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source: CoreLogic, Freddie Mac, Bankrate

SIERRA MADRE: CALIFORNIA'S MOST DANGEROUS CITY FROM BEAR ATTACKS?



Editor's Note: Former Mayor Glenn Lambdin, a Sierra Madre Canyon resident, after considerable research, shared this eye opening report for your consideration.

Sierra Madre has a new claim to fame. We are California's most dangerous city from bear attacks. But more on that later.

First off, let me state that the regular presence of bears in residential neighborhoods is a relatively new condition. Ten years ago, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) considered these bear encounters as "rare." Now, the CDFW considers them "routine." So for all those that continue to claim that, "...the bears were here first," understand that this is both a false and illegitimate claim." Also, black bears are not native to this area and according to the CDFW definitions and under an Executive Order issued by President Clinton, these bears are more accurately defined as an "invasive species."

I should also mention that in just the last month alone, my immediate residential neighborhood has been subjected to numerous actual home entries by bears. My own home had two bear entries in the last month putting my wife in danger as the bear entered only six feet away from her and damaged the dishwasher. Last week, my neighbor across the street had her home ramshacked by a bear. Another two neighbors just up the street had bears enter their homes this past week.the list of entries and attempted entries goes on and sadly, there is no improvement in sight and no mechanism in place to prevent these threats to public safety.

Two years ago, Sierra Madre hosted a webinar addressing the City's increasing urbanized bear problems. I remember listening to the information and thinking, "this urbanized bear situation in Sierra Madre is rapidly getting worse, will continue to worsen, and these proposed solutions are only superficial at best."

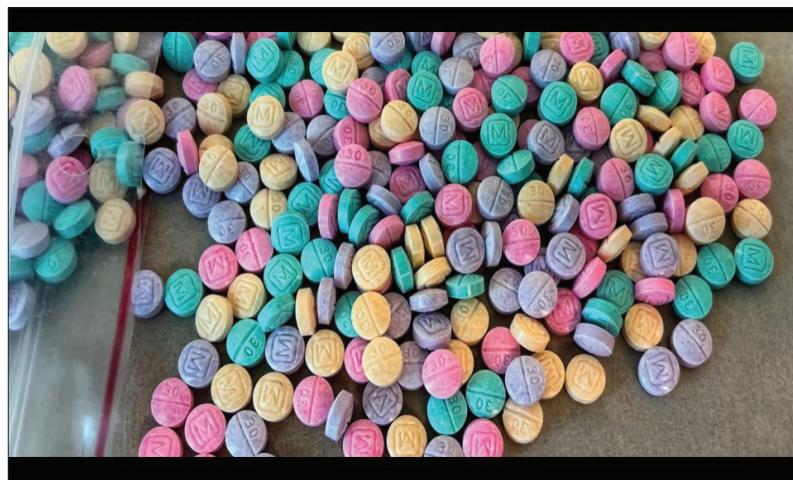
In that webinar, a Department of Fish and Wildlife biologist, Rebecca Barboza, provided a myriad of data and explained the CDFW's policies and practices. My concern after watching and rewatching the webinar a few times is that Ms. Barboza (and everyone else for that matter) never really addressed, and seemingly skirted around, the real problem; an overpopulation of bears greater than what the natural wilderness habitat can accommodate, forcing the bears to relocate into urban neighborhoods. According to Barboza, because the CDFW's policies and wildlife management practices have allowed the bears to overpopulate the bear's available natural habitat, we now have several generations of urbanized bears that are incapable of surviving in their natural habitats and are incapable of surviving a relocation. According to Barboza, these urbanized bears do not know how to forage for their natural foods. The CDFW's solution has been to allow the bears to "urbanize" and attempt to manage human behavior instead of controlling the wild bear population. In my opinion, the CDFW policies are nothing short of animal cruelty.

On Wednesday, October 19, 2022, after two bear entries into my home and my request for a meeting, I met with four Sierra Madre city staff members and Rebecca Barboza, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife biologist who participated in the webinar. I wanted to discuss the escalating black bear entries into homes in Sierra Madre, the "exponentially" increasing local urbanized bear population, bear attacks on humans in Sierra Madre, public policies regarding bear populations, the results of CDFW's wildlife management practices, and possible corrective solutions.

Prior to walking into the meeting, I asked Ms. Barboza how many bear attacks on humans happen in California per year. Her response, "Less than one per year." We'll get to that later, also.

The meeting did little more than validate and confirm my concerns that the CDFW has absolutely (Continued on page 6)

POLICE WARN OF CANDY COLORED FENTANYL



Pasadena and Sierra Madre Police Departments Warn Parents

Just weeks before Halloween, Pasadena Police are again cautioning parents about the dangers of candy-colored fentanyl pills after a narcotics investigation found the deadly drug being sold in the Pasadena area.

According to investigators from the Department's Major Narcotics/Special Investigations Section, they seized approximately 328,000 fentanyl pills, 2 kilos of cocaine, and a ghost gun, September 24, during an ongoing narcotics investigation. Within the seized contraband, investigators located several packages of candy-colored fentanyl pills. This candy-colored fentanyl, dubbed "rainbow fentanyl" in the media, appears to be a new method used by drug cartels to sell highly addictive and potentially deadly fentanyl to children and young people.

"Rainbow fentanyl—fentanyl pills and powder that come in a variety of bright colors, shapes, and sizes—is a deliberate effort by drug traffickers to drive addiction amongst kids and young adults," said DEA Administrator Anne Milgram.

The investigation came after the death of three overdose victims. Maria Bolanos-Hernandez was arrested, in connection to the case, and found guilty to Possession with Intent to Distribute Controlled Substances. Bolanos-Hernandez was sentenced to 15 years in Federal prison police said.

The Pasadena and Sierra Madre Police Departments urge community members to call 911 immediately if they encounter fentanyl in any form, and urge parents to be especially careful with the candy their children bring home during Halloween festivities.

Sierra Madre police recommend learning more about this deadly drug by going to:

<https://www.dea.gov/factsheets/fentanyl>



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- Principal and Teacher Introduction- 10:00 a.m.
- Meet current St. Rita School families
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INSIDE MOUNTAIN VIEWS NEWS THIS WEEK

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This architectural modern end unit townhome situated in the much sought-after city of Sierra Madre is a distinct masterpiece! This 2-story beauty is set back at the end of a 4-unit complex. It offers 2 exceptionally spacious bedrooms, 2 1/2 bathrooms, high ceilings bathed in natural light from multiple skylights, elegant window seats, built-in bookshelves, unique clerestories, natural stone countertops in the bathrooms, a large pantry in the kitchen, private fully enclosed side yard and a 2-car attached garage with direct entry into the kitchen for convenience. The step-down living room has a marble fireplace, a 1/2 bathroom for guests, a spacious dining area with a wet bar, and a sliding glass door leading to a private side yard. The primary bedroom with soaring, cathedral ceiling with majestic windows framing the San Gabriel mountains, a marble fireplace, dual closets, an office nook, built-in bookshelves, and an en-suite full bathroom. The 2nd bedroom has a sliding glass door to a secluded, sizable balcony for lounging and relaxing. This 200 sq. Ft. (approx) area can be converted to a 3rd bedroom/office/gym...endless possibilities with its own private access. Enjoy the outdoors in your own secret garden equipped with a fountain and plenty of room to grow herbs, vegetables, and flowers. The hummingbirds and butterflies love to visit! Join the July 4th parade with front-row seats from your driveway and enjoy the Wisteria Festival with exceptional artisans from near and far to celebrate the blooming of the largest Wisteria in the world. Hear the sounds of music and theater from the park as you stroll down the boulevard, or cross the street to browse through the Sierra Madre Library. Experience living in a picture-perfect town modeled after Utopian city planning with stellar schools, churches, shops, restaurants, and town square all within walking distance! What are you waiting for?



Janette Ledea

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- ▶ The only candidate in favor of reasonable development
- ▶ The only candidate in favor of a two-term limit for our City Council members

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ELECTION COVERAGE

On November 8, 2022, voters in Sierra Madre will go to the polls and select three people from a field of five to sit on the City Council. They will also vote on Measure HR (Hillside Residential) a citizens initiative to stop The Meadows at Bailey Canyon project. The Mountain Views News will provide our readers with comprehensive coverage of this election. As we have done in the past, we have profiled the candidates and given the opportunity to introduce themselves to our readers.

This week the paper will also review the pros and cons of Measure HR. Next week we will review the county and statewide measures and candidates for the State Assembly and Senate and the US House of Representatives and US Senate. The remaining schedule will be as follows:

October 22, 2022
October 29, 2022

County and Statewide Ballot Measures
State and National Offices

Our reporting on this election will be as fair and objective as possible. However, please keep in mind that our columnists are always free to share their opinions. Their opinions are their opinions and may or may not reflect the position of the paper. This is true in all things, not just this election.

Susan Henderson, Publisher and Editor

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June 19, 1925-September 1, 2022

Mom, Grandma, great-grandma, great-great grandma Mert Waite, passed away on September 1, 2022 at the age of 97 years.

She was wonderfully devoted to her family. Preceded in death by her husband William “Red” Waite and her son Michael Waite she left behind her sister, Millie Berkshire, daughter, Linda Waite, daughter-in-law also Linda Waite as well as her grandchildren Ginger Sanders, John Livingston, Justin Waite and Jessica Waite. Also, her great-grandchildren Westley Sanders, Kenneth Sanders, Cassie Sanders, Shane Sanders, Jessilyn Sanders, Morgan Livingston, Steven Livingston, Scarlet Hawkins, Cheyanne Waite, Makayla Waite, Fiona Waite, Declan Waite-Misulich and her great-great grandchildren Ryleigh Sanders, Logan Sanders, Knox Sanders, Kinley Sanders, Sophia Sanders, Grayson Sanders, Kolton Sanders and Cedar Sanders.

Known to everyone (Not just family) as “Grandma Mert” she and Grandpa Red lived in their beloved little cabin in the desert of Johnson Valley, California following retirement in 1976. Everyone knew they could just show up at the door and be welcomed.

She was very active all her life. PTA, Crossing Guard, Swimming Pool Manager, bus driver, Citizen of The Year 1972, and so much more in the city of Sierra Madre, California where they lived prior to retirement. She was the first female school bus driver in the state of California.

Grandma and Grandpa were avid campers and fishers. They spent many happy years as campground hosts in Oregon.

She led by example. There was never a job too large or too small that she would not tackle. She was kind and generous, a good friend, and also was a strong, determined and fiercely independent woman who loved a good poker game!.

We will miss her every day.



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Remembering

Louise Calaway
1939 - 2022

Public Memorial Service, Followed by a Reception
Friday, October 28, 2022 at 7 pm
at Sierra Madre Playhouse
87 W Sierra Madre Blvd, Sierra Madre, CA 91024



Sierra Madre Mayor and City Council
Unanimously Oppose Measure HR



"Do we want **6,500 square foot mansions** smack dab in the middle of a residential neighborhood of three-to-four bedroom single-family homes?"

"This ill-conceived initiative is a potential **disaster** for our town."

"The initiative would **bypass what the people proposed** in the General Plan."

"It's unanimous. All five of your elected representatives on the Sierra Madre City Council believe the responsible thing to do is to **vote "No" on this poorly designed Measure HR.**"

All quotes from the Ballot Argument Against Measure HR, August 18, 2022



Ad paid for by No on Measure HR, Sierra Madre Neighbors for Fairness, a Coalition of Local Residents, Taxpayers, and Mater Dolorosa Passionist Retreat Center; Committee major funding from New Urban West

CALIFORNIA PROPOSITION 1, THE RIGHT TO REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM AMENDMENT, legislatively referred constitutional amendment.

A **"yes" vote** supports amending the state constitution to prohibit the state from interfering with or denying an individual's reproductive freedom, which is defined to include a right to an abortion and a right to contraceptives.
A **"no" vote opposes** this amendment providing a right to reproductive freedom in the state constitution.

PROP 26 LEGALIZES SPORTS BETTING AT AMERICAN INDIAN GAMING CASINOS AND LICENSED TRACKS IN CALIFORNIA A combined initiated constitutional amendment and state statute.

A **"yes" vote supports this ballot initiative** to (i) legalize sports betting at American Indian gaming casinos and licensed racetracks in California; (ii) tax profits derived from sports betting at racetracks at 10%; and (iii) legalize roulette and dice games, such as craps, at tribal casinos.

