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Offered at \$1,649,000

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webbmartingroup.com

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ART IS ALIVE AND WELL IN SIERRA MADRE!

Our little town has always been a place where creativity flourishes. Painters, potters, sculptors, photographers, writers, actors, and others have lived and created here for decades, and a number of folks dedicated to keeping the arts alive are working hard to bring more attention to our growing art scene.

For many years our annual Art Fair has brought in thousands of art lovers to Memorial Park, where they can acquire unique paintings, ceramics, textiles, jewelry, and more.

The non-profit Creative Arts Group has been a mainstay here for 65 years, dedicated to bringing the arts to our community by offering classes and hosting art events.

A few years ago The BAG (Baldwin Avenue Gallery) opened its doors to our town so all could enjoy modern art, sculpture, and photography. Owners Mary Hoffman-Serr and Michael Todd Serr have worked tirelessly to not only show stunning works each month for us to admire and acquire, but have also devoted their time to helping people in need of support, such as those affected by cancer. Up the hill from The BAG we have the LMF Gallery and Darkroom, opened last year by Xristine Franco who brings years of experience as an artist, curator, and gallery owner. Each month the LMF has exhibited works by both renowned and emerging artists, including painters, sculptors, and photographers. The darkroom has space for photographers to process film and print photographs.

More recently, a town Art Walk committee has been formed, with twelve art enthusiasts working on having local artists and businesses collaborate on bringing people to walk around our town to visit those participating businesses who donate space for artists to show and sell their work. The first Art Walk will be held from 4-8 on Friday, June 20. Local artists who want to participate can text Xristine Franco at 909-788-0176 or email her at thelmfla@gmail.com. Sierra Madre businesses who would like to partner with artists may contact Kait Walsh at sealed-withakait@gmail.com

For more information on the Sierra Madre Art Walk, you can find their page on Instagram. CURRENT AND UPCOMING EXHIBITS:

The Sierra Madre Art Fair will be held on May 3 and 4 at Memorial Park. Go to www.sierramadreamartfair.org for details.

At The BAG, be sure to check out the "Common Thread" show before the end of the month, where you can enjoy impressive works by eight Armenian artists. Abstract painters Michael Todd-Serr and Gorman Bentley will be the featured artists in May, with the opening reception held on May 10th. See www.baldwinavenuegallery.com for more information.

The LMF Gallery is currently exhibiting the works of well-known artists Stuart Fineman, Alan Greenberg, and Yoella Razili. Next month will show the abstract works of Sierra Madre native Laurie DeVault. Her reception is also on May 10th, so it's a great evening to be out in our town enjoying some inspirational art! More information can be found at www.thelmfla.org

To learn more about the Creative Arts Group, please visit their website at www.creativearts-group.org



HEIDI HARTMAN: SIERRA MADRE'S 2025 OLDER AMERICAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Sierra Madre Senior Community Commission unanimously to select Heidi Hartman as Sierra Madre's 2025 Older American of the Year. She has worked tirelessly (and still does) as a volunteer to help make Sierra Madre a great place to live.



Heidi was born and raised in the land of Wistaria and raised three wonderful children, all the while being a teacher. She worked with a small group of parents to raise funds to rehabilitate and preserve the historic SM School auditorium raising close to \$200,000.

Other accomplishments include:

In 2021 she was awarded the Spirit of Sierra Madre Award by the Chamber of Commerce for her extraordinary support for the City of Sierra Madre through volunteerism:

She was one of the founding members of Sierra Madre's and Cancer Society's first Relay for Life, which led to the founding of Sierra Madre's Spero Foundation. She was one of the original five establishers of the Spero Foundation, which took over fundraising for Hops for Hope, the Wine Walk, and the Wine, Rhythm and Blues events.

She's been a docent for the Wistaria Festival, an active member of the Civic Club Volunteer and Coordinator of the Halloween window painting, Scarecrow contest.

In 2004 she joined the Sierra Madre Civic Club, becoming a 2023-2025 Board member.

As a Fourth of July committee member worked with the fun run children for years She sponsored the original July 4th Firecracker Fun Run, and became active on the Mt. Wilson Trail Race Committee.

In 2014 she started taking art classes at Creative Arts Group, becoming a Board member in 2015 and, in 2025 became the CAG Board President. And that is a partial list!

In January 2025 she responded to Bethany Church's call for post-fire donations and continued when their "Donation Center" became the "Distribution Center". When it moved behind the YMCAs Youth Activity Center, she continued to run what is now known as the very active "Fulfillment Center". Heidi continues to asks for and receive donations at the Center, where she may be found four to five days a week.

May is Older American Month and is a time to acknowledge the contributions of past and current older persons to our communities. Older Americans Month is celebrated across the country and Heidi's formal recognition will be held on May 8th at the Hart Park House, followed by City Council recognition on May 13, 2025.

Charming 1922 Renovated Spanish Bungalow



1650 E. Orange Grove Blvd.
Pasadena, CA 91104

3 Bedrooms | 2.5 Baths
Approx Square Footage 1,948 Sq Ft
Lot size 12,500 Sq Ft | Price \$1,875,000

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Sierra Madre Public
LIBRARY

LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE

Check Out All the Library Has to Offer

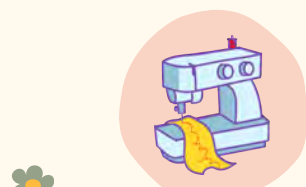
Sensory Play!



