Purposes of the Hillside Zone” are B. Maintain an environmental equilibrium consistent with the native vegetation, animal life, geology, slopes, and drainage patterns; and D. Ensure that development in the hillside areas is located so as to result in the least environmental impact; Factually, this Section of the Hillside Management Plan definitely does address wildlife!

Argument #3 “The Initiative permits No Influence in Design”. As stated in the Hillside Zone Ordinance, its Purposes are to: D.Ensure that development in the hillside areas is located so as to result in the least environmental impact; E.Ensure that all hillside development is designed to fit the existing land form; F.Preserve significant natural features of hillside areas, including swales, canyons, knolls, ridgelines, and rock outcrops. Development may necessarily affect natural features; therefore, a major design criterion for all hillside development shall be the minimization of impacts on such natural features;

H, Correlate intensity of development to steepness of terrain to minimize grading, removal of natural vegetation; and to prevent the creation of land instability or fire hazards; I.Provide, in hillside areas, alternative approaches to conventional flat-land development practices by achieving land use patterns and intensities that are consistent with the natural features of hillside areas; J.Encourage the planning, design, development and use of home sites which: 4. Use proper construction materials, and 5. Make best use of natural terrain.

The entire Hillside Ordinance is at: Chapter 17.52 - H HILLSIDE MANAGEMENT ZONE | Code of Ordinances | Sierra Madre, CA | Municode Library. It contains six lengthy sections that influence design: Sections 17.52.120 to 17.52.170.

We hope all Council members will take the time to read and familiarize themselves with the Ordinance that they seem to have decided is “wrong for our city” or specifically, the “monastery parcel.” And we hope that all City Council members will recognize their duty to personally read our ordinances, the final EIR, Specific Plan and other relevant documents to learn the facts for themselves and not rely on Staff presentations before presenting their “facts” to their constituents! Those who elected them expect no less.

SIERRA MADRE

SIERRA MADRE

ARCADIA

PASADENA

ALTADENA

MONROVIA



50TH ANNUAL FRIENDS OF SIERRA MADRE LIBRARY WINE AND CUISINE TASTING BENEFIT

Tickets are now on sale for the Friends of Sierra Madre Library Wine and Cuisine Tasting Benefit to be held Friday, September 23rd at the Paddock at Santa Anita Racetrack. Tickets can be purchased at the Sierra Madre Library; and for your convenience, tickets can also be purchased at Eventbrite.com. You will find tickets on Eventbrite.com when you search: 50th Annual Wine & Cuisine Tasting Benefit.

The Premier Event from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. is limited to 100 guests. The Premier Event offers premium wines, specialty foods, door prizes and early access to the Main Event. The Main Event is from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. and is limited to 400 guests. The Main Event will have domestic and international wines and beers, food from fine local restaurants, live music, and a Silent Auction. Tickets for the Premier Event are \$100 each and tickets for the Main Event are \$75.

Plan to come and enjoy the food from our many restaurants that participate, along with the many wineries that will be represented. Join us for our tasting, auction, music, and just plain fun!

There are opportunities to volunteer or be an event sponsor. If you are interested in helping with this event you may contact Leslie Ziff at lbziffer@gmail.com or 626-321-7735.

The proceeds of this event help support the programs for children and adults at Sierra Madre Library throughout the year. For more information about the event or Friends of the Sierra Madre Library visit our website at www.sierramadrelibraryfriends.org.

Don't miss this event!

Catch breaking news at:
mtnviewsnews.com

WALKING SIERRA MADRE - The Social Side

by Deanne Davis

"It's important to lock your car doors; especially now. No, not more rampaging crime, it's because your friends, neighbors and even strangers will put their excess zucchini in your car."

"The trouble is, you cannot grow just one zucchini. Minutes after you plant one single seed, hundreds of zucchini will barge out of the ground and sprawl around the garden, menacing the other vegetables. At night you will be able to hear the ground quake as more and more zucchinis erupt." Dave Barry

I got myself a new miracle fertilizer, which looks like little mustard seeds. It is composed of nitrogen, potash, phosphate and other mysterious chemicals. The label absolutely guarantees it will galvanize roses, tomatoes and other assorted garden dwellers, to do instantly what they're supposed to do...grow! Of course, having grown zucchini and pumpkins, fertilizer is a superfluous frill as far as they are concerned. Put a couple of seeds in the ground, go away for the weekend, and be astonished when you return to find that their vines have cascaded all over the yard and everything else is fighting for its life.

Zucchini is delicious when it's small and tender so you leave it on the vine for one more day, come back and it's turned into the size of a baseball bat. You can grate all day to make zucchini bread and there's still some left. Neighbors see you coming and won't answer the door. Remember Mickey Mouse as the Sorcerer's Apprentice with his enchanted buckets of water? Well, just like that, the zucchini keep coming and coming.

If you find you're overwhelmed with zucchini, make some bread. This recipe is particularly good. I got it from Dorothy Reinhold's column in the Pasadena Star News in 2011. In it, she described her son's ecstasy about the zucchini bread that his 3rd grade Webster Elementary School instructional aide, Mrs. Corinne Le had baked and brought to share. "It's sooooo good," he said, "and she gave me the recipe." So here it is, friends and neighbors, best zucchini bread ever.

ZUCCHINI BREAD

Preheat oven to 350 degrees, grease 8 x 4 loaf pan.

1-1/2 cups all-purpose flour
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
1/2 tsp. baking soda
1/3 tsp. baking powder
1/4 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. ground nutmeg

In a large bowl, combine those first six ingredients.

1 cup sugar
1 cup finely shredded, unpeeled zucchini
1/4 cup vegetable oil
1 egg
1/2-1 tsp grated lemon peel
1/2 cup chopped pecans (optional) dried cranberries are good in here, too, and maybe a little chopped apple.

In another bowl combine all those ingredients. Mix well. Add dry mixture to zucchini mixture, stir just till moistened (batter will be lumpy) Add nuts and/or cranberries, and apples.

Spoon batter into greased pan. Bake 55-60 minutes or until a wooden toothpick inserted near the center comes out clean. Cool in the pan on a wire rack for at least ten minutes. Remove loaf from pan and cool. Now cut yourself a slice, sit down and enjoy it with a cup of coffee. You deserve a break after all that planting, fertilizing, harvesting, stealthy distributing and baking.

This freezes well and you can double the recipe with impunity.

Thanks again, Dorothy and Mrs. Le. This is the best zucchini bread I've ever tasted and it's neat to think that these kids got to taste something fabulous that a teacher wanted to share. Teachers ARE exceptional people. My daughter-in-law, Michon, is a teacher and will be starting to teach a kindergarten class on August 9th at Christ Lutheran School in Huntington Beach. These little people will be getting a gem to start their school career.

My granddaughter, Emily Brown, was twelve last Friday. Her other grandparents drove in from Mesquite NV and a fabulous weekend was had by all. They went to P F Chang's, we all went to see "Rise of Gru" the new Minions movie and loved every minute of that. Dined at Red Lobster, those cheese biscuits are addictive, brunch at Lakeside Grill with Tequila Sunrise Mimosas and eggs benedict and opened presents galore.

Emily and her sister, Jessie were both adopted by their fabulous parents, Chris and Crissy Brown. Jessie when she was 2, and Emily when she was just a few weeks old. I first met Emily when she was a week old. She was not much bigger than my hand and the world's neatest baby. Crissy and I took her to a mom's luncheon at the Black Fin, where they had fabulous hamburgers. As we had both forgotten most of what to bring along for babies, we neglected to bring little blankets. It was freezing in there and I had Emily in my lap on a napkin and kept asking other people if they were using their napkins so we could keep the baby warm. As you can see, she survived our parenting and is now a beautiful young lady. I had to choose between pictures of zucchini and Emily and, as you can see, Emily won. She brings us joy!

My book page: Amazon.com: Deanne Davis

Where you'll find

"A Treasure Map, A Drunken Owl & 47 Rattlers in A Bag
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<https://sierramadrekiwanis.com/>

Weather Wise

6-Day Forecast Sierra Madre, Ca.

Sun	Sunny	Hi	90s	Lows 60s
Mon	Sunny	Hi	80s	Lows 60s
Tues	Sunny	Hi	80s	Lows 60s
Wed	Sunny	Hi	80s	Lows 60s
Thur	Sunny	Hi	80s	Lows 60s
Fri	Sunny	Hi	80s	Lows 60s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

SIERRA MADRE CITY MEETINGS SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

September 13, 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 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 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.

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GFWCsierramadreWomansClub.org

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[SierraMadreWomansClub](https://www.facebook.com/SierraMadreWomansClub) 355-4379

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Shop Closed for Summer

So many thanks for your donations
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Enjoy your summer! See you when the

Shop Re-Opens Thur., September 1 – 10-3

Clean, gently used donations again accepted
after Wed., June 15!



[SierraMadreWomansClub](https://www.facebook.com/SierraMadreWomansClub)



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This week at the
Sierra Madre
Public Library

August 1—6

All Library events will be napping for the
month of August!



Regular programming at the Library will
resume in September. In the meantime,
check out Walk This Way Story Adventure
at Memorial Park—a new picture book will
be posted every other Monday!

Read, Discover, Connect
@ Sierra Madre Public Library



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

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>

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Zen Shin

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Pasadena Altadena

News From Your Community For Your Community

Minivan Hits Three People in South Pas

One person was killed and two others injured in South Pasadena Wednesday night after a white Toyota Sienna failed to stop at the intersection of Marengo Avenue Maple Street.

According to South Pasadena police shortly before 8:25 p.m. the driver of the Sienna ran a stop sign hitting a man and two women while they were crossing Marengo Ave.

The unidentified man was pronounced dead at a nearby hospital. The two women suffered serious injuries.

Police said it was unknown if alcohol or drugs were a factor in the collision.

Anyone with information about this traffic collision is asked to call Officer Jeff Holland at 626-403-7270.

No Mask Mandate in Pasadena

Pasadena Public Health Department officials announced Wednesday that with declining Covid cases, the City of Pasadena health officer will not issue a general indoor mask mandate.

According to officials the PPHD has determined that jurisdictional COVID-19 confirmed case rates have declined for about 10 days, and local hospitalization metrics have not continued to increase during that time.

With input from healthcare provider partners, PPHD will continue to assess the COVID-19 situation, including strain on the healthcare system, and consider appropriate public health actions to protect our community as the situation changes. Consistent with the CDC and CA Department of Public Health, PPHD strongly recommends that people wear masks indoors when the city and LA County are in the CDC's high community level, as is the case currently. In particular, people who are not up to date on COVID-19 vaccination, are older, or have underlying medical conditions that put them at greater risk of severe outcomes from infection should take precautions.

Masks are still required in certain settings, including healthcare, long-term care and adult and senior care facilities, congregate shelters, on transportation, and anywhere masks are required by an organization, employer, school or event organizer. Organizations, employers, schools and event organizers are strongly encouraged to implement an indoor mask requirement at times of high COVID-19 transmission, as we are currently experiencing, to protect employees, customers, student and families.



City Gives Library Renovations Update

Interim City Manager Cynthia Kurtz gave Pasadena Mayor Victor Gordo, along with the city council an update Thursday on continuing work to move the Central Library Seismic Renovation Project forward. The renovations could cost over \$100 million according to estimates.