A **"no" vote opposes** this ballot initiative, thus continuing to prohibit sports betting in California and roulette and dice games at tribal casinos.
What would Proposition 26 change?
Proposition 26 would legalize sports betting at American Indian gaming casinos and licensed racetracks in California.[1]
The ballot measure would define sports betting as wagering on the results of professional, college, or amateur sport and athletic events, with the exception of high school sports and events featuring a California college team. Individuals would need to be 21 years of age to engage in legal sports betting.[1]
The ballot measure would enact a tax of 10 percent on profits derived from sports betting at racetracks. The state government would be required to distribute the revenue as follows: (a) 15 percent to the California Department of Health for researching, developing, and implementing programs for problem gambling prevention and mental health and providing grants to local governments to address problem gambling and mental health; (b) 15 percent to the Bureau of Gambling Control for enforcing and implementing sports wagering and other forms of gaming within the state; and (c) 70 percent to the General Fund.[1]
The ballot measure would also legalize roulette and dice games, such as craps, at tribal casinos; however, tribal-state compacts would need to be amended before these games can be offered.[1]
Who is behind the campaigns surrounding Proposition 26?

PROP 27 LEGALIZES MOBILE SPORTS BETTING AND DEDICATES REVENUE TO CA. SOLUTIONS TO HOMELESSNESS AND MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT ACCOUNT AND THE TRIBAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT

A **"yes" vote** supports legalizing online and mobile sports betting for persons 21 years of age or older, establishing regulations for the mobile sports betting industry, imposing a 10% tax on sports betting revenues and licensing fees, and allocating tax revenue to an account for homelessness programs and an account for tribes not operating sports betting.

A **"no" vote opposes this ballot initiative**, thus continuing to prohibit sports betting in California. What would Proposition 27 do?
Proposition 27 proposes a constitutional amendment and statute to authorize a gaming tribe, an online sports betting platform with an operating agreement with a gaming tribe, or a qualified gaming company with a market access agreement with a gaming tribe may operate online sports betting for individuals 21 years of age or older in the state but outside of Indian lands. The amendment would prohibit online sports betting on youth sports. The proposed law would create the Division of Online Sports Betting Control within the Department of Justice. The initiative would give the division authority to regulate the online sports betting industry and investigate illegal sports betting activities. The amendment would take effect on January 1, 2023.[1]
The proposed law would establish the California Online Sports Betting Trust Fund. The revenue from licensing fees, renewals, and the sports wagering tax would be deposited into the fund. After deducting regulatory costs, 85% of the fund's revenues would be allocated to California Solutions to Homelessness and Mental Health Support Account for permanent and interim housing and 15% of revenues to the Tribal Economic Development Account, which would be established by the initiative to provide funds to Indian tribes for expanding tribal government, public health, education, infrastructure, and economic development.[1]
Currently, mobile and in-person sports betting is illegal in California.

PROP 28 REQUIRES FUNDING FOR K-12 ART AND MUSIC EDUCATION

A **"yes" vote supports this ballot initiative**:
• require an annual source of funding for K-12 public schools for arts and music education equal to, at minimum, 1% of the total state and local revenues that local education agencies receive under Proposition 98;
• distribute a portion of the additional funding based on a local education agency's share of economically disadvantaged students; and
• require schools with 500 or more students to use 80% of the funding for employing teachers and 20% to training and materials.

A **"no" vote opposes requiring an annual source of funding** for K-12 public schools for arts and music education equal to, at minimum, 1% of the total state and local revenues that local education agencies receive under Proposition 98.
Proposition 28 would require a minimum source of annual funding for K-12 public schools, including charter schools, to fund arts education programs. The annual minimum amount established by the law would be equal to, at minimum, 1% of the total state and local revenues that local education agencies received under Proposition 98 (1988) during the prior fiscal year. The minimum under the proposed law would be in addition to the funding required by Proposition 98. According to the Legislative Analyst's Office, the ballot initiative would likely result in increased spending of \$800 million to \$1 billion each fiscal year.[2]
How does Proposition 98 relate to school funding?
See also: California Proposition 98, Mandatory Education Spending Initiative (1988)
In 1988, Californians approved Proposition 98 by a margin of 50.7% to 49.3%. Proposition 98 amended the state constitution to require a minimum percentage of the state budget to be spent on K-14 education (kindergarten through two-year community college), which is referred to as the minimum guarantee. Proposition 98 established two formulas or tests to determine the minimum guarantee, which is the highest funding level produced by Test 1 or Test 2. Test 1 links the minimum guarantee to about 40% of the state General Fund, which is equal to California's 1986-87 funding level of public education. Test 2 calculates the minimum guarantee by adjusting the prior year's minimum guarantee by student attendance and changes in the cost of living.[3]

PROP 29 HEALTHCARE ENACTS STAFFING, REPORTIIG REQUIREMENTS AND OWNERHIP DISCLOSURE FOR DIALYSIS CLINICS

A **"yes" vote supports this ballot initiative** to require dialysis clinics to have at least one physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant while patients are being treated; report data on dialysis-related infections; and not discriminate against patients based on the source of payment for care.

A **"no" vote opposes this ballot initiative** to require dialysis clinics to have at least one physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant while patients are being treated; report data on dialysis-related infections; and not discriminate against patients based on the source of payment for care.

Proposition 29 would enact staffing requirements, reporting requirements, ownership disclosure, and closing requirements for chronic dialysis clinics, including:[1]
• requiring clinics to have at least one physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant - with at least six months of experience with end-stage renal disease care - onsite during patient treatments;
• requiring clinics to report dialysis-related infections to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH);
• requiring clinics to provide patients with a list of physicians with an ownership interest of 5% or more in the clinic;
• requiring clinics to provide the CDPH with a list of persons with ownership interest of 5% or more in the clinic; and
• requiring clinics to obtain the CDPH's written consent before closing or substantially reducing services to patients.
The ballot initiative would also prohibit clinics from refusing to care for a patient based on the patient's form of payment, whether the patient is an individual payer, the patient's health insurer, Medi-Cal, Medicaid, or Medicare.[1]

In 2020, 63.4% of voters rejected Proposition 23, which was also sponsored by SEIU-UHW. Proposition 23 would have required chronic dialysis clinics to: have an on-site physician while patients are being treated; report data on dialysis-related infections; obtain consent

from the state health department before closing a clinic; and not discriminate against patients based on the source of payment for care.[2]
In 2018, SEIU-UHW also sponsored Proposition 8, which was defeated with 59.9% of voters rejecting it. Proposition 8 would have required dialysis clinics to issue refunds to patients or patients' payers for revenue above 115% of the costs of direct patient care and healthcare improvements.[3]

PROP 30 TAXES AND TRANSPORTATION INCREASES TAX ON PERSONAL INCOME ABOVE \$2MILLION BY 1.75% AND REVENUE TO ZERO EMISSION VEHICLE PROJECTS AND WILDLIFE PREVENTION

A **"yes" vote supports increasing the tax on personal income above \$2 million** by 1.75% and dedicating the revenue to zero-emission vehicle subsidies; zero-emission vehicle infrastructure, such as electric vehicle charging stations; and wildfire suppression and prevention programs.

A **"no" vote opposes increasing the tax on personal income above \$2 million** by 1.75% and dedicating the revenue to zero-emission vehicle subsidies; zero-emission vehicle infrastructure, such as electric vehicle charging stations; and wildfire suppression and prevention programs.

Proposition 30 would increase the income tax by an additional 1.75% on income above \$2 million for individuals. Currently, income above \$2 million for individuals is taxed at a rate of 13.3% in California. The additional tax would take effect on January 1, 2023. The initiative provides that the tax would end on the earliest of the following dates:[1]
• January 1, 2043, or
• January 1 after three consecutive calendar years after January 1, 2030, of statewide emissions reduced by 80% of 1990 levels.
Revenue from the increased income tax would be appropriated into the Clean Cars and Clean Air Trust Fund (CCCATF). It would then be allocated to the following three sub-funds: Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Investment Plan Sub-Fund (35% of revenue), Zero-Emission Vehicle and Clean Mobility Sub-Fund (45% of revenue), and Wildfire Green House Gas Emissions Reduction Sub-Fund (20% of revenue). The sub-funds would fund zero-emission vehicles, charging stations, and infrastructure, as well as hiring and training firefighters.[1]

PROPOSITION 31 TOBACCO BAN ON FLAVORED TOBACCO SALES

A **"yes" vote is to uphold the contested legislation**, Senate Bill 793 (SB 793), which would ban the sale of flavored tobacco products.

A **"no" vote is to repeal the contested legislation**, Senate Bill 793 (SB 793), thus keeping the sale of flavored tobacco legal in the state.

Opponents of Proposition 31 seek to overturn Senate Bill 793 (SB 793), which was signed into law on August 28, 2020. SB 793 was designed to ban the sale of flavored tobacco products and tobacco product flavor enhancers, with exceptions for hookah tobacco, loose leaf tobacco, and premium cigars. Retailers would be fined \$250 for each sale violating the law.[1]

The California State Legislature passed SB 793 in August 2020. The legislation received support from most legislative Democrats (84 of 89) and a quarter of legislative Republicans (8 of 30). One legislator voted against the bill, and the remaining legislators were absent or abstained. State Sen. Jerry Hill (D-13), the legislative sponsor of SB 793, said, "Using candy, fruit and other alluring flavors, the tobacco industry weaponized its tactics to beguile a new generation into nicotine addiction while keeping longtime users hooked. SB 793 breaks Big Tobacco's death grip." [2] The California Fuels & Convenience Alliance, which opposed SB 793, described the flavored tobacco ban as "misguided policy that will do more harm than good" and "hurt small businesses, eliminate necessary tax revenue, and perpetuate dangerous and avoidable police interactions in our communities." [3]

LOS ANGELES COUNTY MEASURE C IS ON THE BALLOT AS A REFERRAL IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY ON NOVEMBER 8, 2022.

A **"yes" vote supports enacting taxes on marijuana businesses in the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County**, including \$10 per square foot for cultivation; a 6% tax on gross retail receipts; a 2% tax on testing facilities' gross receipts; a 3% tax on gross distribution receipts; and a 4% tax on the gross receipts of manufacturing and other marijuana business facilities.

A **"no" vote opposes enacting taxes** on marijuana businesses in the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY MEASURE A IS ON THE BALLOT AS A REFERRAL IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY ON NOVEMBER 8, 2022.

A **"yes" vote supports allowing the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, by a four-fifths vote, to remove the sheriff from office for cause**, which is defined to include: violation of laws related to the sheriff's duties; repeated neglect of the sheriff's duties; misuse of public funds or properties; willful falsification of documents; or obstruction of an investigation into the department's conduct.

A **"no" vote opposes allowing the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, by a four-fifths vote, to remove the sheriff from office for cause**.

Overview
Measure A would allow the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to vote to remove the elected sheriff from office for cause. The vote requirement to remove the sheriff would be four-fifths. As of 2022, the County Board of Supervisors included five members, meaning an affirmative vote of four members would be needed. Measure A would define cause to include:[1]
• violation of laws related to the sheriff's duties;
• repeated neglect of the sheriff's duties;
• misuse of public funds or properties;
• willful falsification of documents; or
• obstruction of an investigation into the department's conduct

LOS ANGELES COUNTY MEASURE PCC IS ON THE BALLOT AS A REFERRAL IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY ON NOVEMBER 8, 2022.

A **"yes" vote supports authorizing the Pasadena Area Community College to issue \$565 million dollars in bonds with bond revenue going to fund school facilities and requiring an estimated property tax levy of \$20 per \$100,000 of assessed value**.

A **"no" vote opposes authorizing the Pasadena Area Community College to issue \$565 million dollars in bonds with bond revenue going to fund school facilities and requiring an estimated property tax levy of \$20 per \$100,000 of assessed value**.
•

A 55% vote is required for the approval of Measure PCC.

ART'S UNDERWATER REEF

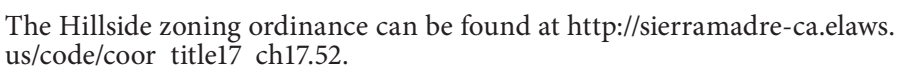
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A "no" vote opposes changing the land use designation of the Mater Dolorosa Property from 'Institutional' to 'Hillside Management.'