Local History &
Foundation!



Library of Things!



Sewing &
Cricut Machines!



3D Printing!

Prizes & Giveaways!



TUESDAY, APRIL 29
4:00 - 6:00 PM
350 W. SIERRA MADRE BLVD.



"The Sierra Madre congregation is a close-knit, authentic, and welcoming community striving to serve God and neighbor. I enjoy the intimate bonds and the serious study of God's plan for our lives."
—Doug Hurley

212 N Lima St, Sierra Madre, CA 91024
626-355-1817
www.sierramadrechurch.org

Sunday Worship, 10:00am, Refreshments and Talk Back, 11:15am

An Easter Sermon Series – Sundays, March-May 2025

"The Prelude to the Cross in the Old Testament"

The heart of God that we have seen in the past is most intimately revealed in the cross of Jesus Christ.

Come join us for the final month of our Easter series!

Speakers – Check out sierramadrechurch.org for the list of dates.

Dr. Ron Cox is Dean of



International Programs and Professor of Religion at Pepperdine University.



Doug Hurley is Associate Dean of Student Affairs at Pepperdine.

Dr. Tim Willis is Old Testament Professor of Religion at Pepperdine.



Dr. Allen Jang is a retired science teacher and presently Sifu of our Tai Chi class that meets on **Saturdays at 8:30am.**



SUMMER 2025 ALVERNO Heights Academy

3 EXCITING CAMPS,
1 BEAUTIFUL LOCATION!

DATES: JUNE 16 – JULY 18
DAILY: 8AM – 3PM
EXTENDED CARE: 3PM-6PM

Jamboree Camp

Open to all children 3.5 years old to children entering 3rd grade in the fall.

SummerScapes Innovation Camp

Open to all rising 4th – 8th grade students in the fall.

Camp Galileo

Enrollment now open for Camp Galileo at Alverno Heights Academy!



Register Today!



alvernoheightsacademy.org | 200 N. Michillinda Ave, Sierra Madre 91024 | (626)355-3463

Moffett's
Chicken-Pie Shoppe

Moffetts FAMILY RESTAURANT
"Home of the famous pot pie"

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Sun 8am to 2pm
Breakfast from 8am to 2pm
Lunch & Dinner Served All Day
Early Bird Special Mon - Fri 8am to 11am

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For Pick-up Call: 626-447-4670



SIERRA MADRE POLICE DEPARTMENT WEEKLY ACTIVITY REPORT APRIL 13 – APRIL 19, 2025

	Calls for Service	Formal Investigations
April 13 to April 19 2025	241	7
Total Year to Date for 2025	4,157	187

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.

Wednesday, April 16 Battery

At approximately 6:45 PM, officers responded to the 80 block of E Alegria Ave regarding a domestic violence call in progress. Based on the officers investigation, a male and female who are married and living together were engaged in a verbal argument which turned physical. Both of the children were present during the altercation. The male was arrested for spousal battery and was transported to Pasadena Jail. This case has been forwarded to the LA County District Attorney's office for filing considerations.



ST. RITA SCHOOL

CAMP RAIDER SUMMER PROGRAM

TK-8TH GRADE
JUNE 16-AUGUST 8, 2025

ACADEMICS
ATHLETIC TRAINING
SCIENCE
COOKING
LEGO ROBOTICS
TECHNOLOGY
DANCE
CHESS
AND MORE...



SPACE IS LIMITED!
SIGN UP TODAY!

WWW.ST-RITASCHOOL.ORG

322 N. Baldwin Ave.
Sierra Madre, ca 91024
626-355-6114

NIXLE

Sign up for important messages from your city!

Text 91024 to 888777



Community messages are used to convey everyday local news, happenings, and developments.



Advisory messages are intended to communicate important, need-to-know information. For example, the Police Department will send out bear sighting notifications using this format.



Alert messages are reserved for critically important information where loss of life and/or property is potentially imminent. Alert messages are time-sensitive and require your immediate action