According to Kurtz, "Public Works is undertaking additional engineer work and testing to make sure all the information needed to make an informed decision about the level and type of seismic work needed is available. Once this additional engineer work is completed, a contract for the final design of the project will be brought forward for City Council consideration in the fall."

She said the Community Programming Committee is made up of members

with backgrounds in non-profit organizations, historic preservation and presentation, library operations, architecture, and media. The mission of the committee will be to recommend how Central Library space can be reimagined to draw more people into the building and serve as a primary community gathering space for community, artistic and theatrical events while remaining the central building in the city's library system.

Cindy Cleary, former Glendale Library Director and Pasadena resident, will serve as the primary contact and consultant for the committee Kurtz said. The committee is expected to hold their first meeting in September.

"A separate Technical Advisory Committee will be recommended to oversee

and advise the council on the approach for the seismic work and the actual construction work," she said.

Last year in May, Pasadena building officials ordered the closure of the Central Library, located at 285 E. Walnut St., until further notice. At that time a structural assessment revealed that most of the building is comprised of unreinforced masonry (URM) bearing walls that support concrete floors and walls.

Designed by Myron Hunt in 1924, Central Library was the first building completed in Pasadena's historic Civic Center Plan. The library is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Doctor Poets & other Healers

Covid-19 in their own words with poems & personal essays

Pasadena Public Library will present a conversation with a selection of the poets and essayists from "Doctor Poets & Other Healers: COVID-19 in Their Own Words with Poems & Personal Essays" today, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Lamanda Park Branch Library, 140 S Altadena Dr., when several healthcare workers share their journeys through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Healthcare workers faced an unimaginable challenge head-on when confronted with the pandemic. Undeniably changed, they banded together in the field and on the page, sharing their journey. In this anthology, 26 poets and essayists—physicians, nurses, psychologists, social workers, private caregivers, holistic practitioners, medical school students and a hospital chaplain—share their personal experiences tending to patients, dealing with loss, uncertainty, grief and isolation, and surviving in a world turned topsy-turvy by a once-in-a-century pandemic. All found their way through resilience, selflessness and the eternal flame of hope.

The Pasadena Public Library is an information center for the Pasadena community. A variety of highly vetted programs are presented for children and adults, and they represent the research and opinions of the presenter and do not reflect an endorsement by the City of Pasadena nor the Pasadena Public Library.

For more information or call (626) 744-7076.

Uniquely Pasadena Summer Speaker Series



Pasadena Heritage announced Monday that are set to present Uniquely Pasadena: Summer Speaker Series - Entertainment and Food this Sunday with guest speakers independent publicist, B. Harlan Böll to discuss the who's who of classic Hollywood and Patty Civalieri to talk about the beginnings of Trader Joe's grocery store company. The event will held from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Blinn House in Pasadena.

serves as special PR advisor to The Smithsonian Institution (NMAH): Entertainment Division, and the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences (Daytime Emmy Awards).

While watching your favorite movie you are most likely snacking on some uniquely Pasadena snacks from Trader Joe's, so you won't want to miss this book discussion of the second guest speaker, co-author of "Becoming Trader Joe," Patty Civalieri. Joe Coulombe, the Founder of Trader Joe's, created the business that surpassed all expectations to become America's "Sweetheart" grocer. The very first store opened here in Pasadena and is still open at 610 S Arroyo Parkway. Patty will share Joe's stories from the book in her lively and entertaining style, and will be available to sign books afterwards.

Guests may attend in person or watch virtually via Zoom.

The Blinn House is located 160 N Oakland Avenue.

Save the date: August 28 for part three of the speaker series. The topic will be Science, Technology and People.

From its founding to the present day, the city of Pasadena has drawn brilliant, talented and innovative thinkers and creators to live and work. Pasadena is the birthplace of remarkable achievements and innovative ideas, in architecture and transportation, entertainment and food, and science and technology and more.

For more information visit: pasadenaheritage.org/events-calendar.

House Approves Schiff's Homeless Services Projects

Congressman Adam Schiff announced last week that the House approved \$3.7 million in funding for three homeless services projects in Hollywood and Glendale as part of a government funding package passed July 21.

The YWCA of Glendale and Pasadena, the Center in Hollywood, and the Hollywood Food Coalition are three of the fifteen critical housing, homelessness support, employment, public safety, public health, and education projects Schiff has requested

nearly \$15.4 million in funding for in the fiscal year 2023 federal government funding legislation. The additional funding requests for community projects are expected on the House floor in the coming weeks.

Schiff said "These funds will help these organizations greatly expand their capacity to serve those most in need, and I will push hard for their passage in the Senate."

For more information on Congressman Schiff's FY23 community project funding requests visit: schiff.house.gov.

Governor Signs Portantino's Gun Reform Measure SB 1327



Bill Modeled on Texas Private Right of Action Abortion Ban

Governor Gavin Newsom, last week, signed SB 1327 a major gun reform bill jointly authored by Senators Bob Hertzberg and Anthony Portantino. SB 1327 allows private citizens to sue a person who manufactures, distributes, transports, imports, or sells assault weapons, .50 BMG rifles, ghost guns, or ghost gun kits in California. It allows citizens to sue for \$10,000 on each weapon involved, as well as attorney fees. Governor Gavin Newsom is the official sponsor of the legislation, which takes its framework from a Texas anti-abortion bill declared to be constitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court.

"The continued need to adopt sensible solutions to our nation's tragic history of gun violence is dire and necessary," said Senator Portantino. "That includes SB 1327 - which I am proud to jointly author with Senator Hertzberg. I am grateful to Governor Newsom for his partnership on this important bill that will keep our communities safe and improve public safety for all Californians. If Texas can outrageously use this type of law to attack a woman's reproductive freedom, we can do the same thing in California to hold gun dealers accountable for their actions," stated Senator Portantino.

"Any tool we can use to protect

the public is the right thing to do," Senator Hertzberg said. "If have a situation with ghost guns, assault weapons and 50-caliber machine guns killing innocent men, women and children then we have an obligation to act. There's no higher calling for state policymakers than to protect the public they serve."

SB 1327 continues Senator Portantino's record as one of California's most ardent gun reform advocates. During his time in the Assembly, the Senator successfully banned the open carry of handguns and rifles in California and as Senator, he raised the general gun purchase age in California to twenty-one. In 2019, Governor Newsom also signed Senator Portantino's SB 172. The bill enacted a slate of significant provisions related to firearms storage by broadening criminal storage crimes, adding criminal storage offenses to those offenses that can trigger a 10-year firearm ban, and creating an exemption to firearm loan requirements for the purposes of preventing suicide. The same year, SB 376 was signed into law, which reduces the number of firearms an unlicensed individual is annually able to sell and the frequency with which they are able to sell. In 2021, Senate Bill 715 was signed into law, which enacts important gun purchase safeguards. Senator Portantino is working with Governor Newsom and Attorney General Bonta on SB 918, California's answer to the recent Supreme Court decision on Concealed Weapons Permits.



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www.FreeAnimalDoctor.org



Sierra Madre based non-profit





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Doctor

CALTECH NAMES NEW CHIEF OF CAMPUS SECURITY, PARKING

Hampton Cantrell, who has working in higher-education well as in sworn law enforcement chief of campus security and begin his tenure at the Institute

Cantrell is currently the safety at Saint Mary's College in oversees security services, safety management, and parking and

Prior to his appointment at the associate vice president Marymount University from after a 26-year career in sworn which he served in the Inglewood Police Department in Southern California. During his time in Inglewood, Cantrell rose to the rank of senior police captain and oversaw all three major bureaus: patrol operations, detectives, and administration. He also spent two years serving the Compton Police Department as a patrol officer.

"Hampton has spent many years in Los Angeles, has partnerships here, and considers this his home," said David Kang, associate vice president of facilities, in a memo announcing Cantrell's appointment. He later added: "His work in higher education has taught him the importance of building community, engaging with students, faculty, and staff, and serving as a mentor, a vision and philosophy that are exactly in line with Caltech's needs. All of this came across clearly in our conversations with Hampton."

A native of the Bay Area, Cantrell received his BA in political science from UC Irvine and his JD from Southwestern University School of Law. He is a licensed attorney in California and provides consulting on public safety issues in the state. Cantrell is also the immediate past president of the California College and University Police Chiefs Association (CCUPCA), a member of the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators (IACLEA), and a member of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE).

"I am honored and humbled to be selected as the chief of campus security at Caltech," Cantrell says. "I believe strongly in collaboration and consultation with campus stakeholders on a variety of safety and security issues. I look forward to meeting with students, faculty, staff, and others, including my security team, to ensure our department is delivering excellent service to the Caltech community."

South Pas Nomination Period for City Council & Treasurer

The filing period for residents interested in running in the 2022 South Pasadena General Municipal Election is open now and close Friday, August 12, 2022. Two City Council seats, one in District 4, and one in District 5, and an At-Large City Treasurer seat, are open for election. If an incumbent whose term expires in 2022 does not file in this period, the filing period is extended to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, August 17, 2022, for all potential candidates other than the incumbent(s) who declined to file.

Prospective City Council candidates must secure the signatures of 20 to 30 registered voters that reside in the geographical area making up the district from which the candidate is to be elected. Prospective City Treasurer candidates must secure the

signature of 20 to 30 registered voters that reside in the City of South Pasadena. Each candidate is required to file a Statement of Economic Interests, disclosing investments and interests in real property at the time the nomination paper is returned for filing. A filing fee of \$25.00 will be assessed at the same time of submitting nomination papers.

Nomination papers and candidate handbooks will be available by appointment only beginning July 18 in the City Clerk's Division, at City Hall, 1414 Mission Street, South Pasadena, CA 91030. Election office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and on Friday, August 12.

For more information visit: southpasadenaca.gov.

For more information visit: southpasadenaca.gov.

For more information visit: southpasadenaca.gov.

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Re-Imagining, Re-Connecting & Re-Building The 710 Corridor

By Mayor Victor Gordo & Councilmember Steve Madison

On behalf of our entire community, our City Council colleagues and City staff, we have many reasons to celebrate the significant milestone of the relinquishment of the 710 freeway corridor. On June 29, 2022, the California Transportation Commission returned over 50 acres of property to its rightful owners – the people of Pasadena as part of the relinquishment agreement. After decades of uncertainty we can now focus on re-envisioning the 710 stub and re-stitching our City.

We want to thank the California Transportation Commission, its Chair Emeritus Hilary Norton, CalTrans and its Director Tony Tavares, Senator Anthony Portantino, the Pasadena Department of Transportation, former Mayor Bill Bogaard and Claire Bogaard, Mic Hansen and the thousands of Pasadena residents who have fought for many years to make this dream a reality.

Many have always thought of the 710 stub as a gateway to the beautiful neighborhoods in West Pasadena – and that it is! Having said that, let's keep in mind the stub is also an important access corridor to Huntington Hospital and a transit corridor and gateway to our historic business district, Old Pasadena. And, importantly, the stub previously was home to diverse residents, businesses, and churches, and relinquishment offers an opportunity for repatriation. All of these interests will need to be balanced as we look towards the future and relevant future uses.

Our next steps will include forming a multi-disciplinary, community-driven visioning process to layout the future transportation network, land use, and utility infrastructure network needed to reconnect Pasadena. This will also involve virtually all city of Pasadena departments who will have a part moving forward with the maintenance, ownership, responsibility and liability including meeting the Americans with Disabilities (ADA) standards.