Pat Alcorn, for No on HR

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BEARS (continued from page 1) |



no intention of reducing or even addressing the overpopulation of urbanized bears, regardless of the immediate public safety dangers the bears pose to the residents, including our children and our elementary schools. I was extremely disheartened to learn that instead of addressing the real threat caused by the CDFW’s neglect in controlling the overpopulation of the bears resulting in insufficient natural habitat, the CDFW has chosen to expand their definition of “Bear Country.” In Sierra Madre, according to a map that was presented by Barboza in the meeting, the CDFW has expanded their “Bear Country” boundaries and now incorporates all property in Sierra Madre from Grandview north into their “Bear Country” territorial map. I suppose drawing a line across a map and redefining 25% of our city’s residential neighborhoods as “Bear Country,” instead of residential neighborhoods, is a whole lot easier than confronting their failure to protect both the wildlife populations and public safety. It also demonstrates their unwillingness to honestly evaluate and correct the results of their failed wildlife management policies. Just as a point of reference, Sierra Madre now has two elementary schools that fall within or directly borders the CDFW’s conveniently newly re-defined “Bear Country” as well as a high school that directly borders “Bear Country.” Imagine a hungry bear walking by St. Rita’s at lunch-time with unaware children sitting outside eating their lunch.....and BTW, St. Rita’s has had to go into lockdown from bear threats.....I wonder if the staff at these schools are informing the parents that their children go to school in “Bear Country?”A note to Realtors; You may need to disclose the fact that all homes sold from Grandview north are located within CD-FW’s stated “Bear Country.”

According to Barboza, the urbanized bear population is increasing exponentially, the Angeles National Forest natural bear habitat can no longer support the increased bear population forcing the bears to urbanize. Urbanized bears are incapable of surviving in their natural habitat and do not know how to forage for natural foods. Urbanized bears only rely on human foods. We now have several generations of urbanized bears that are considered a Category 2 meaning they are not candidates for relocation. Relocation of urbanized bears does not work. Aggressive bears that are captured are generally only moved less than one mile keeping them within minutes of the residential urban areas. Capturing bears and moving them that single mile is not intended to resolve human/wildlife conflicts, and relocations more than 25 miles require a bureaucratic approval process from Sacramento.

When asked how we can proactively protect ourselves against attacks, all Barboza had to offer was “removing food sources” and “keeping household doors and windows locked.” Barboza offered nothing regarding the CDFW’s responsibilities towards public safety, controlling bear populations, or considerations of changing their failed policies. So let’s consider Barboza’s

two recommendations. First, let’s consider “keeping household doors and windows locked.” Is this even reasonable for those living in a residential neighborhood? Screens on open windows are designed to allow fresh air into a home as are screen doors. The idea of keeping yourself locked-up inside your home is both unreasonable and ridiculous. Enough said!

Secondly, “removing food sources” seems to be the “go-to” solution and at some level that helps. However, with the current multi-generational urbanized bear population, we have gone past the effectiveness of that suggestion. Bear-proof trash containers are touted as the “Holy Grail” of solutions to all of the bear/human conflict problems. BTW, it is my understanding that City Hall is currently in negotiations with Athens to provide bear proof trash containers citywide. So, let’s take a closer look and try to consider the end results taking them to some logical conclusion.

As mentioned, according to the CDFW, multi-generational urbanized bears are a result of overpopulation beyond what their natural habitat can provide and have been forced to find food from human sources. As such, if these urbanized bears can no longer get into trash containers they have few options. I will rely on the expertise of the State biologists and accept their claims that urbanized bears are incapable of surviving in their natural habitats. Therefore, it doesn’t seem even slightly reasonable that bear-proof trash containers will send the bears back into the wilderness simply because, as stated, these bears are unable to survive there.

Bears will instinctively go to the next easiest food source and in this case we should be prepared to see increased attempts and actual entries into our homes or seeing bears forage farther into the cities south of us. This seems like a more realistic and reasonable prediction and conclusion.

Bears already have learned how to open car doors, open doors into homes, and how to climb through household windows. As urbanized bear populations have increased and competition for human food sources have become greater, bears are routinely being observed foraging for food in cities south of Sierra Madre Blvd. and even south of the 210 Freeway. I’ve seen videos of bears on Myrtle Ave. in Monrovia several blocks south of Foothill Blvd. and at the McDonalds in Arcadia. Without any attempt to reduce and eliminate the urbanized bear population, these two solutions will only push and spread the problems over a wider urban area creating greater and more frequent threats to public safety, especially when one considers that the CDFW claims that the urbanized bear population is increasing exponentially.

Frankly, this doesn’t paint a pretty picture for Sierra Madre and the neighboring Foothill communities and certainly avoids the real problem of overpopulation, insufficient natural habitat, and CDFW’s failed management policies.

If the CDFW, who has jurisdiction over the bears, is unwilling

to fulfill their obligations to ensure public safety by implementing the necessary actions to keep our neighborhoods safe, who can citizens turn to, to bring our neighborhoods back to the level of safety we enjoyed 10 years ago?

Realizing that the City of Sierra Madre has a set of laws that they must follow, they have limited options available. They have processes and procedures that they are bound to follow and cannot circumvent state laws regarding bears.

In the meeting I was asked for my suggestion on a solution. In my opinion, under the direction of the current and future City Council, the City of Sierra Madre needs to aggressively form a coalition of cities from the Foothill communities putting relentless pressure on the CDFW, exposing their failed policies, the results of those policies, and hold them accountable for their negligence.

The coalition needs to demand that the CDFW remove all of the urbanized bears. The coalition needs a media campaign bringing public awareness to the severity of the problem and expose the bureaucrats who are responsible for these colossal wildlife management failures.

The coalition also needs to involve our State elected officials putting some responsibility on them, especially the local representatives. And, citizens need to put these bureaucrats and elected officials on notice that they will be held responsible for their inaction in the event of future attacks.

It’s time for a public outcry before the next tragedy happens.

As mentioned, Barboza stated that California, on average, experiences “less than one” bear attack per year. Of the 164 thousand square miles in the entire state of California, the third largest state in America, we can expect less than one attack per year. Considering that this threat encompasses 164 thousand square miles of land, that’s probably not a significant public safety risk. Sierra Madre however, with its 3 square miles, has experienced at least four bear attacks in the past few years making the average number of yearly bear attacks fairly close with the entire state.

Given the difference in square miles, 164,000 compared to 3, that easily places Sierra Madre in the number one spot as the most dangerous city in California for bear attacks.

Being that I place a higher value on human life over animal life, I believe we all have a moral obligation to insist that the urbanized bears be removed. If nothing is done, it will take a tragic attack on a child by an urbanized bear before the CDFW changes their policy. We as responsible citizens can not continue to sit idle and allow the CDFW the luxury of doing nothing while our neighborhoods, homes, schools, residents, and children continue to be placed at greater and ever increasing risks.

Let’s not find ourselves in a position where someday we say, “If only I did something about this...”

WALKING SIERRA MADRE - The Social Side

by Deanne Davis

“Well, I saw the thing comin' out of the sky
It had one long horn and one big eye.
I commenced to shakin' and I said,
"Ooh-eee!
It looks like a purple people eater to me!"

It was a one-eyed, one-horned, flyin' purple people eater
A one-eyed, one-horned, flyin' purple people eater
Sure looks strange to me.
Well, he came down to earth and he lit in a tree
I said, "Mr. Purple People Eater, don't eat me!"
I heard him say in a voice so gruff:
"I wouldn't eat you 'cause you're so tough."

I said, "Mr. Purple People Eater, what's your line?"
He said, “Eatin' purple people and it sure is fine.

But that's not the reason that I came to land
I wanna get a job in a rock and roll band."

Well bless my soul, rock and roll, flyin' purple people eater
Pigeon-toed, undergrows, flyin' purple people eater
Friendly little people eater
What a sight to see!
And then he swung from the tree and he lit on the ground
He started to rock, really rockin' around
It was a crazy ditty with a swingin' tune
Sing a bop bap aboopa lappa loom bam boom!"



Probably none of you are old enough to remember Sheb Wooley’s classic, immortal, to-tally awesome radio hit from 1958, but, as you can see from the picture, friends and neighbors, I saw him this morning. There I was, out walking in the early, just right after the sun came up, hours and I ran right into him. None of us believed he was actually real, but here he is...in the flesh (fur?)

The Halloween season is filled with strange and exotic beings. The three witches from Macbeth are holding hands and standing 'round their steaming cauldron here in town. Skeletons are hosting picnics on the Mt. Wilson Trail and all sorts of spiders and ghosts and zombies are wandering around. And if that's not scary enough...
“Little Orphant Annie’s come to our house to stay,
An’ wash the cups an’ saucers up, an’ brush the crumbs away,
An’ shoo the chickens off the porch, an’ dust the hearth, an’ sweep,
An’ make the fire, an’ bake the bread, an’ earn her board-an’-keep;
An’ all us other childern, when the supper things is done,
We set around the kitchen fire an’ has the mostest fun
A-list’nin’ to the witch-tales ‘at Annie tells about,
An’ the Gobble-uns ‘at gits you

Ef you
Don’t
Watch
Out!”

The spirit of James Whitcomb Riley (1849-1916) is also out there haunting our streets with his scary tale of how the “Gobble-uns ‘at gits you Ef you Don’t Watch Out!!” And leaving us with this last warning...

“An’ little Orphant Annie says when the blaze is blue,
An’ the lamp-wick sputters, an’ the wind goes woo-oo!
An’ you hear the crickets quit, an’ the moon is gray,
An’ the lightnin’-bugs in dew is all squenched away,--
You better mind yer parents, an’ yer teachers fond an’ dear,
An’ churish them ‘at loves you, an’ dry the orphant’s tear,
An’ he’p the pore an’ needy ones ‘at clusters all about,
Er the Gobble-uns’ll git you

Ef you
Don’t
Watch
Out!”

Scarecrow judging soon. Can’t wait to see who/what wins. It’s been such fun seeing how creatively creepy Sierra Madreans can be!
I am delighted to see that the Beantown folks are going to do their best to keep their doors open. In case you missed that link to contribute to the Keep the Doors Open effort, go to: <https://gofund.me/b34a9bd5>. If that doesn’t work, just search Gofundme for Save Beantown. John and I spent so many mornings there over coffee and oatmeal, seeing friends and just enjoying being there. John has been in heaven for five years now and would be so sorry to see this beloved place close. David, Matt and Joanna, you created a peaceful haven in our town for so many years. Let’s hope it keeps going for many more years to come.

My book page: Amazon.com: Deanne Davis
Where you’ll find “Sunrises and Sunflowers Speak Hope”
And “A Tablespoon of Love, A Tablespoon of Laughter”
Both of these books are stuffed with hope and a good recipe or two.
All five of the Emma Gainsworth pumpkin adventures are available on Amazon.com
They’re guaranteed to make you laugh and want to see what happens to Emma next.



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, October 9 Drug Violation Arrest
At approximately 12:30 PM, officers conducted a traffic stop in the area of Baldwin Ave, just north of Hampton Ave. After further investigation, it was discovered that both the passenger and driver were in possession of methamphetamine and drug paraphenilia. Both parties were arrested, and released in the field with citations.

Monday, October 10 Traffic Collision
At approximately 7 AM, officers responded to the 500 block of W Sierra Madre Blvd. for reports of a traffic collision. Upon arrival, officers discovered a traffic collision involving 2 vehicles. One of the involved parties complained of injuries, and was treated on the scene by Sierra Madre Fire Department Paramedics.

Friday, October 14 Burglary
Officers responded to the 700 block of W Sierra Madre Blvd. for reports of a burglary that occurred overnight. Upon further investigation, it was discovered that unknown suspects stole 2 Electric Bikes from the front porch of the residence. There is no suspect information at this time, and the Detectives Bureau is investigating the incident



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Weather Wise

6-Day Forecast Sierra Madre, Ca.

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

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

SIERRA MADRE CITY MEETINGS
SIERRA MADRE CITY
COUNCIL MEETING

October 25, 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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Read • Discover • Connect

This week at the
Sierra Madre
Public Library

October 24—29

Monday

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

Tuesday

Parent-Child Workshop—In-person at
10:00am.

Call 626-355-7186 to register

Thursday

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

Saturday

Community Ofrenda —In front of the Library

Craft It — In-person at 11:00am.

Read, Discover, Connect
@ Sierra Madre Public Library

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Applications and more information can be found here:
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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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Pasadena Altadena

News From Your Community For Your Community

City to Hold Día de los Muertos Celebration

Celebrate Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) with the City of Pasadena's Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department (PRCS) Friday, Oct. 28, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Villa Parke Community Center, 363 E. Villa St.

Join friends, neighbors and other community members to commemorate the centuries-old holiday with fun family-friendly activities, including arts & crafts with Armory Center for the Arts, face painting by talented make-up artists, performances by Aztec dance group Yankuitl, and ballet folklórico by Mexica and Lupita.