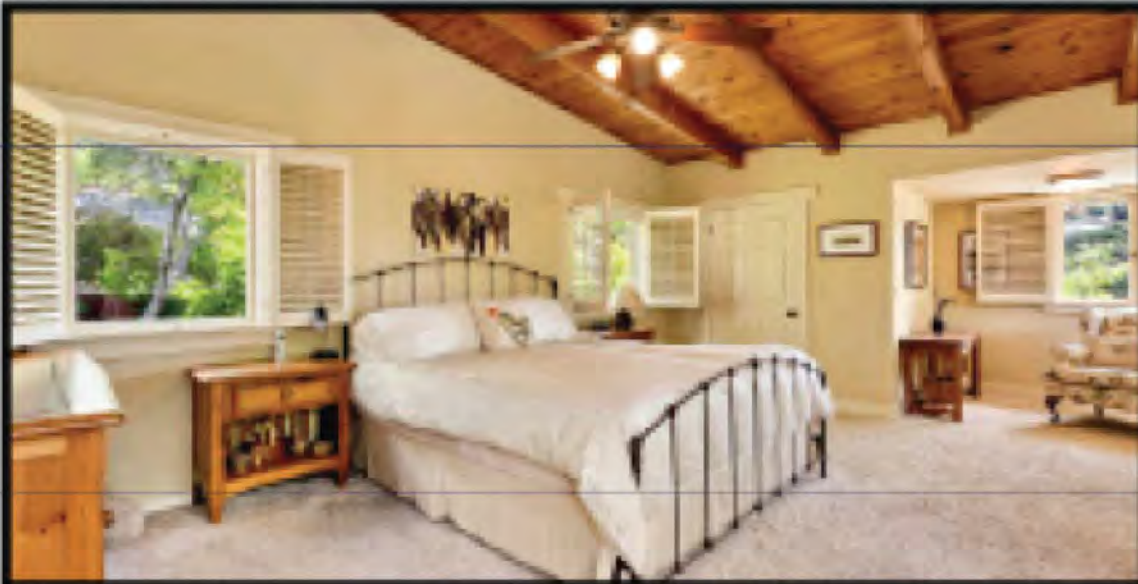
By default, residents who are signed up for Nixle alerts will only receive email alerts for advisory messages. We recommend that our residents opt in for text messages for advisory and alert messages

WELCOME TO THIS RARE OPPORTUNITY - FIRST TIME ON THE MARKET IN 47 YEARS!

483 East Grandview, Sierra Madre, CA 91024



Nestled in the most desirable area of Sierra Madre, this custom-built Craftsman spans over 3,000 square feet, offering a seamless blend of timeless character and modern comfort with a multi-level open floor plan with custom oak wood flooring throughout.



The thoughtfully designed craftsmanship, and abundant natural light make this home truly special. Every window frames stunning views of majestic mountains and untouched wilderness, creating a peaceful retreat unlike any other property you have ever seen. This home features six spacious bedrooms and four full bathrooms, providing ample space for family and guests. The expansive chef's kitchen is perfect for entertaining, offering generous counter space and an inviting atmosphere. Step outside to your private oasis featuring a heated pool with a jacuzzi, perfect for year-round relaxation and entertaining. Don't miss this rare chance to own a one-of-a-kind property with unparalleled views and privacy.

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, 4/26 from 1pm-4pm

Sunday, 4/27 from 1pm-4pm

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REALTOR® | LIC# 01846104

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WWW.THEOPULENTGROUP.US



Weather Wise



6-Day Forecast Sierra Madre, Ca.

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

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

SIERRA MADRE CITY MEETINGS SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

May 6, 2025 5:30 pm
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@Cityof-SierraMadre.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.

WALKING SIERRA MADRE - The Social Side

by Deanne Davis

“When I started counting my blessings, my whole world turned around.” Willie Nelson

“If the only prayer you ever say is ‘thank you’ that would be enough.” Meister Eckhart

“Gratitude is when memory is stored in the heart and not in the mind.” Lionel Hampton

It’s been a while since January when I told you all that my word for this year is Thankful. Well, I am; so I thought I’d share a few things I am thankful about...

- So thankful I am slowly but surely recovering from breaking my femur.
- So thankful for Spring and flowers everywhere...especially daffodils.
- ...for family, who are the best people in the world.
- ...for Motrin and 500 mg. Tylenol.
- ...for that first delicious cup of coffee in the morning.
- ...for Swiffer dusters...I can now remove the dust from my furniture!
- ...for a joyful Easter celebration. Nine people were baptized in my church!
- ...for all the Eggnog ice cream I bought last December which I’m still enjoying.
- ...for granddaughter, Emily, who came to my house yesterday and changed lightbulbs for me.

- ...for all the friends who exchange text messages with me every day.
- ...for all the flowers sent to me on my birthday...so much beauty.
- ...for Amazon where I can order absolutely anything.
- ...for peanut butter, the easiest dinner in the world, a peanut butter sandwich.
- ...for cottage cheese, the easiest breakfast, lunch or dinner.
- ...for my neighbors, Jay and Sarah, who will help me with anything I can’t do yet, like take my trash bins out to the curb.
- ...for the hummingbirds who are buzzing around the lemon tree blossoms.
- ...for the new little olive tree that’s taking the place of the tree the wind took out.
- ...for being able to almost balance my checking account. Close is good enough, right?
- ...for Netflix where I can almost always find something to watch.
- ...for chow mein from Panda Express.
- ...for sushi with soy sauce and sweet and sour sauce.
- ...for God, who hears and answers prayer.

...for new life! The picture today is of Miss Olivia Lee Cleland who is now almost seven months old. She is our newest great-granddaughter.

We could all probably go on for days like this. Sometimes we are out of sorts and kind of have to look under the couch to find a blessing, but they’re there, friends and neighbors, reasons to be thankful.

Once upon a time in a land far far away, a woman lived in a tiny cottage deep in a beautiful forest. Every day she walked in her forest and admired everything she saw; bees perched on tiny wildflowers taking sips of delicious nectar; butterflies would light on her shoulders and she would ask them where they had been and where they were going. And they would tell her. A field of wild strawberries grew behind her little cottage and she would make herself strawberry bread every now and then. Here is her recipe and now you can, too!