We are deeply grateful to Senator Anthony Portantino who authored Bill SB7 and opened the door for our successful negotiations with Caltrans over the past year. The model set forth by Pasadena and Caltrans built upon the spirit of SB7 and can serve as a model for reconnecting communities throughout California.

Our City has always taken pride in our great coordination and collaboration with our community and partner agencies. Our commitment to all Pasadena residents is to keep you updated and ensure a vigorous public process that allows all residents to actively participate as we re-imagine this part of Pasadena.



ARCADIA TO PLACE 3 MEASURES ON NOVEMBER BALLOT

On Tuesday, July 19, 2022, the Arcadia City Council voted to place three local measures on the November 8, 2022, ballot. Voters will be considering an amendment to the City Charter, an increase to the City's Transient Occupancy Tax rate similar to nearby cities, and a new local tax that would be implemented if Sports Wagering is approved statewide this fall.

Proposed City Charter Amendment Measure The City Charter was last amended in 1998. Therefore, the City Council created a citizen-led Charter Review Committee last year to review the document and propose recommended updates to mirror changes in State law since 1998 and to reflect current local government standards and conventions. The Committee's proposed updates include:

- Mirroring changes in State law to increase voter turnout by moving the date of regularly scheduled City Council elections from April in even-numbered years to the November Statewide General Election in even-numbered years
- Recognizing the City's change to by-district elections as required by the California Voting Rights Act
- Creating a rotation of the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem positions every 9.5 months to allow all Councilmembers to serve during their term
- Changing the position of City Clerk from elected to appointed
- Other amendments to streamline government, utilize technology, and increase transparency

"These changes to Arcadia's City Charter were recommended by our Charter Review Committee after reviewing best practices adopted by other cities and models provided by the National League of Cities," said City Manager Dominic Lazzaretto. "These recommended changes aim to increase participation in Arcadia city government and allow the city to operate efficiently."

The City Council also added a proposed change to the Charter that would authorize the City Council to appoint a City Prosecutor to prosecute local crimes in lieu of the District Attorney.

The City Council voted unanimously to place all of these proposed changes before voters for consideration as a charter amendment measure.

"As each of our Councilmembers expressed at

the meeting last Tuesday, we are very appreciative of the time and effort devoted to this issue by our citizen volunteer Charter Review Committee and we are in agreement that these updates to our Charter will be good for our city," Mayor Tom Beck added.

Measures to Increase Locally Controlled Funding The City Council also voted to place two local revenue measures on the ballot for voters to consider.

One measure would increase Arcadia's local tax on stays at hotels and motels from 10% to 12% - a similar rate to many neighboring cities.

The other measure would enact a local tax on sports wagers if sports betting becomes legal in California. State Proposition 26, also on the November ballot, would allow in-person betting at casinos and horseracing facilities such as Arcadia's Santa Anita Park.

"While Prop 26, the statewide initiative to legalize sports wagering, includes a state tax, it doesn't include any revenue source for cities like Arcadia to help offset the local impact of sports betting," City Manager Lazzaretto said. "This measure would address that."

Arcadia's measure would allow the City to collect a tax of up to 5% of sports wagering gross revenue from all sports bets placed at a business in Arcadia. The tax would not apply to horse racing but would apply to all other sports wagers placed locally.

Mayor Tom Beck noted, "The hotel tax would be paid mostly by visitors to Arcadia. The gambling tax would only be paid by those who gamble on sports."

Funds from the measures may be used for general City services and infrastructure improvements. Each of the three measures must be approved by a majority of local voters. For full descriptions of all the proposed Charter amendments and more information on the measures, please visit ArcadiaCA.gov/Measures.

Information on Voting

Ballots will be mailed to all voters in early October and must be postmarked by November 8, 2022, or be returned to a local Vote Center. Vote Center locations will be published approximately 40 days before the election. If you need to register to vote, please visit RegisterToVote.CA.gov. For more information, please email CityClerk@ArcadiaCA.gov or call (626) 574-5455.

MONROVIA NEWS BRIEFS

Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District Renovation

The Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District has relocated their offices to 248 E. Foot-hill Blvd. They have been under construction for some time, renovating the interior of the building and updating the public sidewalk along their Canyon Blvd. frontage. As an aside, the City and USGVMWD are discussing a collaborative project to install EV charging stations in the future. As they prepare to begin their landscaping plan, there are 3 camphor trees which will be removed from the private property. The trees' root systems have caused substantial damage to the concrete drainage channel. Understanding the importance of mature trees in the neighborhood, the owners have already made plans to replace the trees with trees that are as mature as available. These trees will be planted in the fall when temperatures are cooler.

Water Saving Rebate: Drought Tolerant Landscaping

Replacing your grass with organic, drought tolerant landscaping is the best way to conserve water and reduce your usage and costs! The City of Monrovia is offering a \$3 rebate per Ft2 when you replace your turf. Every turf replacement project will need to go through the application process in order to receive a rebate and you must apply to reserve your funds prior to starting your project.

Public Input Needed

We ask you to review these plans and share your thoughts, feedback and considerations.

Pedestrian Safety Improvement Study

A draft of the Pedestrian Safety Study is now available for public comment and review, which includes a review of traffic and pedestrian data to identify critical and high traffic pedestrian crossings in the street network, prepares improvement options to address specific contributing factors to pedestrian safety concerns, provides recommendations to enhance the assessment process for future resident requests regarding pedestrian safety, and more.

Tree Planting Plan Draft

A draft of the Tree Planting Plan is now available for public comment and review. The Plan includes the following goals/objectives: plant native trees first, then trees that thrive in Southern California climate; increase shade canopy where possible, and plant large trees where possible without creating maintenance or hazardous conditions; avoid tree planting in areas where parkway, utility or rights-of-way conflicts exist; and, avoid planting fruit, palm trees or non-native tree species.

SCAG's Updated Transportation Plans

SCAG has prepared the Draft Amendment 2 to the 2020 Connect SoCal to reflect additions and/or changes to several critical transportation projects that are ready to move forward to the implementation phase. The purpose of the amendment is to allow for the project sponsors to update regionally significant transportation projects currently in the Connect SoCal – 2020 RTP/SCS Project List. Since the Plan's adoption, some of these projects have experienced technical changes that are time-sensitive. In addition, County Transportation Commissions (CTCs) have also identified new project priorities. The 30-day public review and comment period for the Draft Amendment 2 to the 2020 Connect SoCal begins on July 8, 2022 and ends on August 8, 2022, at 5 p.m.

DUARTE NEWS BRIEFS

CITY COUNCIL OF DUARTE ANNOUNCES PLANS FOR DISTRICT 1 VACANCY AFTER THE PASSING OF MAYOR PRO TEM TZEITEL PARAS-CARACCI

Following the passing of Mayor Pro Tem Tzeitel Paras-Caracci, Duarte City Council discussed options for filling the vacant Council seat in District 1. At the July 12 City Council meeting, Council considered two options for filling the vacancy: by appointment or by special election.

After deliberation, Council determined that the District 1 seat will be filled by election through the regular election proceedings on November 8, 2022. Considering the next regular election coincides with the timing allocated for a special election, the next seat will be filled in accordance with the results of the regular election on November 8, 2022 under the new District 1 map adopted in 2022. Therefore, the seat will remain vacant until a new Councilmember is elected at the November 8 General Election.

Councilmember Paras-Caracci was first elected to City Council in 2001 and served as Duarte's Mayor three times throughout her career in public service. During the transition to district elections in 2018, Paras-Caracci won the four year-term to represent District 1. She served honorably until her passing on June 25, 2022.

The City of Duarte has deeply benefitted from the heartfelt and diligent work of Councilmember Tzeitel Paras-Caracci. Community members gathered together and paid their respects during a memorial service on July 16 at Duarte City Hall.

To learn more about the City's 2022 Elections which will be conducted in Districts 1, 4, 5 and 6, please visit: <https://duartecityofca.prod.govaccess.org/government/departments/city-manager-s-office/city-clerk/election-information>

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ARCADIA POLICE BLOTTER

For the period of Sunday, July 17th through Saturday, July 23rd, the Police Department responded to 870 calls for service, of which 103 required formal investigations.

The following is a summary report of some of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

Sunday, July 17:

- At 10:11 a.m., an officer responded to a residence in the 1600 block of South Baldwin Avenue regarding a domestic dispute. An investigation revealed an argument between a husband and wife resulted in the husband hitting his wife multiple times. Both parties were transported to Arcadia Methodist Hospital for evaluations. The suspect, a 48-year-old male from Arcadia, was arrested a short time later and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.
- At 3:57 p.m., an officer responded to Fun Box, located at 400 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding a grand theft report. The victim discovered his cellphone and car keys had been stolen. The victim believed the theft occurred between 3:20 p.m. and 3:35 p.m.

Monday, July 18:

- At 7:13 a.m., an officer responded to a residence in the 900 block of West Huntington Drive regarding a vandalism report. The officer determined the victim's ex-boyfriend cut her window screen after they separated. The 34-year-old male from Arcadia is outstanding as of July 26th.
- At 9:32 p.m., an officer responded to Tee Top of California, located at 11901 Goldring Road, regarding a commercial burglary. An investigation revealed unknown suspect(s) used a rock to smash the front lobby window in an apparent effort to burglarize the business. No loss was reported.

Tuesday, July 19:

- At 1:13 p.m., an officer responded to a residence in the 600 block of East Live Oak Avenue, regarding a mail theft report. Sometime between July 16th and July 19th, someone pried open two mailboxes. It is unknown if they fled with stolen mail.
- At 10:10 p.m., an officer responded to the 1100 block of South Santa Anita Avenue regarding a residential burglary report. Surveillance footage



DUARTE POLICE BLOTTER

The following is a synopsis of crimes reported for the week of July 17 – July 23, 2022:

- July 17, 2022 •Grand Theft: 500 block of Bettyhill Avenue. On July 17, 2022 at 8:39 AM, suspect(s) unknown stole the catalytic converter to the victims parked vehicle a blue 2001 Toyota Prius. Loss was approximately \$1,300. A witness observed a male Hispanic adult with a bald head runaway carrying a catalytic converter and enter a silver sedan occupied by two other male Hispanics and a female Hispanic.

- July 18, 2022 •Petty Theft: Highland Avenue and Business Center Parkway. On July 18, 2022 between 9:15 AM and 6:25 PM, suspect(s) unknown stole the victim's "Golden Cycles Fixie" bike that was secured to the bike rack at the location. Loss was approximately \$180. No surveillance video available.
- Grand Theft Auto: 1989 Buena Vista Street. Between July 16, 2022 5:30 PM and July 18, 2022 5:30 PM, suspect(s) unknown stole the victims parked vehicle a black 2002 GMC Yukon. Vehicle recovered. No surveillance video available.

- July 19, 2022 • Grand Theft Auto: 1300 Block of Highland Avenue. On July 19, 2022 at 1:07 AM, suspect(s) unknown stole the victims parked unlocked vehicle a silver 2019 Toyota Prius. Vehicle recovered by Carson Sheriff Station. No surveillance video available.

- July 20, 2022 • Attempt Grand Theft Auto: 3000 Block of Treefern Drive. Between July 19, 2022 at

MONROVIA POLICE BLOTTER

Highlighted Activity for July 21 – 27, 2022

During the last seven-day period, the Police Department handled 375 service events, resulting in 79 investigations. To see a complete listing of crimes reported, go to <http://www.crimemapping.com/map/ca/monrovia> for crime mapping. For Police Department news and information, visit our website and follow us on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram or Nextdoor.