Attendees are invited to bring copies of photos, written stories, and other memories to honor and celebrate their ancestors on our community ofrenda, an altar honoring the lives of deceased loved ones. Food will be available for purchase.

For more information about this event, call (626) 744-6530, or visit: cityofpasadena.net.

South Pas Library Free Coffee Tasting

With Jones Coffee Roasters

Join the South Pasadena Public Library for a unique coffee tasting experience, courtesy of Jones Coffee Roasters. A fixture in the Pasadena area since 1994, Jones Coffee Roasters carefully selects coffee beans from around the world based on quality and sustainability. The Jones family is in its fifth generation of Finca Dos Marias, the company's family-owned farm in Guatemala. This coffee tasting will cover everything from seed to cup and is catered to challenge everyone, from the beginning coffee enthusiast to the veteran coffee drinker. This event will take place in the Library Community Room at 1115 El Centro Street on Saturday, November 19, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. Registration is required and space is limited. Register for this event at: southpasadenaca.gov/register.

The South Pasadena Public Library is located at 1100 Oxley Street in South Pasadena. Visit the Library website at www.southpasadenaca.gov/library for information about services and programs. The Library is open Monday, Friday, Saturday 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. and Sunday 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.



Council Approves Labor Agreements with Police and Firefighter's Unions

The Pasadena City Council announced Monday that they have unanimously approved multi-year labor agreements with frontline, police and fire, public safety personnel — the agreements were voted on as part of the council's Consent Calendar which consists of routine items approved by one motion and one vote.

According to officials, the agreements with the Pasadena Firefighters Association (PFFA) and the Pasadena Police Officers Association (PPOA) will provide the City's police officers and firefighters base pay increases of 4.5 percent each year in the first two years of the contracts, followed by a 4 percent increase in the third year and a 2 percent increase in the fourth and final year.

"I am delighted the City successfully negotiated labor agreements with our public safety personnel who work so hard for the community and sacrifice so much to keep us safe," Mayor Victor Gordo said. "These long-term contracts reflect the City's commitment to maintaining best-in-class police and fire departments that are able to recruit and retain high-quality police officers and firefighters now and into the future."

City Manager Miguel Márquez adds, "I am very pleased with the stability these four-year contracts provide to the City, to our public safety officers, and especially to the community we serve. World-class events like the Rose Parade and events at Rose Bowl Stadium and the Convention Center attract tens of thousands of patrons throughout the year."

I am grateful for the expertise and professionalism that our firefighters and peace officers display every day in the work they do for our community and for the thousands upon thousands of people who visit us every year."

According to city staff, In recent months, multiple law enforcement agencies in the Southern California region, including the cities of Beverly Hills, Culver City, Glendale, Inglewood, Irvine, and Santa Monica have provided substantial wage increases over the course of multi-year contracts to their sworn law enforcement personnel.

PPOA board member Cpl. Irvin Myles said "The Pasadena Police Officers Association is pleased that the City of Pasadena recognizes the importance of remaining competitive in the labor market. This wage increase will place Pasadena Police Department in a better position to attract and retain its valued employees."

The Pasadena Firefighters Association represents 155 full-time employees in the classifications of Firefighter, Fire Engineer, and Fire Captain engaged in fire suppression, search and rescue, and emergency service delivery.

Garrett Madrigal, PFFA president, added, "The Pasadena Firefighters Association is honored to sign this contract with the City, and we appreciate the value the City has placed upon public safety. PFFA also feels that this contract recognizes the dedication our members have shown every day to the citizens of our community, especially during this pandemic."

We look forward to continuing our partnership with the City to provide the highest level of service to our citizens and our members."

Pursuant to state law, the City of Pasadena engages in labor negotiations—also known as collective bargaining—with its employee associations in order to establish the terms, wages and working conditions of employment. The results of these negotiations are written agreements, otherwise referred to as memorandums of understanding (MOUs), reached between the City and its employee associations. Most recently, police officers received a salary increase of 0.5 percent in July 2021 as part of an MOU that expired March 30. Firefighters received a 2.25 percent increase in November 2021 as part of an MOU that will expire on Dec. 31.

Pasadena Humane Coyote Safety Workshop



Concerned about neighborhood coyotes? Interested in learning how to help keep them away? Then join one of our upcoming Coyote Safety Workshops this Sunday at Pasadena Humane.

In this interactive workshop, an expert in Wildlife Manager will share information about the urban coyote, demonstrate humane hazing techniques, and get you involved in a variety of activities so that you can peacefully – and safely – coexist with coyotes. Kids and families are welcome.

Pasadena Humane is set to hold two workshops Sunday, one starting at 11 a.m. and the other at 1 p.m. cost is \$5. For more information visit: pasadenahumane.org.

Caltech to Present Next Month Nobuntu Zimbabwe's Female a Cappella Quintet



Caltech Public Programming announced last week that Nobuntu the female a cappella quintet from Zimbabwe is set to perform, November 11, at 8 p.m. at Beckman Auditorium on the Caltech campus as part of its CaltechLive! performance series.

Nobuntu has drawn international acclaim for its inventive performances that range from traditional Zimbabwean songs to Afro jazz to gospel. The ensemble's concerts are performed with pure voices augmented by minimalistic percussion, traditional instruments, such as the Mbira (thumb piano), and energetic, authentic dance movements.

"We had intended to present Nobuntu this past January 2022, but due to the pandemic we had to reschedule. We are excited to have them finally onstage this fall at Beckman Auditorium—spreading their music and joy while opening our eyes and ears to African traditional and contemporary songs and dances," said Michael Alexander, Caltech's director of public programming.

The word Nobuntu is an African concept that values humbleness, love, unity, and family from a woman's perspective. The ensemble represents a new generation of young African women singers who celebrate and preserve their culture, beauty, and heritage through art. The ensemble's mission is the belief that music can be an important vehicle for change, one that transcends racial, tribal, religious, gender, and economic boundaries.

Over the last few seasons, the quintet has performed at festivals and concert halls in Italy, Austria, Germany, Belgium, the Czech Republic, and throughout the African continent. The ensemble was a huge critical success at festivals such as Trans-Vocal in Frankfurt and Voice Mania in Vienna. The group's first tour to Canada in 2016 included performances in Toronto, Winnipeg, Vancouver, and Victoria.

Nobuntu has released three recordings: Thina in 2013, Ekuya in 2016, and Obabes beMbube in 2018. The group has made dozens of television and radio appearances throughout Africa and Europe promoting these recordings and the culture of their homeland.

Nobuntu was nominated for Best Musician of the Year at the Zimbabwe International Women's Awards in London in 2015 and are currently a two-time winner for the Best Imbube Group at the Bulawayo Arts Awards 2017 and 2019.

Back at home, Nobuntu supports a number of community initiatives, including The Nobuntu Pad Bank, where they provide health support for young women in the arts from underprivileged communities.

Tickets are \$35 general admission, with a family incentive that includes \$10 tickets for youths with the purchase of a \$35 adult admission. They can be purchased online at events.caltech.edu or by calling the Caltech Ticket Office at (626) 395-4652 Tuesday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Police Dept. Fundraiser Pink Patch at El Portal Restaurant

Acting Pasadena Chief of Police, Jason Clawson, cordially invites the public to join the Pasadena Police Department to a Pink Patch Fundraiser at El Portal Mexican Restaurant for Breakfast, Lunch or Dinner on Wednesday, October 26. Present flyer, available for download on the cities

website: cityofpasadena.net, when you order your meal and 15 percent of the proceeds will go directly to City of Hope Pink Patch Project. Other merchandise will be sold there as well.

For additional information contact Officer Jasmine Thomas at (626) 744-7651 or email at: jathomas@cityofpasadena.net.

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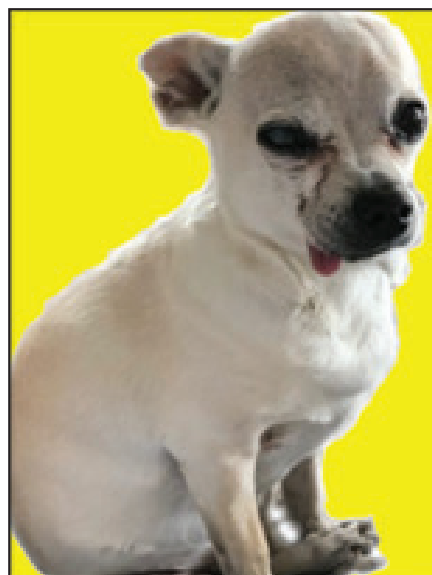
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San Marino Upcoming Events & Programming

Book Character Pumpkin Decorating Contest (All ages)
Saturday, October 1 – Sunday, October 23

Our spookiest literary pumpkin creations are back! Kids, teens, and adults are invited to submit a decorated pumpkin inspired by a book character to win a gift card to Vroman’s. Winners will be announced on Monday, October 31. Please visit CityofSanMarino.org/Pumpkin for more details and official rules.

San Marino Historical Society Speaker Series: David Judson

Monday, October 24 from 7 – 8 PM, Barth Community Room

In its Speakers Series, the San Marino Historical Society presents quarterly history talks focusing on topics specially selected for our town. The speaker will be David Judson, an artist established in Pasadena during the heyday of the Arroyo Culture and author of Judson: Innovation in Stained Glass. Registration is not required.

Family Storytime

Tuesday, October 25 at 10:30 AM, Children’s Area

Storytime features activities for children ages 5 and under that will promote early literacy and lifelong learning through songs, movement, fingerplays, and books. Storytime is also an opportunity for caregivers to learn ways they can incorporate learning activities into everyday routines. Storytime occurs weekly on Tuesday through December 20. Registration is not required. Please watch our social media for cancellations.

Meet the Librarian Team

Tuesday, October 25 from 4 – 7 PM, Schow Patio

Come submit your ideas regarding fresh, new library programming! Our team of Librarians is ready to gather your input about the services and programs that can support your quality of life, as well as your recreational and informational needs. We look forward to chatting with you! Light refreshments will be provided. Registration is not required.

Shop ‘till You Drop Holiday Shopping Shuttle to Fashion Island

Tuesday, November 8 from 10 AM – 3 PM

Cost: R: \$8 / NR: \$10

Time to get all your holiday shopping out of the way! Active adults ages 55 and up are invited to join us for a daytime shopping trip. Transportation and a promotional card with exclusive offers are provided. Reserve your spot by October 25!

Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm Installation for Residents

Did you know you can receive assistance with the installation of smoke and carbon monoxide alarms inside your home? The Fire Department offers San Marino resident’s home fire safety inspections and smoke detector installations through Operation: Fire Safe, a voluntary program intended to teach San Marino residents the dangers of fires and how to prevent them. Residents can schedule an inspection by contacting the Fire Department at (626) 300-0735 or email fire@cityofsanmarino.org. More information about Operation: Fire Safe visit: cityofsanmarino.org.

Earthquake Brace + Bolt Registration Now Open

Registration is now open for the California Residential Mitigation Program’s Earthquake Brace + Bolt program.

Earthquake Brace + Bolt helps homeowners lessen the potential for damage during an earthquake by offering grants of up to \$3,000 toward a seismic retrofit for qualifying older homes. Registration will remain open until November 29, 2022. For more information visit: earthquakebracebolt.com.

Library Board of Trustees

Monday, October 24 at 8 AM; Teleconference and Barth Room at Crowell Public Library

Planning Commission

Wednesday, October 26 at 6 PM; Teleconference and Barth Room at Crowell Public Library

City Council Meeting

Friday, October 28 at 8:30 AM; Teleconference and Barth Room at Crowell Public Library

Descanso Gardens Carved Returns through October 31

Carved at Descanso Gardens returns as a family-friendly Halloween event for all ages. For three weeks in October, hundreds of carved pumpkins will line the Camellia Forest. This year’s event will be bigger and better than before, with all kinds of new activities. Along with the pumpkins, the ever-popular pumpkin house, hay maze, and holiday-themed food and beverages will return. Guests can also enjoy UV “black light” experiences, artists sculpting pumpkins, and a special Day of the Dead (Día de los Muertos) installation at the Amphitheater.

Carved tickets are \$20–\$26 for Descanso Gardens members, \$32–\$38 for non-members.

Dates: October 7–31, 2022

Entry times: 6pm, 6:30pm,



7pm, 7:30pm, 8pm, 8:30pm & 9pm

Tickets: \$20–\$26 for Descanso Gardens members, \$32–\$38 for non-members
Phone: (818) 949-4200

For more information or tickets visit: descansogardens.org.