STRAWBERRY BREAD

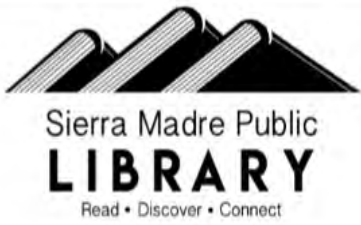
- 16 oz. strawberries
- 4 eggs
- 1-1/4 cup oil
- 3 cups flour
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1-1/2 cups sugar
- 1 cup chopped nuts

Preheat oven to 350 degrees, combine wet ingredients in mixer, separately combine dry ingredients. Slowly add dry items to mixer and mix in nuts by hand. Or, if you don’t like nuts, leave them out. Grease and flour two 5 x 9 bread pans, pour in batter, bake 50-60 minutes. Let cool in pan for 10 minutes, remove to wire rack and add glaze:

- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1 TB butter, softened
- 2 TB milk
- 2-3 TB strawberry jam

As she ate her strawberry bread, she was thankful! You will be, too.

Check out my book page on Amazon...
Delightful Treasures to be found there for Kindle or regular books.
Deanne Davis Amazon.com



This week at the
Sierra Madre
Public Library
April 28 — May 3

Monday

Baby Rhyme Time — Library at 9:00am

Preschool Storytime — Library at 10:00am

Tuesday

Library Open House — Library from 4:00pm—6:00pm

Thursday

Popsicle Stick Art Begins — Library

Saturday

3D Printing Basics — Library at 12:00pm

FOL Art Fair at Memorial Park — In-person from 9:30am—5:00pm

Read, Discover, Connect
@ Sierra Madre Public Library
350 W Sierra Madre Blvd.
(626) 355-7186

EATON AND PALISADES AIR MONITORING UPDATE

DIAMOND BAR – The South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) continues its expanded air monitoring efforts in response to ongoing debris removal efforts near the Eaton and Palisades fire areas. Air monitoring will provide data for particulate matter (PM2.5 and PM10), air toxics (such as lead and arsenic), and asbestos in communities near the burn zones.

The public within and near the Eaton and Palisades burn areas is strongly encouraged to follow the safety precautions outlined by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health to minimize the potential risk of exposure to ash, soot, and fire debris. Strong winds can carry ash and soot over a wider area, increasing the potential for exposure, so it is especially important to take extra care during weather fluctuations and windy conditions.

Monitoring Site	Sample Date	Air Toxics	Asbestos	Continuous PM2.5/PM10
Near Altadena Golf Course	4/10/2025	All air toxic metals were within background levels	Not Detected	To date, continuous PM2.5 and PM10 data were below federal standards
	4/13/2025	All air toxic metals were within background levels	Not Detected	
	4/16/2025	All air toxic metals were within background levels	Not Detected	
Christ the Shepherd Lutheran Church	4/10/2025	Air toxic metal beryllium was above background levels, but does not pose a health risk	Not Detected	
	4/13/2025	All air toxic metals were within background levels	Not Detected	
	4/16/2025	All air toxic metals were within background levels	Not Detected	
Fire Station 11	4/10/2025	All air toxic metals were within background levels	Not Detected	
	4/13/2025	All air toxic metals were within background levels	Not Detected	
	4/16/2025	All air toxic metals were within background levels	Not Detected	

All available data can be found at: www.aqmd.gov/lawildfires or directly on the data dashboard at: xappp.aqmd.gov/WildFireMonitoring.

South Coast AQMD is the regulatory agency responsible for improving air quality for large areas of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, including the Coachella Valley. For news, air quality alerts, event updates and more, please visit us at www.aqmd.gov, download our award-winning app, or follow us on Facebook, X (formerly known as Twitter) and Instagram.

Pasadena Two-Day Watering Now in Effect

In accordance with Pasadena's existing Level 2 Water Supply Shortage Plan, up to two days a week of outdoor watering is allowed from April through October. Even-numbered addresses may water on Mondays and Thursdays, while odd-numbered addresses may water on Tuesdays and Fridays.

All outdoor watering must be done before 9 a.m. or after 6 p.m., with exceptions for hand-watering, tree health, and other water conserving methods, such as low flow drip irrigation systems.

For Pasadena residents and businesses interested in converting their thirsty turf to water wise landscapes, Pasadena Water and Power (PWP) offers rebates in partnership with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. View these programs and other water saving resources at PWPweb.com/TheRippleEffect.

PWP provides electricity to more than 65,000 customers within Pasadena. PWP delivers water to nearly 38,000 households and businesses in Pasadena and adjacent communities in the San Gabriel Valley. As a community-owned utility, PWP is a not-for-profit public service owned and operated by the City of Pasadena for the benefit of its customers and the community.

For complete details about outdoor watering days, visit PWPweb.com/WateringSchedule.

Pasadena Chorale Listening To The Future Concert

Showcasing New Works By High School Composers

Pasadena Chorale announced Friday they are set to present the ninth annual Listening to the Future concert on Tuesday, May 20 at 7:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in Pasadena. Listening to the Future celebrates the creativity and innovation of the next generation of composers with an evening of premieres by four exceptional high school students.