Residential Burglary

July 21 at 10:36 p.m., a caller in the 300 block of N. Alta Vista advised that he had checked his video surveillance and saw two individuals climb over the fence of his neighbor's house across the street. Officers responded and located a broken sliding glass door to the rear of the location. The house was ransacked. This investigation is continuing.

Battery on a Peace Officer

July 23 at 5:15 p.m. the jailer attempted to fingerprint an inmate, but she resisted. Officers attempted to bring her out of the cell, but she became immediately combative and struggled with them. During the struggle, she managed to kick and scratch officers. She was restrained and extracted from the cell for fingerprinting. While being fingerprinted she kicked the on duty jailer. This case will be forwarded to the District Attorney's Officer for filing consideration.

Medical Assist

July 23 at 5:51 p.m., several callers advised that there was an unconscious male subject on the ground at the metro platform. Officers arrived and located the male who was unresponsive. Drug paraphernalia was found near the subject and the officer administered Narcan. The subject gained consciousness and was transported to a local hospital by paramedics.

Hiker Rescued

July 23 at 6:44 p.m., a caller reported he had been hiking for twelve hours near the Clamshell trail. He advised



SIERRA MADRE POLICE BLOTTER

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

Sunday, July 17

DUI Arrest

At approximately 10:00 PM, officers observed a vehicle commit a vehicle code violation near the intersection of Sierra Madre Blvd and Park Ave. Officers conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle and observed the driver to have the smell of alcoholic beverage coming from their person. Officers performed field sobriety tests on the driver. Due to the results of the

captured two suspects entering the victim's home by prying open a window, but once inside, the suspects fled emptyhanded. The victims were home at the time of the crime. The suspects are described as two thin males, both wearing masks, hooded sweatshirts, and backpacks.

Thursday, July 21:

- At 12:32 p.m., an officer responded to a residence in the 1100 block of Catalpa Road regarding a theft from vehicle report. The victim discovered his gardening equipment had been stolen from the back of his truck. Surveillance footage revealed the suspects, both Hispanic males, fled in a black, older model, Chevrolet Suburban.

Friday, July 22:

- At 12:22 a.m., an officer responded to the Santa Anita Race Track, located at 285 West Huntington Drive, regarding a stolen vehicle report. Sometime between July 21st at 2:30 p.m. and July 22nd at 12:22 a.m., someone stole the victim's silver Chevrolet Silverado. The vehicle was later located by Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, in the area of East Los Angeles.
- At 11:33 a.m., an officer responded to 24 Hour Fitness, located at 125 North Santa Anita Avenue, regarding a burglary incident. The victim stated his locker had been broken into and his cellphone and cash were stolen. The crime happened sometime between 11:00 a.m. and 12 p.m. on July 21st.

Saturday, July 23:

- At 3:00 p.m., an officer responded to a residence in the 2400 block of South 6th Avenue regarding a trespassing incident. Two suspects, a 46-year-old female from El Monte and a 44-year-old male from Monrovia, were found trespassing at the location and were subsequently arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.
- At 6:08 p.m., an officer responded to Hope International Church, located at 1741 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding a stolen vehicle report. Sometime between 12:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on July 23rd, someone stole 2000 International yellow bus from the business. The bus was recovered by Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, San Dimas Station.

6:30 PM and July 20, 10:30 AM, suspect(s) unknown attempted to take the victims parked vehicle a red 2004 Chevy Silverado. Vehicle ignition and steering column damaged. No surveillance video available.

- July 22, 2022 •Grand Theft: 600 Block of Greenbank Avenue. On July 22, 2022 at 12:40 PM, suspect(s) unknown stole the catalytic converter to the victims parked vehicle a blue 2007 Honda Accord. Loss was approximately \$1,500. No surveillance video available.

July 23, 2022

- Attempt Grand Theft: 500 Block of Mountain Crest Road. On July 23, 2022 at 4 AM, suspect(s) unknown attempted to take the catalytic converter to the victims parked vehicle a white 1989 Ford F350. Damage was approximately \$300. No surveillance video available. Victim observed two unknown males flee the area in a older model dark sedan.
- Grand Theft: 2200 Block of Huntington Drive. On July 23, 2022 between 3:30 PM and 4:12 PM, suspect(s) unknown stole the catalytic converter to the victims parked vehicle a blue 2006 Toyota Tundra. Loss was approximately \$2,500. No surveillance video available.
- Grand Theft Vehicle: 1336 Starhaven Street. Between July 22, 2022, 8:30 PM and July 23, 2022, 9 AM, suspect(s) unknown stole the victims parked vehicle a black 2014 Chevy Silverado. Vehicle recovered. No surveillance video available.

he was out of water and not feeling well. Officers, paramedics, and the Pasadena PD airship responded. The airship located the hiker. Los Angeles County Fire Air11 was requested to respond. Air11 rescued the hiker. Paramedics then transported him to a local hospital for treatment.

Driving Under the Influence – Suspect Arrested

July 24 at 3:22 a.m., an officer conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle that was driving with no headlamps near the intersection of Duarte and Myrtle. The female adult driver was contacted and displayed signs and symptoms of being under the influence of alcohol. A DUI investigation was then conducted. The driver was ultimately arrested for DUI and transported to the Monrovia Police Department jail to be held for a sobering period.

Injury Traffic Collision

July 25 at 6:28 p.m., officers responded to an injury traffic collision involving three vehicles in the area of Foothill and Sunset. Officers arrived and discovered it was a solo traffic collision into the rear of three parked vehicles. The driver complained of pain and was transported to a local hospital for treatment.

Arson / Making a False Police Report – Suspect Arrested July 26 at 5:12 a.m., a resident in the 1300 block of Sherman called to report someone set a tree in his front yard on fire. He said he extinguished the flames before riding his bicycle to a local business and calling the police. The resident gave officers a description, but there was no one matching that suspect in the area. Officers were able to view a surveillance camera on the street and discovered that the resident who had called in the report had actually been the one who lit the tree on fire. He was arrested and taken into custody.

Bear July 27 at 3:47 p.m., a resident in the 300 block of Meadow Lane reported a bear in her pool. When officers arrived, the bear had cooled down and left the location.

test, officers determined that the driver was unable to safely operate their vehicle, and they were placed under arrest for driving under the influence. The driver was taken to Los Angeles County Jail for booking.

Saturday, July 23

Domestic Battery Arrest

At approximately 10 PM, officers responded to the 00 block of Suffolk Ave for reports of a domestic violence incident in progress. Officers arrived and investigated the incident. One of the involved parties was arrested and booked at Pasadena Jail for battery.

CRIME PREVENTION TIPS FOR THE ELDERLY

Courtesy of the Duarte PD

Crime and the fear of crime create special problems for the elderly. Crime prevention is everyone's responsibility, not just a job for law enforcement. Seniors can learn how to protect themselves from crime by following these simple, commonsense suggestions. Share these tips with your neighbors and friends, to make it tough for criminals to work in your neighborhood.

AT HOME . . .

- Never open your door automatically. Install and use a peephole.
- Lock your doors and windows. (Three quarters of the burglaries involving older persons involved unlocked doors and windows; and, less than one half of these burglaries are reported.) Keep your garage doors locked.
- Vary your daily routine.
- Use "Neighbor Watch" to keep an eye on your neighborhood. A concerned neighbor is often the best protection against crime because suspicious persons and activities are noticed and reported to police promptly.
- Don't leave notes on the door when going out.
- Leave lights on when going out at night; use a timer to turn lights on and off when you are away for an extended period.
- Notify neighbors and the police when going away on a trip. Cancel deliveries such as newspapers and arrange for someone - a neighbor's child, perhaps - to mow the lawn if need be. Arrange for your mail to be held by the Post Office, or ask a neighbor to collect it for you.
- Be wary of unsolicited offers to make repairs to your home. Deal only with reputable businesses.
- Keep an inventory with serial numbers and photographs of re-saleable appliances, antiques and furniture. Leave copies in a safe place.
- Don't hesitate to report crime or suspicious activities.
- Install deadbolt locks on all your doors.
- Keep your home well lit at night, inside and out; keep curtains closed.
- Ask for proper identification from delivery persons or strangers. Don't be afraid of asking . . . if they are legitimate they won't mind.
- If a stranger asks to use your telephone, offer to place the call for him or her yourself.
- Never let a stranger into your home.
- Do not leave notes on your door when you are gone, and do not hide your keys under the mat or in other conspicuous places.
- Never give out information over the phone indicating you are alone or that you won't be home at a certain time.
- When you are gone for more than a day, make sure your home looks and sounds occupied . . . use an automatic timer to turn on lights, radio or TV.
- If you arrive at home and suspect a stranger may be inside, DON'T GO IN. Leave quietly and call 911 to report the crime.

WALKING . . .

- If you are attacked on the street, make as much noise as possible by calling for help or blowing a whistle. Do not pursue your attacker. Call 911 and report the crime as soon as possible.
- Avoid walking alone at night. Try to have a friend accompany you in high risk areas . . . even during the daytime.
- Avoid carrying weapons . . . they may be used against you.
- Always plan your route and stay alert to your surroundings. Walk confidently.
- Have a companion accompany you.
- Stay away from buildings and doorways; walk in well-lighted areas.
- Have your key ready when approaching your front door.
- Don't dangle your purse away from your body. (Twelve percent of all crimes against the elderly are purse snatchings and street robberies.)
- Don't carry large, bulky shoulder bags; carry only what you need. Better yet, sew a small pocket inside your jacket or coat. If you don't have a purse, no one will try to snatch it.

WHILE SHOPPING . . .

- Carry your purse very close to you . . . don't dangle it from your arm.
- Never leave your purse in a shopping cart.
- Never leave your purse unattended.
- Don't carry any more cash than is necessary.
- Don't display large sums of cash.

IN YOUR CAR . . .

- Always keep your car doors locked, whether you are in or out of your car. Keep your gas tank full and your engine properly maintained to avoid breakdowns.
- If your car breaks down, pull over to the right as far as possible, raise the hood, and wait INSIDE the car for help. Avoid getting out of the car and making yourself a target before police arrive.
- At stop signs and traffic lights, keep the car in gear.
- Travel well-lit and busy streets. Plan your route.
- Don't leave your purse on the seat beside you; put it on the floor, where it is more difficult for someone to grab it.
- Lock bundles or bags in the trunk. If interesting packages are out of sight, a thief will be less tempted to break in to steal them.
- When returning to your car, check the front and back seat before entering.
- Never pick up hitchhikers.

BANKING . . .

- Many criminals know exactly when government checks arrive each month, and may pick that day to attack. Avoid this by using Direct Deposit, which sends your money directly from the government to the bank of your choice. And, at many banks, free checking accounts are available to senior citizens. Your bank has all the information.
- Never withdraw money from your bank accounts for anyone except YOURSELF. Be wary of con artists and get-rich schemes that probably are too-good-to-be-true.
- You should store valuables in a Safe Deposit Box.
- Never give your money to someone who calls on you, identifying himself as a bank official. A bank will never ask you to remove your money. Banks need the use of your money, and they don't want one of their customers to invite crime by having large amounts of cash around.
- When someone approaches you with a get-rich-quick-scheme involving some or all of YOUR savings, it is HIS get-rich-quick-scheme. If it is a legitimate investment, the opportunity to contribute your funds will still be there tomorrow-after you have had time to consider it.