Schiff Urges the FCC to Expand Access to Low Cost Computers

Congressman Adam Schiff sent a letter Wednesday to the FCC calling for aggressive action to increase access to affordable laptops, computers, and tablets – in addition to high-speed internet access – so more low-income households can take advantage of a new federal government program that subsidizes high-speed internet.

In December 2021, the Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program, which provides low-income households with a monthly \$30 subsidy for high-speed internet, as well as \$100 to purchase a device like a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet. The program is funded by the bipartisan infrastructure bill, and works in partnership with some of the country’s largest internet service providers to provide the discounted services.

However, participating ISPs are not required to also offer the devices at the subsidized rate, hampering many households and families’ ability take full advantage of the program. To date, fewer than 10% of those ISPs are

offering the discount, which may be contributing to lagging enrollment.

“The pandemic has shown the importance of internet accessibility and high-speed broadband. We have seen our fellow Americans struggle to keep up with work, school, and relationships because of their lack of access to the internet. We also understand that access to the internet can help end cycles of poverty and is a critical part to ensuring upward mobility in our country. Our government should strive to make the internet available, accessible, and affordable to all Americans,” Schiff said in the letter.

In the letter, Schiff urged the FCC to take additional action to ensure that ISPs offer the discounted devices, which would allow participants to take full advantage of the subsidized internet services, in the hopes of increasing enrollment and awareness of the critical program to bridge the digital divide.

The letter is supported by the National Digital Inclusion Alliance, Human-I-T, Digitunity, and Compudopt.

To read the full letter visit: schiff.house.gov.

Facts as Voters to Decide on Library Services, Measure L

Pasadena public libraries play an essential role in providing safe, accessible and 100% free educational resource centers for everyone. Individuals and families, no matter their socioeconomic status, can count on Pasadena libraries to provide them with the resources they need to succeed and the answers to important questions they can’t otherwise find. In addition to their original purpose of providing information, Pasadena libraries provide early and digital literacy programs, school readiness programs, and free computer and Wi-Fi access.

“It’s no surprise that the Pasadena Public Library was founded years before Pasadena was incorporated as a city. Residents came together to support the funding of the first library by purchasing shares for as little as \$5. Since then, the Pasadena community has banded together to support the Special Library Parcel Tax: in 1993 with 79.9 percent support, in 1997 with 84 percent of the vote, and in 2007 with 80.4% of the vote. On Monday, July 11, the Pasadena City Council unanimously voted to support Measure L and our public libraries,” stated Mayor Victor Gordo.

After almost 15 years since its last renewal, the library revenue source will expire in February 2023 and can only be continued by a public vote. Therefore, this year, the City Council placed Measure L—the Pasadena Public Library Services Continuation Measure—on the November 8, 2022, ballot. Voters will decide whether to continue the dedicated, special revenue source for Pasadena Public Library programs and services. If approved, it will continue to generate approximately \$2.8 million annually for the next 15 years.

Pasadena Public Library serves as an important City institution that continuously

delivers on equity and inclusion for Pasadena residents. The libraries play a critical role in educating our children and youth, and are contemporary establishments looking into the future with programs that include robotics, computer coding, 3-D printing, and a hands-on lab for tinkering, designing, creating, and much more.

The parcel tax generates about 20% of the library budget. The revenue has been used to keep libraries open and well-maintained, purchase up-to-date books and materials, support library programs and services, continue to offer access to computers and Wi-Fi, and retain qualified librarians. It has enabled Pasadena Public Library to bring many technological improvements to the library, including an advanced search engine; a computerized magazine and newspaper index; a new online library catalog; and public access to the internet, with terminals at all library locations.

The operations of the Library and Information Services Department are funded primarily by the general fund and supplemented by the voter approved parcel tax. The following is a breakdown of taxes annually: Single Family \$40.86; Condominiums \$40.86; Duplexes & Larger \$26.83/unit Non-Residential \$298.99

For most taxpayers, this tax can be deducted from federal income taxes. Exemptions are provided for qualified seniors, disabled, and low-income owners.

If the existing funding through the Pasadena Public Library Services Continuation Measure (Measure L) is not maintained, the library would lose approximately \$2.8 million annually, or 20% of its budget, which may lead to the closure of neighborhood library branches, a reduction of books and collections, a reduction in library hours, the loss of qualified librarians, and cuts in other significant programs and services offered to our community.

Whether there’s a family looking for a fun story time, an immigrant in need of language resources, an unemployed individual searching for job help, or a community member who needs help on their taxes, the library has something to offer.

For more information cityofpasadena.net.

Tournament: Sneak Peek at 2023 Rose Parade Floats



As the Pasadena Tournament of Roses prepares for the 134th Rose Parade presented by Honda, they offer the first in a series of sneak previews of floral float entries that will inspire and charm our worldwide audience from Colorado Blvd. on January 2, 2023.

Since the first Rose Parade in 1890, each float entry presents a unique theme and visual story that bring their vessel to life. The theme of the 134th Rose Parade — “Turning the Corner”—is reflected in the official renderings for float participants BAZIC Products, Cal Poly Universities, City of South Pasadena, Donate Life and Lions Club International.

The floats will journey the 5.5 mile Parade route displaying their symbolic and spectacular storytelling sure to be embraced by millions of streetside and broadcast viewers from across the country and around the world drawn to America’s New Year Celebration.

City of South Pasadena (pictured left top)

South Pasadena Tournament of Roses is the oldest self-built float in the Rose Parade, having constructed and decorated their floats since 1893 to promote community spirit and volunteerism. The 2023 entry for the City of South Pasadena, Spark of Imagination, highlights the imagination and creativity of children but with a twist, mice! The float depicts winners of the science fair, a crazy house with spinning gears and the goof clock on the house has hands that are spinning out of control. Several types of bark (eucalyptus, melaleuca and sycamore), along with sycamore and liquid amber leaves can be found on this colorful and playful float. The float also features fourteen diverse types of roses (Free Spirit, Blush, Orange Crush, Stiletto, Star 2000, Britton, Atomic, Showbiz, Voodoo, Hot Expression, Royal Explorer, Nina, Hard Rock and Full Monty). The Rose Parade float is a tradition in the City of South Pasadena that brings their community together through fundraising, building and decorating each year.

BAZIC Products (pictured left middle)

Celebrating 25 years in business, the BAZIC Products float inspires people across the country and around the world the importance of education in our future generation. Known for its wide variety of supplies ranging from office and school to writing tools, BAZIC Products takes pride in offering national quality school supplies that are affordable, making educational supplies more accessible for everyone. The theme of the float is Launching Our Future Generation and features three kids in a rocket representing the vision and creativity of our youth to rise above any circumstance. On and surrounding the float are a diverse group of celebratory graduates of varying ages and education levels. The float uses lentils,

rice, split peas, seaweed and poppies, and more than 10,000 roses.

Cal Poly Universities (pictured left bottom)

Cal Poly Rose Float has participated in the Rose Parade since 1949 and is a joint program between Cal Poly Pomona and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. They have continuously designed, built, financed, and decorated the only student-built float entry in the Parade. Over the last 74 years, Cal Poly Rose Float has been the first to introduce innovative technologies on multiple occasions winning more than 60 Float Awards. This year, Cal Poly has taken a small, often overlooked part of nature and scaled it up to the point where viewers are the insects. The float’s theme, Road to Reclamation, encourages the audience to take a deeper look at the nature around them. A sense of awe for the regenerative power of nature lets the audience reflect on how the ending of one phase can bring opportunity to the next.

Donate Life (pictured right top)

The 2023 Donate Life Rose Parade float, Lifting Each Other Up, celebrates the power of organ, eye and tissue donation, with donors and recipients working together to support one another. A spectacular Asian street dragon is the centerpiece of the float. In Asian cultures, dragons symbolize great power, good luck and strength. They bring prosperity and abundance. A colorful dragon winds through flowering trees, lanterns and fans, and is emblazoned with 44 memorial floragraphs, representing those who have given the gift of life. The dragon will be supported on poles by living donors, and surrounded by organ, eye and tissue recipients, whose lives have been transformed and have turned the corner to a more auspicious future, thanks to those who said “YES” to organ, eye and tissue donation. A traditional paifang bridge is featured in the back of the float, with a special message in mandarin that highlights the power of the Gift of Life.

Lions International (pictured left middle)

Lions International is the largest service organization in the world with 1.4 million members in 50,000 clubs. They first displayed a float in the 1948 Rose Parade and since 1992, they have continuously presented a float in the Parade. For more than 30 years, the Lions International float has told inspirational stories about how the world’s largest humanitarian service organization serves a world in need. The 2023 float features Lions and Leos planting trees, picking up litter, tending a garden with nutritious food and three ornate bridges that symbolize bringing people together and bridging the gap between local and global needs. Supporting this mission and riding on this year’s float are Lions International President Brian Sheehan and his wife, Lori Sheehan.

AROUND SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

The Chef Knows *By Peter Dills*

CRAFT BY SMOKE AND FIRE

Long before the internet my father, Elmer Dills, would go into a restaurant and steal a copy of the menu for the restaurant he was reviewing. Why? Simply so he could remember all the dishes that were offered and their prices so he could ensure that his article was correct.

Speaking of past critiques, the LA Times had a review called “First Impression” which is, as it sounds, a review that spotlighted a restaurant on its first visit by the reviewer. I think a restaurant should at least be given the opportunity for its paint to dry before any review or post is made. Another reviewer, Merrill Shindler, who I respect and admire for his 40 years of reviewing, restaurant feels if they are charging full price then they are ready for a full review.

So, here goes! I went to the new Craft by Smoke and Fire restaurant at the newly renamed “Shops at Santa Anita” in Arcadia for lunch, and here is my first impression: Located in the space last occupied by Wood Ranch BBQ, Craft has continued the BBQ theme and my first impression is A-OK!! It wasn’t perfect – maybe because it was lunchtime and had only one server and one busboy to take care of all the tables, but our server Mariah sure gave it an all American try, no excuses. Menus were on time and water arrived quickly. If she had time perhaps a few suggestions would have been helpful, but this isn’t my first BBQ joint, so I went right for the Beef Brisket (\$26) with a side of chili a la Du Monde beer. My table mates opted for sandwiches including Brisket Grilled Cheese and the Southern Fried Steak that the menu describes as legendary (\$18). My quick poll got thumbs up from all - was everyone just hungry? No, they seemed sincere. My only other thought (besides Mariah not having help) was the proverbial manager coming by to ask how everything was, or in my mind, I just didn’t feel a sense of urgency for me to come back tomorrow. Maybe with a full staff I would or might. Friends have raved and I see potential. Is it the post-COVID syndrome of lean and mean? My days of eating at Robins Wood Fire BBQ were not matched, but the prices were very reasonable. As Napoleon said, “I will return”... or was that George C. Scott?

All things considered, my first impression is a thumbs up!

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PUSD OPEN ENROLLMENT 2023-24

Sibling and Program Priority Applications for Fall 2023

pusd.us/openenrollment

Siblings and students continuing to 6th/9th grade in Signature Programs: Apply online Oct. 24, 2022, 9AM - Nov. 14, 2022, 4PM

- **Siblings:** Siblings of an enrolled PUSD student who live at the same address and will attend the same school/program at the same time
- **Program Priority:** PUSD students advancing to 6th or 9th grades and continuing in the same program at the next school (IB, STEM/Arts magnet, dual language, math academy)
- Results Available Online: by Dec. 1, 2022, 11:59PM
- Register: by Dec. 19, 2022, 4PM to confirm placement

Neighborhood School Registration for Fall 2023

pusd.us/register

Neighborhood school registrations begin Dec. 1, 2022

- New to PUSD TK-12 students who prefer their neighborhood school
- Current PUSD students who are advancing to 6th or 9th grades and prefer to attend their neighborhood school
- Note: Lottery applications are required for all dual language programs.