"Listening to the Future is about more than just showcasing young talent," said Jeffrey Bernstein, Founding Artistic and Executive Director of the Pasadena Chorale. "It's about providing students with a platform to express themselves through composition, while also giving our audience a glimpse into the future of choral music."

The concert is free and open to the public. Seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Tickets are now available at <https://givebutter.com/lttf2025> (reservation required to attend).

Baseball Infields Close to Lead Exposure

City of Pasadena Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) Department officials announced April 18 the closing of baseball infields at Washington Park and Victory Park until the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health results are available for elevated lead levels above the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). The DTSC screening threshold is 80 parts per million.

According to officials, community members who use the infields will be notified about the closures and redirected to turf fields. Robinson Park, Hamilton Park, and Alice's Dog Park are outside the identified neighborhoods but, out of an abundance of caution, exposed soil will be tested at these three locations. All three of these parks will remain open during testing.

"We are taking proactive steps to help ensure that our parks are safe for all visitors, especially young children who are most vulnerable to lead exposure," said Koko Panossian, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services. "Our community's health and safety remain our top priority as we work closely with public health officials to help keep our parks a healthy and welcoming place for families to gather, play, and connect."

Individuals who are concerned



about potential exposure to lead from wildfire can obtain blood lead testing for themselves, and their children, in one of three ways:

Visit Your Medical Provider

- Ask your doctor for a blood lead test.

- Testing is covered by most insurance plans, including Medi-Cal.

Go to a Quest Lab for a Free Blood Lead Test

- Dial 1-800-LA-4-LEAD to request a free appointment

through Quest Labs.

- Simple, convenient, and confidential.

In-Person Mobile Blood Lead Testing

- For a limited time, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health will offer FREE mobile blood lead testing Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. at Eaton Health Village/Pasadena Seventh Day Adventist Church 1280 E. Washington Blvd.

More information can be found at: publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/wildfire/index.htm.

PWP Earns Prestigious Awards



Pasadena Water and Power (PWP) announced Thursday that they were recently honored with three prestigious distinctions from the American Public Power Association (APPA): a Safety Award of Excellence, an Excellence in Public Power Communications Award, and a Smart Energy Provider designation. With these important recognitions, PWP further establishes itself as an industry leader.

"PWP is honored to be recognized by the APPA," said PWP Interim General Manager David Reyes. "As a public power agency, PWP is a community-owned, non-profit organization. That means we put our community first by operating at a high level in all aspects of our business, from communications to sustainability. We take great pride in being a leader in the industry and are honored to receive recognition for our business practices."

Each year, APPA conducts the Safety Awards of Excellence Program to recognize the public power utilities that prioritize safety in their day-to-day operations. Based on safety data from 2023-2024, PWP received a Gold designation for the APPA Safety Awards of Excellence.

Additionally, PWP is one of only nine agencies in the state to earn the Smart Energy Provider designation by demonstrating a commitment to and proficiency in energy efficiency, distributed generation, and environmental initiatives that support the goal of providing safe, reliable, low-cost, and sustainable electric service.

The Smart Energy Provider

designation, which lasts for three years, celebrates utilities committed to serving their customers while planning for the future. PWP demonstrated leading practices in four key disciplines: smart energy program structure, energy efficiency and distributed energy resources, environmental and sustainability initiatives, and customer experience.

PWP also earned an APPA Excellence in Public Power Communications Award. APPA recognized PWP in the print and digital category for the "Outtawattas Color and Activity Book." The book features interactive games and activities designed to increase awareness and enthusiasm around water and energy concepts, efficiency, and safety. According to APPA, its annual communications awards program acknowledges utilities that demonstrate ingenuity and creativity in storytelling through outstanding copy, design, graphics, video editing, and web interactivity. PWP is one of 23 agencies nationwide to earn this award for 2024.

These prestigious accolades come on the heels of PWP's designation as a Reliable Public Power Provider (RP3), a top tier marker for providing reliable and safe electric service. APPA awarded PWP the Diamond level RP3 designation, which is conferred to the top 5 percent of public power utilities nationwide.

To download the award-winning activity book, or to view other family friendly learning materials, visit PWPweb.com/Education. For information about PWP's vision for the future of sustainable energy, visit PWPweb.com/PowerIRP.

No Cost Consultations with Family Navigator

Director of Libraries and Information Services, Tim McDonald, and the department are offering free consultations for parents and caregivers of young children, ages 0-5, with a family navigator, in partnership with the Pasadena Public Health Department. Office hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to noon at the Jefferson Branch Library, 1500 E. Villa Street. Beatriz Dzul Perera, family navigator for the Pasadena Public Health Department, is available for drop-in appointments to answer questions in English and Español about resources and support, including questions about healthcare, developmental screenings, school enrollment, childcare or other family needs. Walk-ins are welcome, no registration is needed.

This service is provided by Pasadena Public Health Department as part of the Cal-InSPIRE program, a state-funded public health program designed to provide innovative supports for families who have children with special healthcare needs. After their consultation, families are encouraged to stay and use the Jefferson Branch Library and its many resources, services, and activities for learning and play.

For information on services available for families of children with special healthcare needs, call (626) 744-8046.