If you have been swindled or conned, report the crime to your local police. Con-artists count on their victim's reluctance to admit they've been duped, but if you delay you help them get away. Remember, if you never report the crime, they are free to cheat others again and again and you have no chance of ever getting your money back

NATIONAL 988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE

Nationwide, people who are experiencing a mental health crisis and in need of immediate help are now able to dial or text 988 and receive assistance through the new Suicide and Crisis Lifeline number.

A new 988 Call Center, operated by Didi Hirsch, is now taking calls coming into the 988 hotline in Los Angeles County. Trained operators are available to triage callers to receive the appropriate services, including suicide crisis counseling over the phone and mental health de-escalation counseling over the phone. In addition, they will also triage callers to determine when dispatching a mobile crisis team is appropriate and, in rare cases, connection to law enforcement when safety is of concern.

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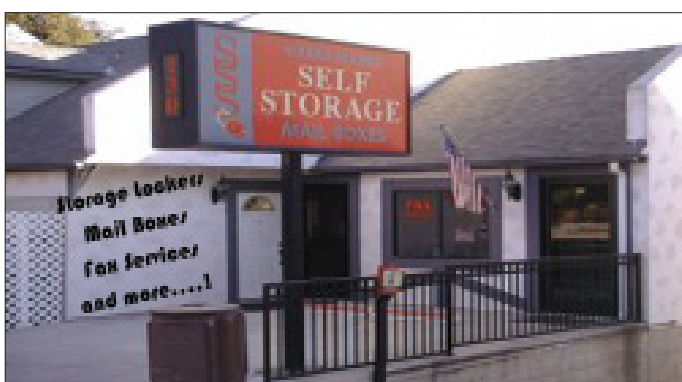
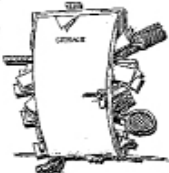
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SIERRA MADRE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Welcome Back to School Event
August 10th***A-I**

5:00-5:45pm

***J-P**

5:30-6:15pm

***Q-Z**

6:00-6:45pm

Daily Bell Schedule**Monday**

8:15am-1:25pm

Tues-Fri

8:15am-3:05pm

Sierra Madre Middle School
Phone: (626) 396-5910
smms.pusd.us

SMMS is hosting a **Welcome Back to School** event on Wednesday, August 10th, from 5:00-6:45 p.m. Students & families will have the opportunity to practice entering campus via their grade specific gate and visit information tables to receive their class schedule and to learn more about various SMMS programs & events. It will also be an excellent opportunity to tour the campus and the locations of the classrooms in your daily schedule. Thank you for following the staggered schedule* in order to maximize social distancing. (Class schedules will be available online as well).

SCHOOL DIRECTORY

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

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

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

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

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

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

Foothill Oaks Academy
822 E. Bradbourne Ave., Duarte, CA 91010
(626) 301-9809
Principal: Nancy Lopez
www.foothilloaksacademy.org
office@foothilloaksacademy.org

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Nathan Murrell

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...sunglasses and light-colored clothing.

Kids: color
stuff in!**Tips to Keep Cool:**

- drink lots of water
- visit an air-conditioned library or mall
- slow down
- keep shades drawn
- use fans
- wear light-colored clothing

Where I live we have hot summers. We are used to the heat, but lately it's been **too hot**. I've been feeling as sick as a dog. **Woof!**



Dog Days of Summer

Hot, sticky days that make us sweat! Days when nothing seems to be happening...**dog days of summer!**

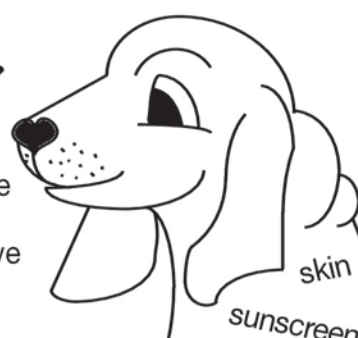
Dog days are here when the Dog Star, Sirius, appears over the horizon just before sunrise. At one time, people who were superstitious thought Sirius drove dogs mad in the heat of the summer. Sirius shines with a bluish-white light. It is the brightest star in our sky besides our sun. Sirius is in the constellation Canis Major, the Great Dog. Try to keep cool!

The hottest days of the year are here and...

1. _____ are tossing and turning, trying to sleep.
2. pesky _____ are buzzing and biting.
3. _____ are wilting from lack of rain.
4. air conditioners hum and _____ whir.
5. garbage and trash _____ are smelling bad!
6. _____ is parched because there is a drought.
7. chocolate _____ are melting.
8. _____ is protecting our skin from the sun's rays.
9. bicycle _____ are sinking into heated tar.
10. our _____ is running overtime to keep food cold.
11. our bare _____ are cooling on the green grass.
12. our _____ is sweating to cool our bodies.

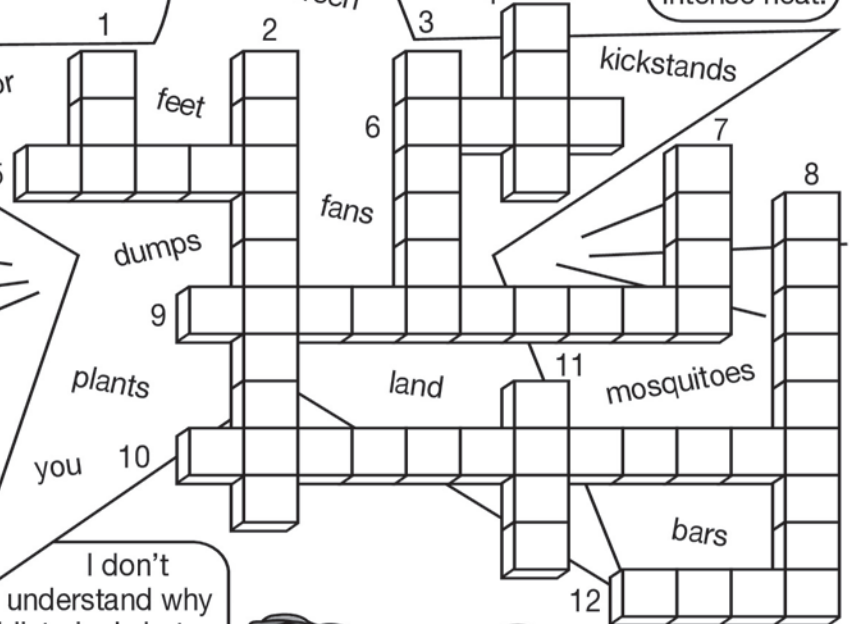
Did you know that dogs don't sweat the way humans do? Although dogs have a few sweat glands, they cool off mainly by panting.

A star is called a "sun" if it is in the center of a solar system.



The **hottest** place in the U.S. is Death Valley (CA, NV). Temperatures there have been recorded above 130 degrees F.

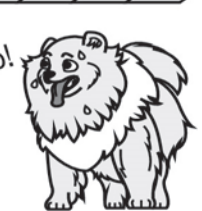
Sorry about the intense heat!



I don't understand why these blisteringly hot days are called the "dog days of summer." I'm so miserable!

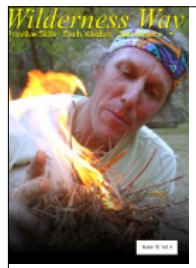


Me too!



CHRISTOPHER Nyerges

GETTING TO KNOW EPAZOTE

*About the Author:*

Nyerges has been teaching ethnobotany since 1974. He is the author of "Guide to Wild Foods and Useful Plants," "Foraging Wild Edible Plants of North America," and other books on the uses of wild plants. He can be reached at www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance.com.

EPAZOTE (*Dysphania ambrosioides*) (formerly *Chenopodium ambrosioides*) Also known as Mexican tea or wormseed. Member of the Goosefoot Family

Epazote is a wonderful herb to know, which has been used in Mexican cookery for centuries. Said to originate from central Mexico, it can now be found throughout North America.

DESCRIPTION

Probably the most distinctive aspect of epazote is its unique aroma – a blind man should be able to identify it! When seen for the first time, it might appear as a somewhat ragged and darker green lambs quarter (to which it's related).

Epazote has a branched stem which can reach up to about three feet. The shiny-green leaves are elliptical, two to five inches long, and sometimes reddish tinged or blotched. The uniquely aromatic leaves are arranged alternately. The undulating leaf margin is slightly or entirely toothed. The leaf surface is hairless, although it may be slightly tomentose when very young.

WHERE FOUND

Epazote is abundant along inland stream beds in sandy soil and common in seaside salt marshes. The plant, which is sometimes cultivated, generally prefers waste locales and areas with somewhat poor, sandy soil. It seems to prefer the semi-shade along the bank of a sandy river or stream but will do well in rich garden soil when cultivated. Believed to have originated from central Mexico, it is now well naturalized throughout parts of the United States.

USES

Epazote has long been popular in Central and South American and Mexican cookery as a culinary spice, especially in bean dishes since it prevents gas. It adds a unique flavor to beans, and as an herb, it is as cherished as cilantro by some. To use, crumble dried leaves into the pot of beans, or add some fresh leaves to your particular taste.

PROCESSING

Though fresh leaves can be added to dishes, the plant is usually dried first, which somewhat mellows the fragrance. The dried leaves are then crumbled into the pot of beans, or stew, shortly before being served.

ADVICE FOR GROWING

Epazote can be successfully grown from cuttings that have been rooted in good soil or vermiculite, however, most gardeners start them from seed. Soak the seeds for a few hours in water before planting, and then plant them in a flat, or directly into the garden. The seeds seem to take longer than other seeds to sprout, and gardeners often forget they even planted the seeds. So make sure to label your plantings.

WHEN TO HARVEST/ AVAILABILITY

In colder climates, epazote will live as an annual. In the South and warmer environments, it will act more as a perennial, and will come up for a few seasons.

Harvesting the mid-sized epazote plants is easy. Just pinch off the top new growth. Pinch off just what you need at the time, or pinch back a lot if you plan to dry some of the herb for storage. The leaf production of each epazote plant is greatly increased by this pinching. The entire above-ground plant will die back each year, but as long as the soil hasn't dried out, the roots will continue to produce year after year. Also, the regular pinching-back of the leaves during the growing season will significantly extend the growing season for your plants.



A view of the roughly-toothed highly aromatic leaves of epazote

The leaves are best harvested young, and dried. I prefer only the leaves in my cooking. However, you will observe that in Mexico, the entire above-ground plant is harvested, dried, and ground up for use in cooking, or for sale.

MEDICINE/NUTRITION:



Farmer Adrian Gaytan grows epazote, and sells it at local farmers markets.

Survival Seeds, Post Office Box 41-834, Los Angeles, CA 90041, for \$4 per seed packet (price includes postage).

Epazote is most famous for its use as a way to prevent or stop excessive gas. Think of it as nature's "Bean-O." It is one of the best-recognized antifatulents, also aiding the digestion. It acts as a vermifuge, expelling intestinal worms (such as roundworms and hookworms) and other intestinal parasites. It is used by the Chinese as a diaphoretic, to strengthen the eyes and the circulation, to cure coughing up blood, and for dysentery. The herb is taken either in powder form or infused into a tea.