Choice lotteries to request another PUSD school or a Dual Language Immersion Program for Fall 2023

pusd.us/openenrollment

First Lottery applications: Jan. 9, 2023, 9AM - Jan. 27, 2023, 4PM

- New and continuing TK-12 students residing in PUSD may apply for schools other than the student's neighborhood school or for a dual language immersion program
- Children of full-time PUSD & City of Pasadena employees
- Families who missed the sibling/program priority application period
- Results Available Online: Feb. 16, 2023 by 11:59PM
- Register: Feb. 17, 2023, 9AM - Feb. 27, 2023, 4PM

Second Lottery applications: Mar. 6, 2023, 9AM - Mar. 10, 2023, 4PM

- New & continuing TK-12 students residing in PUSD who missed the first lottery
- Results Available Online: Mar. 17, 2023 by 11:59PM
- Register: Mar. 20, 2023, 9AM - Mar. 27, 2023, 4PM

1st and 2nd Lottery participants not offered their 1st choice may remain on waitlists for their preferred choices until Aug. 3, 2023

Transfer Requests for Fall 2023

pusd.us/forms

Intradistrict & interdistrict permit requests begin Mar. 27, 2023

- Intradistrict permit requests for students who live in PUSD and want to participate in school choice after enrollment lotteries have closed
- Interdistrict permit requests to attend PUSD for students who live in another district (ongoing; requires release from district of residence)
- Requests to relinquish a permit for a choice school to return to the student's neighborhood school (ends Aug. 3, 2023)

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.bcschools.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 Darwin 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) 229-5880 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
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(626) 471-2000
Website: www.monroviaschools.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
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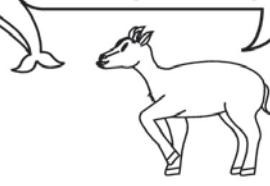


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...wearing make-up instead of masks.



Kids: color stuff in!

Happy Hallooooooween!

Is your costume ready for Halloween? It's fun to create a costume and surprise friends at parties or neighbors' houses while "Trick or Treating" from door to door. It's exciting to get treats and surprises in your Halloween bag!

Read the helpful safety tips below to keep everyone safe while having lots of fun!

Keep Safe!

1. Make-up will let you see better than using a mask.
2. Wear light-colored clothing or bright, glowing paints!
3. Have a flashlight so you can see and be seen.
4. Walk with friends and have an adult nearby.
5. Only visit well-lighted houses in known neighborhoods.
6. Have Mom or Dad check all goodies before eating.

I like the licorice gummy mice best!

Add more **healthful** treats to your Halloween fun!

Follow the dots to see who the ghost is warning...

Hey, yooooou! Hop out of here before you end up in the brew... or a stew.

Friendly witch is brewing up sweet treats as well as more healthful choices for Halloween! **Six of these treats are in her cauldron. Can you find and circle them?**

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raisins
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candy corn
lollipops
Crispy
Peanut Butter
Pumpkin Seeds
pumpkin seeds
peanuts
animal cookies
granola bars

Have a bewitching time!

popcorn
veggie chips

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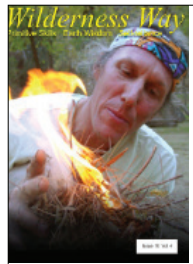
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CHRISTOPHER Nyerges



IN SEARCH OF SOMETHING

[This is a section of a chapter in Nyerges' latest book, "Watermelon Dreams," stories of his childhood. Nyerges is an educator and author of about two dozen books. More information can be had at www.SchoolSelf-Reliance.com]

I don't recall the first moments that I began to ask questions about some of the dogma of Catholicism that I had hitherto simply accepted and taken for granted as fact. But first, let's go back to the beginning, as much as possible.

Though I didn't have any particular affinity for the "going to church" experience, per se, I did feel respect for the individual of the priest, and for the organization of the church and its rich history. But to go to church meant to get up early, to wash, to get dressed up in good clothes, to walk the five or six blocks to the church, and then to sit there, usually bored while something was going on up on the altar.

I respected the priest. I knew that he had some unique training, that he was special.

He had special knowledge, and a closeness to God. I wanted those things.

Sometime before first grade, I shared with my mother that I wanted to be a priest when I grew up. Not that I knew what all that entailed, but I felt that somewhere within that life-choice of "priest" was where I wanted to take myself and where I wanted to be. To me, it meant genuine holiness, eating simple food, a monastery, Saint Francis, close to nature, meditation, maybe fasting, prayers, songs, being close to God. ...

My mother seemed interested and showed me pictures of the clothing that priests wore, and explained how she could buy some that would fit me, or she could sew some. We could then "play priest" in the backyard in the patio. We talked about how we could fix up the back patio to be an altar of sorts, and how I could wear those priest garments, and perform a pretend Mass in the backyard. Who would attend such a pretend Mass, I wondered? But all the talk was about the need for clothing, a chalice, the details of the altar, and the trappings of the priest business. We didn't actually discuss what it was that I would do once we got all the stuff. I was too young to initiate any action on my own, and so nothing ever came of it, which is actually a good thing, because when I said "I wanted to be a priest," I did not mean that "I want to wear the clothes of a priest and pretend to be a priest."

I often thought about the nature of priesthood and what it would mean to take vows to that idea, to that belief. I never quite accepted the idea that a nun or priest was "getting married to Jesus" or "getting married to God." The nuns at our Catholic school would sometimes show us that they wore a ring to show that they were "married to Jesus." At least, that's what I recall they said – some of them could have said they were "married to God." Whatever. Marriage, to me, connoted many things within the context of a human relationship, but it did not seem to be the sort of relationship you'd have with "God." To me, back then, that commitment seemed far deeper than that with which most couples enter the typical marriage. Perhaps I just thought about it all too much. ... I needed to "get into in," to quote Ken Nordine. I wanted the "experience" of one with God, but no one presented the "how" to me and I didn't know what to do or how to ask.

I recall my mother telling me that it was a mortal sin if you miss Mass on Sunday. I remember thinking that my mother got that one wrong, that the Church must mean that missing Mass was only a venial sin, which is a lesser sin than a mortal sin. But I learned that she was correct, that in one of the councils, or maybe by papal edict, sometime in the year 1000 it was declared that attendance at Mass was mandatory, and that it was a mortal sin to not attend! But still, to me, to not attend a church on Sunday really seemed more of a violation of a rule of membership, but not what I would consider a sin or even a moral lapse. I certainly couldn't see missing Mass was somehow on the same level as killing a person. ...

And that was the beginning of the end to my absolute mindset that I must attend Mass every Sunday if I wanted to avoid time in Hell. And I really did want to avoid time in Hell, described as "eternal" burning damnation! But it took years to alter the effects of what I'd been taught.

[This chapter continues in "Watermelon Dreams" by Nyerges, an e-book available from Kindle]



FAMILY MATTERS

By Marc Garlett

WHAT IS "DIMINISHED FINANCIAL CAPACITY," AND WHY IS IT SO DANGEROUS FOR SENIORS?

The National Institute on Aging estimates that nearly half of all Americans will develop some form of dementia, such as Alzheimer's Disease, during their lifetime. And while the cognitive decline brought on by dementia affects a variety of different mental functions, one of the first mental abilities to go is often one's "financial capacity."

Financial capacity refers to the ability to manage money and make wise financial decisions. Cognitive decline brought on by dementia often develops slowly over many years, so a diminished financial capacity frequently goes unnoticed—sometimes until it's too late.

Moreover, studies have shown that seniors' confidence in their money-management skills can increase as they age, which puts them in a potentially perilous position. As seniors begin to have trouble managing their money, they often don't realize they may be making poor choices, which makes them easy targets for financial exploitation, fraud, and abuse.

If you are concerned a parent or other elderly family member may be having financial capacity issues, it is imperative you speak to a trusted estate planning attorney before the situation gets any worse. An experienced attorney can help you put the right estate planning tools in place to protect your elderly family members and their assets from the cognitive decline brought on by dementia and other forms of incapacity.

Once again, don't wait to tackle this if it's a concern in your family. After a person's cognitive decline reaches a point of incapacity – which is a quasi-legal/medical determination – many of the planning options that would have been available become obsolete. Legal planning works best if it's put in place well ahead of when it's needed.

Best,

MARC

Marc Garlett, Esq.
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Matters
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SIERRA MADRE ROSE FLOAT ASSOCIATION SEEKS APPLICATIONS FOR PRINCESSES/AMBASSADORS

The Sierra Madre Rose Float Association is once again seeking applications for the position of Princess/Ambassador (in any combination of female/male) to represent the City at local functions and activities and to ride on our float on January 2, 2023 in the Rose Parade® presented by Honda!

This year we are searching for up to four (4) Princesses/Ambassadors who will not only have the honor of riding on the Sierra Madre float, but will have the pleasure of speaking to the Sierra Madre City Council and local service organizations and clubs. In addition, they will assist with float decorating and contribute to publicity opportunities. We will follow current Covid-19 guidelines throughout our float season. Unvaccinated candidates are requested to wear a mask. Princesses/Ambassadors will have a very exciting and educational year!

Application Guidelines and Process:

- 1) Applicants must be 15 to 18 years old, have a 3.0 grade average, and be a resident of Sierra Madre. Princesses and Ambassadors must be available to participate in the speaking engagements and during our Deco Week (December 26 – January 1).
- 2) Applications may be picked up at City Hall, the SMRFA barn on Sundays, or downloaded from the Sierra Madre Rose Float Association website: www.sierramadrerosefloat.org
- 3) Applications must be received at the SMRFA post office box, OR placed in an envelope and put under the door of the Float Barn at 587 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. OR emailed to info@sierramadrerosefloat.org by Friday, October 28, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. Applications submitted later than October 28th will not be considered.
- 4) Applicants must be able to attend judging interviews on the afternoon of Sunday, October 30th. Our new Royal Court will be announced within 10 days of the judging. The Sierra Madre Rose Float Association Royal Court will be presented to the membership on Sunday, November 20, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. at The SMRFA Barn, located at 587 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre.

For more information or questions, please contact Gwen Robertson, 626-272-1702 or send an email to info@sierramadrerosefloat.org.

Katnip News!



IT'S SHOW TIME!

These cuties are ready for their starring role in a loving, forever home! Two siblings were just adopted, so now these three have a chance to shine! At 3 mos. old, Mr. Peets is a big boy, but melts in your arms when cuddled. Joe is black and white, with that special black "mask." He's smaller than Mr. Peets, but he's mighty, and makes his presence known! Beautiful tortoiseshell sis-ter, Mocha, is sweet and mellow, but can hold her own with her brothers. All of them are cuddly, affectionate, friendly, and playful. We ask that you adopt two unless there is another young feline at home. Mr. Peets and Joe would be great together. They will already come spayed/neutered, micro-chipped, vaxed, tested healthy, and more! That's big savings for you! Get the process started to meet them by submitting the application at www.lifelineforpets.org.



Can't adopt? Please share with someone who can. We want these babies in their forever homes asap. Thank you!

Pet of the Week

Just like his Addams Family's namesake, Fester is missing a small amount of hair. Unlike the famous follicularly challenged Uncle, this Fester is likely to have a luxurious coat when his fur grows in.

Fester is a two year-old shepherd mix, and an active one! He loves exploring the play yard and chasing toys. His fetch game needs improvement though, as the chasing is much more fun! His favorite one so far is the ball, but then he finds a rope toy, no, wait, it's the stuffed toy!

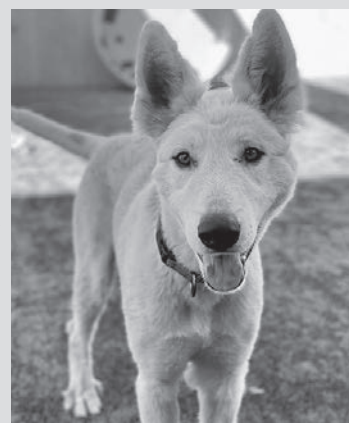
This Fester cannot generate electricity, but it shouldn't shock you that he is a really friendly and fun dog and will be a great addition to any family!

The adoption fee for dogs is \$150. All dog 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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ASSISTED LIVING OR NURSING
HOME?

There are many myths about Assisted Living being like Nursing Homes. This is not true at all. Nursing facilities are for those with chronic health issues who require care around the clock from medical professionals.



In Assisted Living, one will get the support as needed, such as getting help with showering, grooming, and dressing. Again, these services are based on the seniors needs.

There are many reasons in working with us. At Safe Path for Seniors, we will assess the senior and depending on their care needs and budget, make recommendations. For example, we may suggest that the right fit is a Board and Care Home (normally a 6-bedroom house) as opposed to an Assisted Living Community or a Memory Support Facility. You will work with an experienced agent who knows the industry well and will give you recommendations. The good news is that there is no cost for this service.

If you have any questions about placing a loved one, visit www.safepathforseniors.com or call Steve at 626-999-6913

WHAT YOU'LL PAY FOR MEDICARE IN 2023

Dear Savvy Senior:

I've read that retirees will be getting a nice cost-of-living increase in our Social Security benefits next year but what about Medicare? What will our Medicare Part B monthly premiums and other Medicare costs be in 2023? Planning Ahead



Dear Planning:

From an entitlement program standpoint, 2023 is going to be a very good year for retirees! Not only will you receive a nice 8.7 percent cost-of-living increase in your Social Security retirement benefits – the largest since 1981 – the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services also recently announced that your Medicare Part B standard monthly premium will be lowered 3 percent (\$5.20) from the current rate of \$170.10 per month, to \$164.90/month in 2023.