Tribes Vow to Rebuild after Ceremonial Grounds Burn



Baltazar Fedalizo at Taraxat Paxaavxa

Native American-Led Pow Wow on Parade opens disaster relief warehouse in San Pedro, the largest coordinated relief efforts following the LA Wildfires.

By Dean Lee

Although local leaders for the Gabrieleno/ Tongva and other tribes in Southern Californian still have not decided how to rebuild ceremonial grounds in Altadena destroyed in January during the Eaton Fire –they are determined to rebuild.

"There is nothing left but the rocks, the house is smoked out, other building are burnt down, it stood for 125 years," said Baltazar Fedalizo Principal/Co-Founder Pow Wow On Parade Foundation.

Known as Taraxat Paxaavxa, the site included a five-bedroom house, and a cottage built from stones in the area. "There a thousand tribes in California so any tribe that's local here they come here and do their worshipping, there is a sweat lodge here," he said.

The property was given via land transfer in 2022 to the Tongva Taraxat Paxaavxa Conservancy according to tongva.land.

Time Change Announced for 2025-26 Rose Bowl Game

ESPN and the College Football Playoff (CFP) announced dates, kick times and broadcast information for the Playoff Quarterfinals, Playoff Semifinals and the national championship game for the 2025-26 edition of the postseason event.

The 2025-26 Playoff schedule includes a New Year's Day tripleheader of Quarterfinal games on ESPN with new kickoff times: the Capital One Orange Bowl (9 a.m. PT/noon ET), the Rose Bowl Game presented by Prudential (1 p.m. PT/4 p.m. ET) and the Allstate Sugar Bowl (5 p.m. PT/8 p.m. ET) will all start earlier than their traditional windows.

Rich Clark, executive director of the College Football Playoff said "All three bowls shifting their start times allows us to place each game in an ideal window on New Year's Day and provide the optimal viewing

experience. New Year's Day and college football are synonymous with each other, and these changes only strengthen that relationship."

"The Pasadena Tournament of Roses is confident that the one-hour time shift to the traditional kickoff time of the Rose Bowl Game presented by Prudential will help to improve the overall timing for all playoff games on January 1," said David Eads, Chief Executive Officer of the Tournament of Roses. "A mid-afternoon game has always been important to the tradition of The Granddaddy of Them All, but this small timing adjustment will not impact the Rose Bowl Game experience for our participants or attendees."

Pre-game festivities for the 2026 CFP Quarterfinal at the Rose Bowl Game will begin at 12 p.m. PT/3 p.m. ET with the game kickoff commencing at 1 p.m. PT/4 p.m. ET.

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AROUND SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

ASSEMBLYMEMBER HARABEDIAN APPOINTED TO CO-CHAIR THE NEWLY FORMED SELECT COMMITTEE ON HOUSING FINANCE

(Sacramento, CA) — In a significant step toward addressing California's housing affordability crisis, Assemblymember John Harabedian (D-Pasadena) has been appointed by Speaker Robert Rivas to Co-Chair the newly formed Select Committee on Housing Finance. Harabedian will lead the effort alongside Assemblymember Avila Farias as part of a broader Assembly initiative to tackle affordability through focused, forward-thinking action.



"Housing is not just about shelter—it's about dignity, stability, and opportunity. I'm proud to Co-Chair the Select Committee on Housing Finance, which will explore bold, forward-thinking strategies to address the structural barriers driving California's housing crisis. I thank Speaker Rivas for his bold leadership in creating space for this work. We have a chance to reimagine what's possible, and to build a future where every Californian has a place to call home," said Assemblymember John Harabedian (D-Pasadena).

"We can't afford to leave any housing solutions on the sidelines," Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas said. "This Select Committee will take a hard look at how we finance affordable housing in California, and identify essential, scalable strategies that reflect today's economic reality."

The Select Committee on Housing and Finance will focus on identifying practical, innovative ways to improve how California finances affordable housing. From exploring new models like public-private partnerships to evaluating existing tools such as tax credits and housing bonds, the committee will work to shape policy solutions that expand access to housing and ensure long-term affordability across the state.

The committee is expected to engage with housing experts, lenders, developers and advocates to shape its recommendations.

Assemblymember John Harabedian represents the 41st District composed of the cities of La Cañada Flintridge, Pasadena, Altadena, Sierra Madre, Monrovia, Bradbury, San Dimas, La Verne, Claremont, Upland, Rancho Cucamonga, Oak Hills, Piñon Hills and Phelan.

ANDREW D. BERNSTEIN TO ADDRESS WOMEN OF EAGLE SCOUTS AT TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SILVER JUBILEE LUNCHEON

Guests at the twenty-fifth annual Silver Jubilee Women of Eagle Scout Brunch, Wind Under Their Wings, will be treated to an elegant and motivating event on Saturday, May 17, 2025 at a private location in Pasadena. A reception will be held at 10:30 a.m. followed by a brunch and the program at 11:15 a.m. The celebration will conclude at 1:30 p.m.