We've also had positive results with using epazote to rid cats and dogs of worms. Simply sprinkle a small amount of the dried and powdered leaves into their food. Epazote seeds and leaves in chickens' water will also cure and prevent some diseases common to fowl.

CAUTIONS

Pure oil of *Chenopodium* is toxic. However, epazote leaf contains only 1 percent of this oil, and such small amounts are ideal as a vermifuge or anti-flatulent. The seeds contain approximately 10 percent oil of *chenopodium*; a teaspoon or so of the seeds added to dog and cat food works wonders as a de-wormer and does not pose a threat to the animal's health in such low dosage. Eating moderate amounts of the cooked greens poses no health hazard whatsoever. However, due to the strong aroma of epazote, it is rarely cooked alone. Generally, epazote greens are mixed with other greens before cooking.

WHERE TO OBTAIN

If epazote does not grow near you, the seeds are readily available from seed suppliers. One source for epazote is

RECIPES

COOKING WITH EPAZOTE

Cooking with epazote is easy! Add approx. one tablespoon of the herb -- both the chopped stems and the leaves -- to a pot of beans. You can use it fresh or dried. The epazote herb can also be added to soups, stews, and made into tea. The powdered leaves can be added to salads, such as potato and bean salads.

Here are some simple recipes I've developed for using epazote.

MAYA BLACK BEAN SOUP

1 cup black beans
sage, pinch
water
oregano, pinch
3 onions
epazote, two tsp.
3 small potatoes
salt and pepper, to taste

Cook the beans first for about an hour until tender. Then add the onions and potatoes, and cook until tender. Add the seasonings. Let simmer on low temperature for 15 minutes before serving.

LENTIL SOUP

1 cup lentils
1 bay leaf
5-6 cups water
2 tsp. dried epazote
1 diced red onion
3 cloves of garlic
2 diced carrots

Wash the lentils, and then simmer for an hour and a half. Add the other ingredients when the beans are nearly soft. Simmer 'til the vegetables are soft. (Add salt or kelp to taste, if desired.)

Katnip News!



A LITTLE SPECIAL NEEDS

Meet HAWTHORN & JUNIPER, bonded siblings, only 3 months old. Hawthorn (left, pink nose) is our little CH boy (cerebellar hypoplasia), and he's been getting physical therapy and growing stronger. He can use the litter box and is learning to on his own. Juniper is his sister and guardian angel. They will be adopted together. Read more about Hawthorn's CH on our website's Very Young page and don't miss the video. They are spayed/neutered, vaxed, chipped, and healthy. After adoption we will always be available to provide advice and support. Submit your application on our website, www.lifelineforpets.org



Pet of the Week

Six-year-old Gidget is a sweet and calm cat in search of her loving forever home. This beautiful girl loves being petted, and even allows baths and brushing! Gidget has gotten along with other cats before and would be a wonderful addition to your family.

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

New adopters will receive a complimentary health-and-wellness exam from VCA Animal Hospitals, as well as a goody bag filled with information about how to care for your pet.



View photos of adoptable pets and schedule an adoption appointment at pasadenahumane.org. Adoptions are by appointment only, and new adoption appointments are available every Sunday and Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.

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

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SIERRA MADRE PLAYHOUSE PRESENTS

SILENT SKY

BY LAUREN GUNDERSON
DIRECTED BY BARBARA SCHOFIELD

"Because wonder will always get us there"
—HENRIETTA LEAVITT, PIONEER ASTRONOMER

SILENT SKY OPENS SEPTEMBER 9 AT SIERRA MADRE PLAYHOUSE

WHAT: Silent Sky. A play.

WHO: Written by Lauren Gunderson. Directed by Barbara Schofield. Presented by Sierra Madre Playhouse.

WHERE: Sierra Madre Playhouse, 87 W. Sierra Madre Boulevard, , Sierra Madre, CA 91024. This is just east of Pasadena. Ample free parking is available in adjacent streets and lots.

WHEN: September 9- October 9, 2022. Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays. At 2 p.m. Also, Saturday matinées at 2 p.m. on September 17, 24, October 1 and 8.

ADMISSION: \$45. Seniors (65+) \$40. Youth (21 and under) \$25.

DISCOUNTS: Teen tickets (age 13-19) are available at \$5 through the TeenTix Pass program. Go to our website to learn more.

RESERVATIONS: (626) 355-4318.

ONLINE TICKETING: <https://sierramadrepayhouse.org>

ESTIMATED RUNNING TIME: Two hours, including one intermission.

When astronomer Henrietta Leavitt begins work at the Harvard Observatory in the early 1900s, she doesn't begin by looking through a telescope. She joins a group of women "computers," charting the stars as a vital part of the world's first study of the sky done from photographs. As Henrietta, in her free time, attempts to measure the light and distance of stars, she also takes measure of her life on Earth, trying to balance her dedication to science with family obligations and the possibility of love. Based on the life of 19th-century astronomer Henrietta Leavitt, Silent Sky explores a woman's place in society during a time of immense scientific discoveries.

"Lauren Gunderson's luminously beautiful play Silent Sky is an intellectual epic told on an intimate scale. Bottom line: Heavenly." — Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

Lauren Gunderson is the playwright of 21 produced plays. The recipient of an MFA from

Tisch School of the Arts, she is a winner of the Berrilla Kerr Award. Her previous works include A Short History of Nearly Everything; The Van Gogh Café; The Happy Elf; The Amazing Adventures of Dr. Wonderful and Her Dog!; I and You (made into a film starring Game of Thrones' Maisie Williams); and many more. Silent Sky had its premiere at South Coast Repertory in 2011.

Barbara Schofield directs. At Sierra Madre Playhouse, she directed productions of Incident at Vichy (L.A. Times Critic's Pick), Proof, Arcadia and The Fantasticks. She is director-in-residence and Literary Manager at Open Fist Theatre Company. She is a board member of Sierra Madre Playhouse. She has served as a faculty member at American Musical and Dramatic Academy. Additionally, Barbara has directed or acted in productions in New York, Kansas City, London and Berlin. Dr. Schofield received her Ph.D. in Theatre from Tufts University.

The cast for Silent Sky includes Ann Marie Wilding, April Elize, Candida Celaya, Aubrey Saverino and Jack Menzies.

Production Manager: Jeanne Marie Valleroy. Stage Manager : John Dimitri. Assistant Stage Manager: Dori Jurican.. Resident Lighting Designer: Derek Jones. Costume Designer: Shon LeBlanc. Projection Designer: Fritz Davis. Technical Director: Todd McCraw. Scenic Artist: Orlando de la Paz. Interim Artistic Director: Gary Lamb. Associate Company Manager; Beryl Tsang.

Understudies: Madi Bready, Madelyne Herman, Gloria Tsai, Cristiana Barbatelli and Chris Granlund.

PLEASE NOTE: Covid-19 safety protocols in effect on performance dates will be observed. As of the writing, audience members must be masked and vaccinated. Vax card or digital record will be checked.

Silent Sky is the story of a real woman whose life and discoveries were hugely significant for the exploration of the universe.

CHEAP BASIC CELL PHONE PLANS FOR PENNYPINCHING SENIORS

Dear Savvy Senior:
A few months ago, I read a column you wrote on extremely cheap smartphone plans for budget-conscious seniors. Can you do a similar column for those of us who still use basic flip phones? My old 3G flip phone is about to become obsolete, so I'm looking for the cheapest possible replacement. I only need a simple cell phone (no data) for emergency calls when I'm away from home. Penny Pincher

Dear Penny:

For many seniors, like yourself, who only want a simple basic cell phone for emergency purposes and occasional calls, there are a number of super cheap plans available from small wireless providers you may have never heard of. Here are some of the best deals available right now.

Cheapest Basic Plans
For extremely light cell phone users, the cheapest wireless plan available is through US Mobile (USMobile.com), which has a “build your own plan” that starts at only \$2 per month for 75 minutes of talk time. If you want text messaging capabilities, an extra \$1.50/month will buy you 50 texts per month.

US Mobile runs on Verizon's and T-Mobile's networks and gives you the option to bring your existing phone (if compatible or unlocked) or purchase a new device, while keeping your same phone number if you wish.

If your flip phone is becoming obsolete, as you mentioned in your question, you'll need to buy a new device, which you can do through US Mobile if you choose their plan. They offer the “NUU F4L” flip phone for \$39 for new customers. Or you can purchase an unlocked phone through retail stores like Walmart or Best Buy, or online. One of the best value flip phones right now is the (unlocked) “Alcatel GO FLIP 4044 4G LTE,” available at Amazon.com for \$80.

Some other super cheap wireless plans worth a look are Ultra Mobile's “PayGo” plan (UltraMobile.com/PayGo), which provides 100 talk minutes, 100 texts for only \$3 per month. And Tello's (Tello.com) “build your own plan” that starts at \$5 per month for 100 talk minutes and unlimited texting.


Both Ultra Mobile PayGo and Tello also run on T-Mobile's network and will let you use your existing phone (if compatible or unlocked) or buy a new one.

Senior Targeted Providers
In addition to these super cheap plans, there are several other wireless companies that cater to older customers and offer low-cost basic plans and simple flip phones. One of the least expensive is through TracFone (Tracfone.com), which offers a 60-minute talk, text and web plan for \$20 that lasts for 90 days. That averages out to \$6.66 per month.

Three other providers that are popular among seniors are Snapfon (Snapfon.com), which offers a 100 minutes and unlimited texting plan for \$10. Consumer Cellular (ConsumerCellular.com), which provides an unlimited talk plan or \$15 per month. They also give 5 percent discounts to AARP members. And Lively (Lively.com), maker of the popular Jitterbug Flip2 senior-friendly flip phone. Their cheapest monthly plan is 300 minutes of talk and text for \$15.

Subsidized Plans
You also need to know that if you're on a government program such as Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income or food stamps/SNAP. Or, if your annual household income is at or below 135 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines – \$18,347 for one person, or \$24,719 for two – you might also qualify for free or subsidized wireless plans from various carriers via the federal Lifeline program. To find out if you're eligibility or apply, visit LifelineSupport.org.

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



FAMILY MATTERS

By Marc Garlett

HOW ESTATE PLANNING CAN REDUCE THE HIGH COST OF DYING.....PART I

As anyone who has personally dealt with loss knows, when a loved one dies, those left behind face major challenges, not only emotionally, but financially and legally as well. Successfully navigating all those challenges becomes a necessary part of honoring the life of a loved one who's passed. Unfortunately, so many of us just aren't prepared for that eventuality when it happens.

Determining Dying's True Cost
To further shed light on just how vastly unprepared most of us are when dealing with death, in March 2022 Goldman Sachs released its first-ever “Cost of Dying Report”. The report surveyed more than 2,000 Americans—each of whom had lost a loved one in the last five years—to get a clearer picture of dying's true cost to families.

The report looked not only at the financial burden dying brings, but it also examined the cost “in time, in stress, in lost productivity, and in strained interpersonal bonds.” Paired with the results of the research, the Cost of Dying includes a collection of insights from the study's advisors, partners, and experts in the bereavement field.

These contributors seek to clarify what we can learn from the study's numbers and explain how we can use the figures to rethink how to best serve the bereaved, “as individuals, as organizations, and as a society.” The following are some of the study's most notable findings, along with corresponding insights from some of the report's contributors.