The reason for the reduction is a correction to last year's hefty Part B premium increase, which was larger than it needed to be. The 2022 premium hike of about 14.5 percent was announced amid uncertainty about the potential impact of a new Alzheimer's drug called Aduhelm, which threatened to explode Medicare costs. That didn't happen. The cost of the drug was cut roughly in half from an original \$56,000 a year and Medicare sharply limited coverage. This created a large financial reserve for Part B, allowing the program to reduce next year's premium.

You'll also be happy to know that in addition to the premium reduction, the annual deductible for Medicare Part B will also be lowered \$7 from \$233 in 2022, to \$226 in 2023. And if you have a Medicare Part D prescription drug plan, the average premium in 2023 will be about \$31.50, which is a 1.8 percent decrease from \$32.08 in 2022.

But the news isn't all rosy. The deductible for Medicare Part A (hospital coverage) per benefit period (which generally starts when you are admitted to the hospital) will be \$1,600 in 2023, up \$44 from this year's \$1,556. That applies to the first 60 days of inpatient care. For the 61st through 90th day, the coinsurance will be \$400 per day, up from \$389 this year. And for days 91 to 150, the charge will be \$800 per day (up from \$778 in 2022).

And the skilled nursing facility coinsurance for days 21-100 will also increase to \$200 per day, up from \$194.50 in 2022.

Wealthy Beneficiary Breaks

High earning Medicare beneficiaries, which makes up about 7 percent of all Medicare recipients, will also receive a break in 2023. Medicare surcharges for high earners are based on adjusted gross income from two years earlier, which means that 2023 Part B premiums are determined by 2021 annual income.

So, if your 2021 income was above \$97,000 up to \$123,000 (\$194,000 up to \$246,000 for married couples filing jointly), your 2023 Part B monthly premium will be \$230.80, down from \$238.10 in 2022.

Monthly premiums for singles with an income between \$123,000 and \$153,000 (\$246,000 and \$306,000 for joint filers) will decrease from \$340.20 to \$329.70 in 2023.

Individuals earning above \$153,000 up to \$183,000 (\$306,000 to \$366,000 for joint filers) will see their monthly premium decrease from \$442.30 to \$428.60 in 2023.

Those with incomes above \$183,000 up to \$500,000 (\$366,000 to \$750,000 for joint filers), your 2023 Part B premium will be \$527.50, down from \$544.30 in 2022.

And single filers with income of \$500,000 or more (\$750,000 or more for joint filers) will pay \$560.50 per month next year, versus this year's premium of \$578.30.

High-income beneficiaries with a Medicare Part D prescription drug plan will also pay a little less next year. If your income was over \$97,000 (\$194,000 for joint filers) you'll pay a \$12.20 to \$76.40 monthly surcharge on top of your regular Part D premiums based on your income level.

For more information on Medicare's 2023 costs see [Medicare.gov/basics/costs/medicare-costs](https://www.medicare.gov/basics/costs/medicare-costs).

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

SENIOR HAPPENINGS



HAPPY BIRTHDAY! ...OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS*

Janda Ferris, Darlene Traxler, Margit Johnson, Sole Krieg, George Maurer, Dick Anderson, Eva Poet, Mary Jane Baker, Dixie Coutant, Jill Franks, Cathleen Cremins, Adie Marshall, Darlene Crook, Susan Gallagher, Maggie Ellis, Gloria Giersbach, Ellen O'Leary, Jenny Piangenti, Anita Thompson, Linda Boehm and Angela Stella * To add your name to this distinguished list, please call the paper at 626.355.2737. YEAR of birth not required

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 play 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 Thursday, 10/13 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 Oct. 12 and Oct. 26 — 9:00 am Staff has launched a new book club series, Tea and Talk, which meets twice a month to discuss the fun, suspense, intrigue, love and so much more that each selection will have in store!

FIBER FRIENDS Tuesday, 10/4 and 10/18 —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, Oct. 11 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.

LOTERIA: Oct. 20 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm Come down to the HPH (Hart Park House) for a lively round of Loteria (Mexican Bingo) Prizes await!

OCTOBER CRAFT Tuesday, October 25 10:30am Hart Park House Have you ever had interest in balloon art? Well you are in luck! Join Recreation Coordinator Pardo as she instructs us on how to create a cat, bat or pumpkin balloon column. Space is limited so please call or email Lawren to reserve your spot.

SENIOR CINEMA Wednesday, 10/12— 1:00 pm **HUBIE HALLOWEEN** PG-13 1h 43m ALFRED HITCHCOCK'S Good-natured but eccentric community volunteer Hubie Dubois finds himself at the center of a real murder case on Halloween night. Despite his devotion to his hometown of Salem, Massachusetts (and its legendary Halloween celebration). Wednesday, 10/26 – Beginning at 1:00pm **THE BIRDS** PG 1h 59m ALFRED HITCHCOCK'S

SPECIAL MEDICARE PRESENTATION NEW DATE! Thursday 10/20, 9:00 am-10:00 am Hart Park House Please join Duarte Councilmember Vihn for a Medicare presentation. Pastries and coffee will be served during this informative presentation. Space is limited, call Lawren to reserve your spot.



OUT TO PASTOR
A Weekly Religion Column by Rev. James Snyder
HOW OLD IS TOO OLD?

I have never thought too much about my age. After all, you cannot choose when you will be born. Age is just a matter of thinking, and thinking is not my strong suit.

I never really thought about being old. I'm not exactly sure what the real definition of old is.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage recently asked me, "How old do you think you are?" I'm not quite sure what the incident was about.

I never know if what she is asking is rhetorical or something actually true. To question your wife is a borderline disaster.

On my last birthday, we went out to a restaurant to celebrate. As I was finishing my dessert, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage looked at me with one of her mischievous smiles and said, "Well, how old do you feel?"

Without thinking, which is my MO, I reached across the table, took hold of her arm, squeezed it, and said, "I feel old now?"

Unfortunately, she did not think it was funny, even though I was laughing.

Getting old is a natural process. You go from one birthday to the next birthday to the next birthday. I've had so many birthdays that I can't remember most of them. My question along this line is, if I can't remember how old I am, can I make up my age at my convenience?

Believe it or not, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage responded to that. I'm not allowed to share her response, for obvious reasons.

Most people think that getting old is a very negative thing. I used to think that to a certain degree. But I am beginning to discover some good advantages to getting old.

I was at a certain restaurant, and when I went up front to pay the bill, I, with a big smile on my face, asked if I could get a discount. I was just joking.

To my surprise, the person behind the counter looked at me and said, "How old are you?" I had to think for a moment, and then I told her how old I was. When I said that, she replied, "Well, if you are that old, you qualify for a senior citizen discount."

Up to that point, I had never heard of a senior citizen discount, but I was glad to hear about it and cheerfully accepted that discount. I heartily respond to any discount for me. Any discount is change in my pocket.

Coming home the other day, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage met me and asked if I remembered to pick up something at the store for her. Looking at her, I simply said, "Oh, my. I guess I'm getting so old I couldn't remember."

She replied with something I shall never forget, "That's okay." I only wished I had my tape recorder running when she said that.

That brought me to another benefit of getting old. All I have to say is that I'm so old I forgot and my mind isn't what it used to be, and my forgetting is forgiven.

Pondering this, I was reminded of my paternal grandfather. He was known for being so very forgetful. Everybody blamed it on his age, which he supported most heartily.

I remember talking to him one time before his passing and asking him, "Grandpa, why is it that you forget so many things?"

He looked at me, winked, and said, "Forgetting is an art. Not too many people can do it sufficiently." "What do you mean?" I said.

"Forgetting is a legitimate way of getting out of doing something you don't want to do." So he stopped and laughed for a moment and continued, "It takes a lot of memory to be able to forget as much as I do, and it has nothing to do with age."

I began learning a little more about my grandpa as he explained it. If he didn't want to do something, he hung it on his old age and forgetting. I don't know anybody who has built on that better than my grandfather. I was beginning to understand him now that I'm at a certain age.

Some people think getting old is a bad thing. Oh yes, there are some things I cannot do today that I could do 50 years ago. But that's not the issue. The issue is to take advantage of your age, especially if it's "old age." "Old age" has certain advantages that did not come with being young.

When invited to go somewhere I don't want to go, it is easy for me to say, "I'd love to, but at my age I just don't have the energy." I then can flash a smile and get off going to the place I didn't want to go to in the first place.

When I was young, I took advantage of being young. I have the scars to prove that, of course. But now that I'm old, I need to take advantage of old age. And as a country boy, I plan to milk my old age as much as possible.

The Bible says some very positive things about getting old. My favorite verse on this subject is, Proverbs 16:31, "The hoary (grey) head is a crown of glory, if it be found in the way of righteousness."

I'm not the only one that is getting old. Everybody gets old, but the "way of righteousness" is the key.

Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala, FL with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail jamessnyder51@gmail.com, website www.jamessnyderministries.com.



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STUART TOLCHIN

PUT THE LIGHTS ON

MELANIA TRUMP THE PROPHET



Do you remember way back on September 28, 2012 when the wife of the then (and I hope only then) President of the United States on her way to visit a migrant child detention center wore a \$39 jacket emblazoned with "I really don't care, do you?" What a prophet she was. Today as I opened my cell phone the New York Times headline I read "Voters see Democracy in Peril, but Saving it isn't a Priority". My wife and I just returned from an East Coast trip and immediately noticed that much of the community has been busy displaying creatively carved pumpkins for Halloween. Many lawns display monsters and witches. Last week's Mountain Views News is filled with a front page story about the need to save a local restaurant landmark while the inner pages are devoted to arguments and counter-arguments relating to the Meadows Project. It is not for me to criticize the newspaper since to me it is a major miracle that I am allowed to publish my thoughts and concerns and I care very much about the responses to the article.

Since I returned the major realization I have had is that everyone is very busy and agrees that Democracy is in peril but they are too busy to even think about doing anything about it. My mind pictures Melania Trump and her stupid jacket with its message that she doesn't care much about anything but herself. She was upset that people thought she cared and wanted to correct that misassumption. As stupid as her action was, today I think she should be applauded for her willingness to actually do something to correct what she thought was wrong in the world. Her message of not caring about anything but herself turns out to be a prophesy about the nation's indifference to a very possible destruction of all of our most important values.

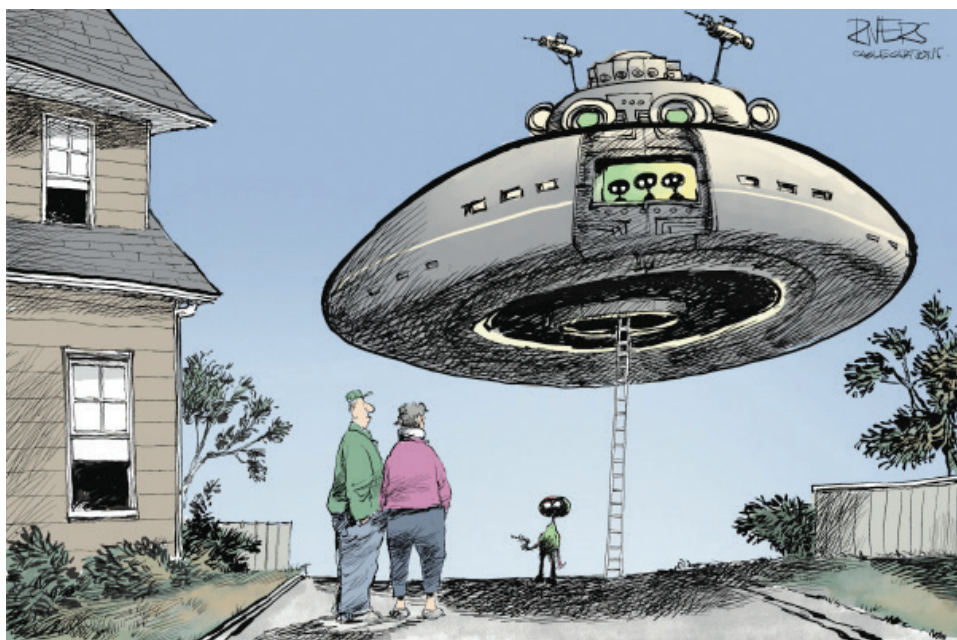
To me the present seems like a very bad dream. A substantial segment of America seems content to just create chaos. This is very hard for me to understand but I guess it is a reaction against what they recognize as challenging their established beliefs in White Supremacy and male dominance and the fear of immigrants. Talks of equality are threatening to them and related expanded social services which involves governmental monies being used to help the needy and the homeless is understood to be a threat to their personal stability. They believe that taxes are already too high and that people who were not fortunate enough to be born White and born in the United States simply are not entitled to have the opportunity that their choice of birthplace and race and perhaps gender has already given to others.