Local Boy Scouts will greet guests during the hosted reception and will usher them into the venue for a delicious brunch. Scouts from Troops from the San Gabriel Valley will lead the pledge of allegiance. Mimi Bernstein, a Junior at San Marino High School will sing songs from The Great American Songbook. She is a chorister at the Grammy award winning Los Angeles Children's Chorus (LACC) and has performed with the Los Angeles Philharmonic under Maestro Gustavo Dudamel. She has performed in numerous musical theatre productions and dreams of being either a vocal performer or a music therapist, as she wants to spread comfort and support through her love of music. Mimi will be accompanied on the piano by her vocal coach, Wendy Pytko. Pytko earned her M.M. in vocal arts at USC and is a former professor at Cal Poly Pomona, has taught artist in the LA Opera, and has performed in numerous musical theatre roles and voice over recordings.

Tyler S. Young who earned the rank of Eagle Scout with Troop 359 San Marino, Rosebowl District, Greater Los Angeles Area Council, will present the Scout message. For his Eagle Project, he chose City of Hope Hospital as a way of giving back for their care of his mother. Tyler lead the troop in assembling 700+ patient information resource kits for breast cancer patients, distributed 500 QR codes to expand the AYA (Adolescent Young Adult) Community Toolkits' digital reach, and fundraised \$3,600 for the AYA Community. A high school senior, Tyler plans to study aerospace engineering. He is active in student government, clubs, choir, school plays and musical, badminton team, and volunteers at Huntington Hospital. Tyler also enjoys collecting Funko Pops, Transformers, traveled to France and sung with his choir group at Eiffel Tower, Meaux Cathedral and Vaux Le Vicomte in 2023.

The Invocation will be presented by Mona Mapel, a San Marino resident, philanthropist, devoted volunteer, and the founding chairman of the Wind Under Their Wings Brunch.

The Silver Jubilee will recognize founding chairman Mona Mapel along with founding members Jeanine Cushman, Judy Davis,

Sallie Determan, Joan Dietrick, Gwen Krogen, Sue Newton, Janet Orswell, and Valerie Gumbiner Weiss. Tinker Bayle and Jean Simpson will be recognized in memoriam.

Capping the brunch will be a motivating talk presented by Andrew D. Bernstein. His company, Andrew D. Bernstein Associates Photography, Inc. has served as the official photographer for most of Los Angeles's professional sports teams. He is in his 33rd consecutive season and is the longest tenured NBA league photographer and official team photographer for the Lakers and Clippers. He has been the official team photographer for the Kings for the past twenty-two years. Bernstein is the director of photography for Crypto.com Arena and Nokia Theater LA Live and has been since the ribbon was cut in both buildings in 1999 and 2007, respectively. Previously, he was the team photographer at the Dodgers from 1983 to 1994.

Bernstein has been the photographer for the United States Olympic national basketball team since the 1992 "Dream Team". He has since extensively covered all USA gold medal-winning teams. He has worked commercially on advertising campaigns for Shaquille O'Neal, Kobe Bryant, Mia Hamm, LeBron James, and others for brands including Nike, Reebok, Adidas, Pepsi, Coca-Cola and Icy Hot.

His work has been showcased in many exhibitions over the years. He is one of only four photographers whose work is on permanent display at the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Massachusetts. He was inducted into the National Jewish Sports Hall of Fame in 2013. He is the host of Through The Lens, a regular feature on the Lakers channel, which features a unique perspective of Lakers history through his photos which Bernstein hosts with a famous guest.

This year's committee under the leadership of Co-Chairmen, Vicki Elliott of San Marino and Suko Gutoh of Glendale, includes Avery Barth, Janice Conzonire, Mary Falkenbury, Wendy Greenleaf, Ann Kunitake, Mona Mapel, Patricia Tom Mar, Valerie Gumbiner Weiss, Karen Wicke, and Julie Wong Tam of San Marino; Judith Din, Julie Foong, Jane Laudeman, Rhea Gonzaga, and Robin Puri of Pasadena; Ellen Chiechi, of Arcadia; Vivian Chan of San Gabriel; and Cindy Sercel of Lakeview Terrace.

The committee welcomes the community to attend and honor the Women Behind the Eagle Scouts. The cost is \$75 per person for brunch, mementos, an Opportunity Drawing, and supports Scout Troop 1 affected by the recent fires in Eaton Canyon/Altadena. Reservations, sponsorships, and underwriting opportunities are being taken at [HTTPS://KEEPONSCOUTING.ORG/WUTW/](https://KEEPONSCOUTING.ORG/WUTW/).

Additional information may be obtained by contacting committee member Robin at (626) 673-7874.

PWP CELEBRATES WATER AWARENESS MONTH IN MAY

During the month of May, Pasadena Water and Power ("PWP") joins utilities nationwide in celebrating Water Awareness Month, an annual outreach campaign to raise awareness about the value of one of Southern California's most precious natural resources: water. Throughout May, PWP is highlighting water sustainability and resilience in the community with educational events, tours, and contests. All events are free and open to the public and can be found at PWPweb.com/TheRippleEffect.

Water Awareness Month is also part of PWP's The Ripple Effect campaign, which invites the community to embrace their role as local water stewards for Pasadena and the surrounding region.