THE FINANCIAL COST
Nationally, following a loved one's death, the total bill—including the funeral and hiring all the other professional support—cost families an average of \$12,702. The average cost of a funeral was \$7,267, and according to the National Funeral Directors Association, that cost has risen 7.6% in the last 5 years.

On top of the funeral, families paid an average of \$5,846 to hire additional professionals, such as lawyers, financial advisors, and realtors. The average bill charged for these services include the following breakdown:

Professional Services

\$4,461 real estate professionals
\$3,910 lawyer fees
\$2,456 accountants
\$1,637 therapists or social workers

Notably, the \$3,910 in lawyer's fees was nearly doubled when estates required the court process of probate, which was the case for one-third of the families surveyed. When you include lawyers, court costs, and all the other related fees, the total cost to complete probate for families averaged \$16,800.

Fortunately, by placing assets in a properly created and maintained revocable living trust, assets held by the trust will pass to your loved ones without the need for probate or any court intervention following your death or incapacity. And that's especially important in California, where the costs are even higher than the national averages.

Paying The Final Bill
So how did families pay for all these expenses? Only 1 in 7 families had any of the costs associated with their loved ones' death paid in advance or were able to use payable-on-death funds. Additionally, more than 50% of families had to deal with estates that included debt. To foot the bill for these expenses, 36.1% of respondents used their own savings or investments, while 42.4% used their checking accounts or credit cards.

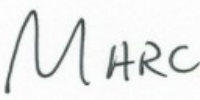
For most families, the financial costs associated with loss were exacerbated by a lack of information about exactly how much money they should expect to spend, notes internal medicine physician Shoshana Ungerleider, MD, in the report's section on death's financial cost. Compounding that stress, Ungerleider says, was the families' fear of making a mistake that would make their financial burden even worse.

“A majority of families find themselves unprepared for and under-informed about the real financial costs of death, with few available resources for finding out,” writes Ungerleider. “They can spend months or years terrified that a wrong move would wipe out their inheritance or even their own savings.”

As an example of what such a mistake might look like, Ungerleider notes that a lack of proper estate planning can lead to the deceased's home being seized after death “to pay off expenses incurred through Medicaid, even if the family member who was their primary caregiver is still living in the home.”


This is another area where thoughtful estate planning can be invaluable. It is important to ensure you and/or your senior parents can qualify for Medicare and other benefits, without putting the family home or other assets at risk.

In fact, your estate plan can – and probably should - include various asset protection tools designed to keep your financial wealth out of the hands of third parties, and responsibly in the hands of your loved ones, no matter what happens in the future.



Marc Garlett, Esq.
Cali Law Family Legacy
Matters
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SENIOR HAPPENINGS



HAPPY BIRTHDAY! ...July Birthdays*

Nina Bartolai, Mary Lou Caldwell, Louise Neiby, Betty Hansen, Melinda Rogers , Christine Durfort, Shahrzad Azrani, Jeanne Borgedahl, Janet Cox, Dorothy Montgomery, Bess Pancoska, Janet Swanson, Barbara Watson, Pat Alcorn, Karma Bell, Alice Clark, Dorothy Jerneycic, and Betty Dos Remedios

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

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 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 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, 7/21 , 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 July 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, 7/19 —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

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.

BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC - Tuesday, July 12 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Methodist Hospital will be holding a free to seniors clinic once a month in the Hart Park House. Walk in are welcome - no pre-registration required.

BINGO: July 14 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm
Come down to the HPH (Hart Park House) for a lively round of BINGO. Prizes await!



OUT TO PASTOR

A Weekly Religion Column by Rev. James Snyder

DO I NEED TO REPEAT THAT?

Of all the holidays during the year that I like, my birthday is at the bottom of the list. Now that I'm at my current age, I prefer not to be reminded that I'm getting older. All a birthday does for me is tell me I'm just getting older. Who wants to be reminded of that?

Then, the worst part of a birthday is all the candles on the top of the cake. I'm not sure who came up with the idea of putting candles on a birthday cake. They probably were having a very slow day and didn't have anything more to think about. When I was young, a birthday cake with candles was very exciting. Now that I am older, I don't have as much excitement in celebrating my birthday. A birthday cake with candles only reminds me that I'm old. Thanks a lot!

When I was young, they would put as many candles on the cake as my birthday. Now, they can't find a cake big enough to contain all my candles. Thanks a lot! The problem with celebrating your birthday is everybody asks you that one horrible question. "How old are you this year?" I usually tell them I'm 12 months older than last year, but that doesn't float any balloons on my birthday.

One thing happened this year on my birthday, which was sad. My uncle, who was 91, died in the hospital. So in a sense, he did me a favor because now, on that birthday, people will talk about my uncle's death and his memories rather than how old I am. If I see him in heaven, I will shake his hand and say, "Thanks."

As usual, this year, on my birthday, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and I went out to celebrate at our favorite restaurant. At first, I was afraid she would tell the waitress that it was my birthday, and then they would all gather around and sing happy birthday to me. Fortunately for me, that did not happen. That was one birthday present that I really enjoyed. And as we were finishing our dessert, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage looked at me rather strangely and said, "Do you feel old?" I'm not sure what she meant by that, but looking at her, I reached out, took hold of her arm, gently squeezed it, and said, "I feel old now." I was smiling, but she was not smiling. I'm still smiling about that. It's not every day that I can catch her on a question like that.

When I got over that little routine, I looked at her and said, "Do you mind if I ask you a very serious question on my birthday today?" I don't always get an opportunity to ask questions, so I thought this would be a good birthday present.

"Of course," she said, looking at me smiling. "Ask me any question you want to ask." I should've known she was setting me up, but it was my birthday, and I thought birthdays carry certain exemptions. "Okay," I said as seriously as possible. "I've read where the average woman speaks 20,000 words a day, and the average man speaks only 7,000 words a day. Can you tell me why?"

She looked at me very sternly and said, "Do you want to celebrate another birthday?" I knew I was in trouble, but then she cleared her throat and said, "I'll answer that question for you. This will be my birthday present to you this year." Maybe, just maybe, I escaped persecution along this line.

"It is a very simple question to answer." She cleared her throat, looked at me with one of her looks, and said, "The reason a woman speaks 20,000 words a day and a man speaks only 7000 words is because the woman has to repeat herself three times before the man hears what she is saying." With that, she stared at me and said, "Do I need to repeat myself?"

Because one of the things on my bucket list was celebrating another birthday next year, I soberly shook my head and said, "No, you don't." Fortunately for me, the waitress came with our check, and I got up, took it to the cashier, and paid for our dinner.

I wished I had never asked that question and hoped she would also forget it. I paid a heavy price for that question for the next several days. Every time The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage asked me anything, she always concluded by saying, "Do I need to repeat myself?"

This was the most expensive birthday present I ever received. Thinking about this recently come to the conclusion that hearing is a very important part of any relationship. Not just hearing, but hearing what is actually being said. I wrestle with this all along.

I hear everything The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage is saying, but I don't always hear it in the right context.

One verse of Scripture that emphasizes this for me is Romans 10:17, “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” It is not so much hearing as it is hearing the right thing. My faith in God is based upon hearing the word of God. What is God really saying to me? That is the basis of my faith in God.

MOUNTAIN VIEWS NEWS

PUBLISHER/ EDITOR
Susan Henderson

PASADENA CITY EDITOR
Dean Lee

PRODUCTION

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

WEBMASTER
John Avery

DISTRIBUTION
Peter Lamendola

CONTRIBUTORS

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

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Letters to the editor and correspondence should be sent to:

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

Phone: 626-355-2737
Fax: 626-609-3285
email:
mtnewsnews@aol.com



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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



soon after his election in 1945 died and was unable to attend the postwar Potsdam Conference planning the post-war peace which allowed the three leading allies to plan the postwar peace. The three attendees were Winston Churchill, Joseph Stalin and Harry Truman. Sounds strange, doesn't it? Truman was added to the Democratic ticket in 1945 because he was little known and would not alienate voters who now disapproved of the controversial sitting Vice President, Henry Wallace. Pundits have said FDR's ill-health impaired his participation at the Yalta Conference in 1944 and he had died by the time of the Potsdam conference in 1945. The end result pundits now say is that American interests were not powerfully represented. The end results that a great part of Eastern Europe was handed over to Russia and placed behind an "Iron Curtain". Wars of liberation were later fought in many of these countries and the bullet-ridden Capitals became an interesting part of American European vacations.

Another important point to remember is that new President, Harry Truman in April 1945, was faced with the question of whether the atomic bomb should be used against Japan. Germany was already defeated and Japan was severely weakened but Truman was told that the dropping of the bomb would bring a sooner end to the war. As I understand it, Truman was completely ignorant of the possible consequences and that the probability of radiation induced cancers. His decision has been characterized as "if we got 'em we might as well use 'em" and he ordered the dropping of not one but two bombs immediately killing about 200,000 civilians with others subsequently dying of radiation induced cancers.

Almost my entire life has been affected by the consequences of the dropping of these bombs. Once it was shown that such demonic weapons could in fact be created and used it was only a matter of time until our enemies developed their own capabilities and the resultant nuclear arms race and stock-piling of nuclear weapons continues on. Maybe if FDR had lived, or, if Truman had been better informed, all of our lives would have been different. Most senior citizens today remember the forced drop-drills hiding under our desks in elementary school as we fearfully waited for the bombs to fall. In a way we are still waiting.

One more questionable vice president was Dan Quayle who served as Vice-President from 1989-1993. According to columnists like Maureen Dowd, Quayle was selected because he was photogenic and there was little concern that he was a C student at best who preferred the golf course to the classroom. Quayle was famous for saying he was eager to visit Latin America because "I always wanted to learn Latin." He was called President Bush's "impeachment insurance" widely ridiculed in 1989 when he told a TV interviewer that there was water on Mars. Everyone laughed but now the presence of flowing water has been confirmed. Even more surprisingly James Danforth Quayle has recently emerged as a wise elder statesman who advised Vice-President Michael Pence, another unlikely hero) to not surrender to Presidential pressure and actually follow the Law!

I do not believe that it is necessary that we live in a gerontocracy, a society governed by old people. It is equally important that electability not be the only qualification of a vice-Presidential nominee. (Think Sarah Palin). Important decisions should not be in the hands of men or women who most of us would not even trust to drive their great grand-children around. Age limits are necessary and should be imposed and that limit should apply to Supreme Court Justices as well. If a Republican is elected President someone like 92 year old Senator Grassley, the President pro-tempore of the Senate could be appointed and approved. Can you imagine such a thing?! Maybe potential Georgia Senator Hershel Walker would be a better choice; at least he can run. What a World?

TOM PURCELL THE VALUE OF AN OVERBEARING FATHER



My father is turning 89 this week and he's getting especially sentimental of late.

The other day, from his hospital bed, he said he hoped he'd been a good father. He said these words with a hint of doubt in his voice.

But he got the question backwards. The question he should be asking is: "Could his only boy have been a better son?"

The answer to that is a big, hearty "yes."

His dad died at the age of 34 in 1937. So he never knew what it was like to have a big, stubborn fellow like him so heavily involved in your daily young life — someone who'd stop you from doing the many very stupid things inquisitive boys are prone to do.

I know now he was often unsure how to manage my stupidity, because his mother was often at work and he had always been free to do stupid things without a cranky parent correcting him.