If democracy means that these less fortunate people will be given more opportunity then Democracy itself must be defeated and the status quo of unequal opportunity must be preserved. It sickens me to even write this but factually I don't know what I can do about it. Each day my emails are filled with requests for donations—so many requests that I have become desensitized. I, like everyone else I guess, am surrounded by threatening news of climate disasters, ongoing wars, corrupt politicians, questionable science, threats of disease and more. Throw in predictions of possible use of nuclear weapons and it's all too much. I understand why people would rather decorate for Halloween and argue about the consequences of the Meadows project, and feel concern about the interruptions to their children's education. All of these shootings have made just walking around a fearful experience and I guess everyone feels the need for more security and from identity theft.

We all have our own personal concerns, which contrary to the secure Mrs. Trump, which are now being threatened. I CARE about the maintenance of Social Security benefits and the availability of quality medical services. I CARE about my granddaughter's future in terms of educational cost and quality and her future safety on this threatened planet. Melania Trump was able to do something about her own discomfort by displaying a sign that said I DON'T CARE. I DO CARE but frankly I don't know what to do. I realize that this whole article is simply a cry for help. Please help me and help yourself by noticing what's going on and making it a PRIORITY to do something about it. I don't think voting and monetary contributions are enough but I don't know what else to do. Hoping this is all a bad dream and waiting to wake up to a sane world can only provide solace for a while but if it works for you keep doing what you are doing.

Surprise. It's Thursday morning—6:30 A.M. I just took out the trash, fed the dog and opened the door for a dog walk. Right at our door step was a lovely woman bring the delivery from Costco right to our door. I am reading the Geena Davis Biography and looked her up on line and learned that she has been diagnosed with ADD. Guess what? I was told years ago that I was a poster-boy for ADD. Still today Geena is doing fine and really so am I and hopefully so are you. Yes I CARE but all we can ever do is take it one day at a time and it is a beautiful sunrise morning perfect for dog walking.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN



"WE TRAVELLED 300 LIGHT YEARS TO DESTROY YOUR SPECIES BUT THEN WE WATCHED YOUR NEWS BROADCASTS AND REALIZED YOU'RE DOING IT FOR US."



Susan Henderson,
Editor/Publisher

Mountain News News ENDORSEMENTS:

Every election, the Mountain Views News brings together its 'Editorial Advisors' to discuss the candidates and issues that are on the ballot. When done, we have our endorsement list to share with you.

SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL -
(Experience and past community service weighed heavily on this decision

GENE GOSS
EDWARD GARCIA
KRIS LOWE

NO ON MEASURE HR - A submission from Planning Commissioner Peggy Dallas best explain the reasons for this decisions. I yield this space to Commissioner Dallas:

I'm on the Planning Commission and know more about the Meadows project than most people in town.

I'd love to understand why those who support Yes on HR think it is a good choice.

I suspect there are a lot of misconceptions out there as to what HR will and won't accomplish. I may be wrong.

Please note that the three people who wrote the Yes on HR statement for the ballot info are all neighbors to the Meadows project.

Do I want the land to stay a meadow? Absolutely! But it is private property, and something is going to be built there. That's a fact. It is private property, and the owner has chosen this path through legal due process for two years now.

The city, with public input and with the city council and planning commission negotiating with the developer, has gotten many benefits for the town and significantly reduced the sizes of the homes.

Look at the Specific Plan on the city website (see link below) to see the sizes of the homes (average home size is 3,500sf) and the varying styles (craftsman, modern, Spanish, farmhouse) and colors. No home will be repeated on any street. The 100 trees being removed will be replaced with 490 trees.

Given all the various possibilities, including institutional, for development of the property, the Meadows development is beneficial for both the property owner and the town.

The project has some cool attributes like the new 3-acre park, additional parking for Bailey Canyon and grey water systems for each home. Also, storm water run-off will be captured in a reservoir under the park so that it can seep back into our local aquifer. I have worked too hard and long on this with the Planning Commission to see all the benefits and concessions lost - including the nearly \$1 million that the developer is paying the city for future water which may be used to repair/replace the aging city water lines.

Sadly, if HR passes, the city may instead be paying massive legal fees because the property owner may sue for loss of property value and rights.

Peggy Dallas,
Planning Commissioner
Link to Specific Plan:
<https://www.cityofsierramadre.com/common/pages/DisplayFile.aspx?itemId=19018422>

RICH & FAMOUS SNAPPY ANSWERS TO STUPID QUESTIONS

As a "wannabe writer", I have encountered the works of countless heroes I could thank. (Not "countless" because there are so many... countless because I'm lousy at math.)

One writer, in particular, is an American cartoonist, Al Jaffee. His major literary success and accomplishment? 65 years of contributing to Mad Magazine!

Al's most memorable contributions are a series of books entitled "Snappy Answers to Stupid Questions." A veritable treasure chest of answers we would love to retort when queried with a certifiable "stupid" question. Questions like these:

- #1. A man sitting at the end of a pier with a fishing line in the water and a fish in a barrel by his side.
"Did you catch that?" "No, I talked him into giving himself up."
- #2 A woman standing next to her identical twins
"Are they twins?" "No, they're a pair of identical strangers."
- #3 Same woman on her hands and knees on her front lawn
"Are you looking for something?" "No, I'm grazing."
- #4 A man sitting in a chair with a dog in his lap
"Is that your dog?" "No, it's my neighbor's dog. My dog is next door in my neighbor's lap."
- #5 A woman strapped into an electric chair in a prison
"Did you kill somebody?" "No, I'm here on a parking violation."
- #6 A man out on the highway with his car jacked up and a tire next to him
"Are you changing a flat tire?" "No, I rotate my tires every day out in the middle of nowhere."
- #7 A waiter with a pot of coffee standing at his customer's table
"May I pour some coffee in your cup?" "No, in my lap - I'm a little chilly."

Enough "stupid" questions. How about some silly and ironical questions to stimulate conversation with your children?

1. Are there male ladybugs? If not, why not?
2. If animals could talk, which animal would be the rudest of them all?
3. You're asked to create a new holiday. What would you name it and how would we celebrate it?
4. If you were instantly a superhero with a power that no other superhero has, what would your superpower be?
5. Why do round pizzas come in square boxes?
6. If you own a piece of land, do you own it all the way to the center of the earth?
7. Why do we say that an alarm clock goes 'off' when it actually goes on?
8. Do hummingbirds hum because they can't remember the words?
9. Do penguins have knees?
10. Why do the words 'overlook' and 'oversee' have opposite meanings?
11. Why do we say 'after dark, when it's really 'after light'?
12. Why are there 'selfhelp' groups?
13. If you decide to describe yourself as indecisive, are you decisive or indecisive?
14. Why isn't the word 'gullible' in the dictionary?
15. Can you blow up a balloon underwater?
16. Why can't we hum while our noses are plugged?

On Saturday night, October 29th my band, JJ Jukebox, will be performing our now traditional Halloween concert at Nano Café in Sierra Madre. The event is also a celebration of someone I know's birthday which is actually on Halloween (answers a plethora of questions about me).

Your presents are not necessarily welcome, but your presence is. How long has it been since you heard songs like, "The Monster Mash", Theme songs to "The Munsters" and "The Addams Family"? Come enjoy a wonderful meal, drinking and dancing.



SOFTBALL ENHANCES PLAYER DEVELOPMENT WITH SPECIAL ENRICHMENT CLINICS

Highlights from Last Sunday at Heasley Field – Sierra Madre Girls Softball’s Fall teams continue to impress here at Heasley Field every Sunday, while our premier “Select” Teams battle elite competition all around SoCal.

Pictured here, 8 year old Lucille Pazmino stands ready at the plate, as the Blue Falcons pitcher prepares to deliver. Later that day, the 12U team Pink Fury saw strong hits by Evan Cuento, Emily Lencioni, and Meleina Martinez, who also pulled off a successful steal of home. Paloma Moon, who is now famous for her triple-play last week, pitched three solid innings, with Luna Borboa coming in as the closer.

Overall, 24 softball teams come through Heasley field every Sunday to play. The league is operating at a record level in participation and regional success. This is entirely thanks to a richly talented Board and, as is seen throughout Sierra Madre, amazing volunteerism from parents to coach and guide the girls.

SMGSA's Board Activities Director Jaime Covey has planned a powerful series of clinics to enhance the players' experience. Working with SMGSA coaches, regional college coaches and players, as well as elite counselors in personal motivation, every registered player gets free access to these special people to take their skills, goals and sportsmanship to the next level. Recently USA Softball directors attended one of these local clinics at Heasley. Blown away at the attendance and quality of content benefitting the girls, they filmed the event as an example to leagues nationwide.

On another positive front, SMGSA's Board Umpire Director Stephanie Schwartz who is a former SMGSA player successful college catcher, continues her great work with USA Softball to train Junior Umpires who have gone out to earn real money officiating games around the region. This program, and the sportsmanship of Sierra Madre's coaches and visiting parents when they travel for games, has established SMGSA as a leader in Southern California.

About SMGSA: Sierra Madre Girls Softball Association offers local girls ages 5 to 14 the opportunity to grow their softball skills, confidence and good sportsmanship in a positive environment. For more information, visit smgsa.org and follow SMGSA on Facebook @ [sierramadregirlsoftballassociation](https://www.facebook.com/sierramadregirlsoftballassociation) and Instagram @smgsa.

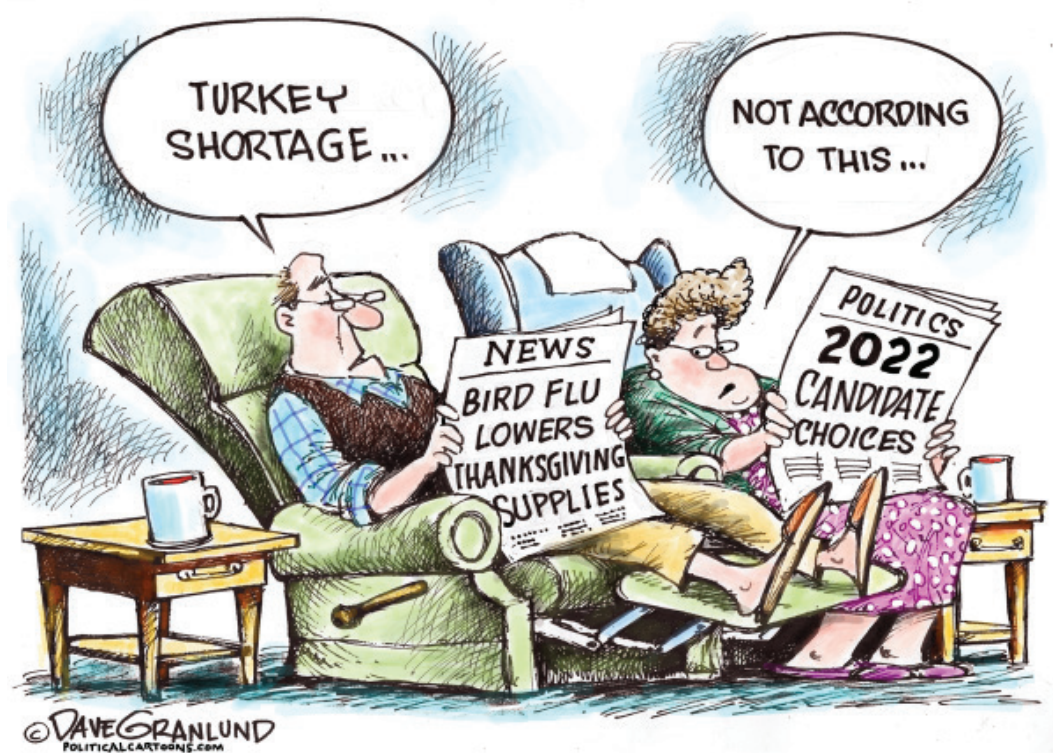
KEY CONTACT:
Russ Meek, SM Girls Softball President
626.827.5011 / sierramadregirlsoftball@gmail.com



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