When he was about 12, he and his juvenile delinquent pals nearly derailed a trolley car by setting a large stone on the tracks — just to see what would happen.

I just turned 60, but I admit that that is something I'd really like to see, too. Jail time and public humiliation are the only two things stopping me.

Boys by nature can be really reckless and the best system we've ever invented as human beings is to have burly, overbearing dads — dads who had been really reckless when they were boys — to protect them from themselves.

My dad sure had his hands full with me.

I never did jail time, but in my early years I clogged a toilet with an apple core, shattered a picture window with a baseball and hit a golf ball through a neighbor's window.

As a teen I destroyed more expensive items, such as automotive transmissions, and while speeding through the church parking lot to avoid a red light I nearly hit our parish priest head-on.

But it wasn't entirely my fault for driving so fast all the time. It was my father's fault for buying a 1979 Ford Pinto that had a powerful six-cylinder motor — a motor that allowed me to burn rubber at will.

At least I was smart enough not to ask him to help me pay for my many speeding tickets, as my driving privileges would have been taken away.

In the modern world, many boys are being raised well by their single moms.

But there are also many boys who suffer the consequences of not having a dad around to stop them from acting on their worst impulses — or worse, becoming gang members who gun each other down for no reason.

When boys don't have fathers to agitate or drive them crazy — and when fathers aren't around to discipline or inflict unpleasantness on their sons — the result can be tragic.

But when good dads are around things usually work out in the end. My dad had the satisfaction of seeing me turn out all right (for the most part!) — and I did so because, ultimately, I didn't want to let him down. And I still don't.

Happy 89th birthday, Dad.

I promise to fight every boyish urge to put a rock on the trolley tracks just to see how it turns out.

Tom Purcell, creator of the infotainment site ThurbersTail.com, is a Pittsburgh Tribune-Review humor columnist. Email him at Tom@TomPurcell.com.

PUT THE LIGHTS ON IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE

Tomorrow my house will be tented as a protective precaution necessary to ensure safety and security as we attempt to rid the house of termites. I don't know about the termites but already I feel unsafe and insecure. Let's begin. First, I don't like the fact that the President of the United States, an almost eighty year old man has been infected with a variant of the Covid Virus. Aren't there appropriate precautions? Why is he travelling around the world, going to all sorts of unsafe places and shaking hands and bumping fists with known highly questionable people? I know the answer—that's what Presidents do. My response is that highly vulnerable people because of age or medical condition should not be eligible to run for President. It makes us all unsafe.

I think of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. FDR, soon after his election in 1945 died and was unable to attend the postwar Potsdam Conference planning the post-war peace which allowed the three leading allies to plan the postwar peace. The three attendees were Winston Churchill, Joseph Stalin and Harry Truman. Sounds strange, doesn't it? Truman was added to the Democratic ticket in 1945 because he was little known and would not alienate voters who now disapproved of the controversial sitting Vice President, Henry Wallace. Pundits have said FDR's ill-health impaired his participation at the Yalta Conference in 1944 and he had died by the time of the Potsdam conference in 1945. The end result pundits now say is that American interests were not powerfully represented. The end results that a great part of Eastern Europe was handed over to Russia and placed behind an "Iron Curtain". Wars of liberation were later fought in many of these countries and the bullet-ridden Capitals became an interesting part of American European vacations.

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RICH & FAMOUS

WHAT'S IN A (ROCK) GROUP'S NAME?



I'll continue in my ongoing attempt to provide you with (hopefully) interesting factoids and bits of information to help facilitate conversation around the dinner table.

Anyway, my music was birthed in rock and roll. Rock music birthed the phenomenon of weird, often designer drug induced, names for rock bands. I thought I might do a little research and try to understand the origins of some of these groups. There was less drug induced names then I suspected

AC/DC – Bandmates Malcolm and Angus Young blamed their sister, Margaret, for their famous name. Margaret saw the letters "AC/DC" on either her vacuum cleaner or sewing machine and the rest is history. Fascinating right?

Aerosmith - was not named after the Sinclair Lewis novel "Arrow-smith". Singer/songwriter Harry Nilsson gets credit. Aerosmith drummer, Joey Kramer and his girlfriend heard Nilsson's song "Aerial Ballet" and the rest is history.

The Beatles – were originally "The Beetles" a play on Buddy Holly's "Crickets." John changed it later to reflect the popular beat poetry and beat music.

The Bee Gees - surprisingly was not a contraction of "Brothers Gibb", but the initials of two men who helped the group early on: Bill Goode and Bill Gates (No, not that Bill Gates.)

Bob Dylan – Not his real name. Robert (Bob) Zimmerman was a fan of TV's "Gunsmoke" and Marshal Matt Dillon. So, he became known as Bob Dillon. Changed later to "Dylan". He said it was his mother's maiden name. It wasn't. Go figure.

Chicago – In 1968, the band, then known as "The Big Thing" moved out to Los Angeles. Changed their name to "Chicago Transit Authority" and eventually just "Chicago".

Eagles - The boys were out in the Mojave Desert consuming mind altering drugs and drink when Glenn Frey shouted out "Eagles" when he saw some flying by. The name stuck. By the way, they are not "The Eagles". They are simply "Eagles".

Fleetwood Mac – Early leader Peter Green was trying to keep Mick Fleetwood and John McVie. the drummer and the bass player in the band. Hence, they became Fleetwood Mac. And it worked lol. Except Mick and John are now the only original members still in the band.

Foreigner – was originally known as "Trigger". Half the band were from England, half from America. So, they would always be part foreigners wherever they played.

Lynyrd Skynyrd - was named after Leonard Skinner, a local gym teacher who enjoyed enforcing his school's policy against boys having long hair.

Pink Floyd - originally known as "The Tea Set" combined the names of two blues players, Pink Anderson and Floyd Council. They called themselves "The Pink Floyd Sound." Shortened eventually to "Pink Floyd".

The Who – were originally called "The Detours." Then they used "The Who" until a manager renamed them "The High Numbers." Realizing the error of their name change they re-became "The Who." Pete Townsend said his grandmother always said, "The Who?" due to hard of hearing.

Speaking of music, JJ Jukebox will be performing at Nano Cafe in Sierra Madre on Saturday, August 20th from 6:30 to 9:30. Come enjoy great dining fare, adult beverages and dancing. (626) 325-3334 for reservations. Call Wednesday through Saturday after 4pm to make reservations.



SPORTS

SIERRA MADRE GIRLS SOFTBALL SPRING SEASON NEWS

July 22, 2022 –The stellar All Stars season run of Sierra Madre Girls Softball Association's 8U Gold team "TNT" has finally come to an end. With far more ups than downs, this group of eight-and nine-year old girls made it all the way from Sierra Madre's Heasley Field to becoming one of the final "elite 8" teams at Regionals in San Diego. TNT beat teams from all over California and Nevada at Regionals, being the only "C" Division team among "B" Division competitors.

Coach Eddie Medrano and his coaching team were able to pull out the best from each one of the players. Only three girls on the team had prior All Stars experience, but every girl worked hard and soared with their dedication and love for the game. The girls dedicated hours to not just regular team practice, but also extra practice sessions dedicated solely on hitting and catching skills. The time paid off in both improved skills and deeper friendships that bonded the team and propelled them forward. The leadership of Olivia Medrano and CJ Hull and the unwavering solidity of Rylie McKenzie helped their teammates get over first year All Stars jitters, and they continued to lead as great examples throughout the season.

TNT's kicked off their All Stars season with tournaments in San Clemente and Camarillo, where they faced some of the best B Division teams in Southern California. It was an eye opener but with their positive attitude and great training, the girls showed up and came away with a win and got runs off some tough teams. These early tournaments were the motivator that ignited their fighting spirit.

TNT played in a few friendlies against Pasadena and La Verne All Stars teams, which helped prepare them for the District tournament in Glendora. Sierra Madre's girls showed up ready to play hard. While they started with a close loss against #2 Diamond Bar, TNT went on to win three straight games and finished the tournament 3-2, with both their offense and defense coming together during the tournament. TNT showcased impressive defensive composure led by their catcher Sarah Bates and multiple defensive plays by first year All Star and 3rd baseman Petra Bragiel. Offensively, first year All Star Mikayla Tejada drove in the tying runs in their come-from-behind, nail biter victory over Chino Hills. Olivia Medrano led the team with 14 RBIs and a killer home run against one of the toughest pitchers in the Division. CJ Hull had an impressive 11 runs. In addition, Marlo Gomez (5), Maddie Persell (3), Rylie McKenzie (2), and Kayley Wang (2) each had multiple hits during the weekend. The pitching performances of Olivia Medrano and CJ Hull kept the games close, with a combined 37 strikeouts over 18 innings. With the help of amazing assistant coaches Tara Hull, Chris Bates, Amber McKenzie, Ethan Stearns, and Peter Bragiel, TNT came together and was poised to make a run in the State Championship.

SMGSA 8U All Stars TNT were well-prepared to battle at the States Tournament over the July 4th Weekend. TNT kicked off the States Tournament with pitchers Olivia Medrano and CJ Hull working together to throw a no hitter against West Valley. Medrano and Hull then led the team to victory in what ended up being one of the most emotional games of the season, a 2-1 win vs. Diamond Bar. Hull drove in the team's 2 winning runs and Medrano held Diamond Bar down to 2 hits, striking out 9 and catching the game winning pop fly out. Overall, TNT exploded with 21 hits and 29 runs over the weekend. TNT finished in the top 8 at States with a 4-2 record, which qualified them to advance to Regionals in San Diego. TNT celebrated with extra explosive energy after returning from the tournament while marching in Sierra Madre's 4th of July Parade.

TNT's epic season final was at Regionals in the California State Games in San Diego. TNT competed against the best teams in the region in both B and C Divisions. TNT won 3 of their 4 games and finished in the top 8 of 30 teams, outperforming some strong teams that they had faced earlier in their All Stars season. Once again, TNT had outstanding pitching performances from Olivia Medrano (10 IP 21 Ks), CJ Hull (3.1 IP 8 Ks), and Maddie Persell (1.2 IP). Offensively, Marlo Gomez's bat was on fire and she led the team with 6 hits. CJ Hull (3) and Olivia Medrano (3) came in clutch, and the team scored 24 runs over 4 games. The highlight of the week was when Rylie McKenzie singled home Maddie Persell with 2 outs in the bottom of the 4th for a high anxiety walk off win vs. Hart to advance the girls to the top 8 of the tournament.



TNT concluded their All Stars season with a record of 10-5 in Championship play and solidified their status as one of the best teams in the region. Special thanks to the committed coaching staff led by All Stars Manager, Eddie Medrano, the supportive families, and the players who dug deep and played their hearts out.

Want to get in on the action? Fall softball registration is open at smgsa.org. Fall is a perfect time for new players to learn the game and returning players to develop new skills and try different positions in a friendly environment focusing on growth and fun.

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

CONTACT:
Russ Meek, SM Girls Softball President
626.827.5011 / sierramadregirlssoftball@gmail.com





Mark your calendars and join the
Sierra Madre
Police Department
in celebrating National Night Out

KIDS
ACTIVITIES



PUBLIC SAFETY
DISPLAYS

The entire community is invited to gather
together for an evening of

FOOD, MUSIC, AND FUN!



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Sierra Madre, CA






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Sundays
9a & 10:45a

or join us online
christchurchsm.org/live

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





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