Garden Show and Tell

Monday, April 28 through Friday, June 13
Community members are encouraged to share photos and information on their garden's transformations from thirsty turf to drought-tolerant beauty. Every week, a garden will be selected and featured on PWP's website and social media channels as the Garden of the Week. Must be a PWP customer to enter. Participants will receive a free native plant, while supplies last. To participate, visit PWPweb.com/TheRippleEffect and click "Garden Show and Tell" tile.

Pop-In to Win at Pasadena Farmers Markets

Saturday, May 3, from 8 a.m. to Noon

Victory Park Farmers Market, 2900 Block of North Sierra Madre Blvd
Tuesday, May 6, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Villa Parke Farmers Market, 363 E Villa Street
Join PWP staff for a chance to learn about water-saving tools and resources.

Water Town Hall (virtual) Via Zoom
Wednesday, May 7, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Learn about your water: where it comes from, what it takes to deliver it, and how we ensure sustainable and reliable delivery of safe, high-quality water into the future. This is a virtual event. Visit PWPweb.com/Events for more information.

Monk Hill Water Facility Tour
Saturday, May 10, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Address provided upon RSVP

Join PWP for a tour of the Monk Hill Water Facility. Participants will have an opportunity to learn about the history of Monk Hill and its role in Pasadena's water supply. PWP staff will provide a guided tour of the facility, giving the community an opportunity to learn about water treatment, storage, and delivery. RSVP required. Visit PWPweb.com/Events to register

Preschool Storytime with a Water Treatment Operator

Tuesday, May 13, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Jefferson Branch Library, 1500 E Villa St

Join us for a water-themed story time filled with stories, songs, crafts, and fun with our PWP crew! For ages 3 to 5 and their caregivers. See a water distribution demonstration and enjoy a water wise craft.

"Being Water Wise Is..." Art Contest

Submissions due Friday, May 30

All K-12 students who reside in PWP's service territory are encouraged to submit artwork for the annual "Being Water Wise Is..." contest, sponsored by PWP and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Each year, participating students submit artwork portraying a water-wise theme, along with a short message about water conservation. All entries must be submitted with the required forms by May 30, 2025, via email to PWPcommunications@CityOfPasadena.net. Visit PWPweb.com/ArtContest for complete details.

Self-Guided Walking Tour of PWP-Sponsored Community Demonstration Gardens

Follow a self-guided tour map of unique gardens that demonstrate the beauty and diversity of drought-tolerant, native plant landscapes. Learn about water efficient landscaping and water capture features like hügel, berms and swales, dry streams, and rain barrels. A digital map is available online at PWPweb.com/TheRippleEffect.

For more information about Water Awareness Month events, Pasadena's water supply, infrastructure, and conservation resources and programs, visit PWPweb.com/TheRippleEffect.



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Grace Period for Physical Damage Loan Applications Ends Soon!

The President's major disaster declaration for California, issued January 8, 2025, includes a 60-day Grace Period for filing physical loan applications due to the scale of the disaster. **Deadline: May 30, 2025** – submit your application before it's too late!

Apply online and receive additional disaster assistance information at sba.gov/disaster.

To find a local center near you, visit appointment.sba.gov/schedule.

Applicants may call the SBA Customer Service Center with questions regarding their application at (800) 659-2955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

For people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services.

Learn more and apply at sba.gov/disaster

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TOURNAMENT ANNOUNCES EIGHT 2025 ROSE SCHOLARS



The Pasadena Tournament of Roses Association has selected eight high school seniors as the 2025 ROSE Scholars. This year, the program awarded \$20,000 in scholarships to eight graduating seniors from the Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD).

2025 ROSE Scholars:

- Jameel Franco – John Muir High School
- Fletcher Paddock – John Muir High School
- Gael Lemus – John Muir High School
- Andrew Pimentel – Pasadena High School
- Leila Nafarrete – CIS Academy (Center for Independent Study)
- Alyssa Yopez – Pasadena High School
- Tehilah Favour Ofumbi – Marshall Fundamental Secondary School
- Keilah Yu – Marshall Fundamental Secondary School

“At the Tournament of Roses, we believe in the power of creativity to inspire, heal and connect,” said Mark Leavens, President of the 2026 Tournament of Roses.

“This year’s Rose Scholars embody that drive, many of which courageously used art and personal expression to share their experiences during the Eaton fires. We are proud to celebrate these resilient students and support their dreams through this scholarship program. Our deepest appreciation and thanks to David Brager and Citizens Business Bank for their steadfast partnership, which helps us uplift the next generation of leaders and changemakers.”

To date, the program has awarded \$100,000 to PUSD seniors.

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

For more information visit: tournamentofroses.com.

SCHOOL DIRECTORY

Alverno Heights Academy 200 N. Michillinda Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024 (626) 355-3463 Head of School: Joanne Harabedian E-mail address: jharabedian@alvernoheights.org	High Point Academy 1720 Kinneloa Canyon Road Pasadena, Ca. 91107 Head of School: Gary Stern 626-798-8989 website: www.highpointacademy.org
Arcadia Christian School 1900 S. Santa Anita Avenue Arcadia, CA 91006 Preschool - TK - 8th Grade 626-574-8229/626-574-0805 Email: inquiry@acsllions.com Principal: Cindy Harmon website: www.acsllions.com	La Salle College Preparatory 3880 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Pasadena, Ca. (626) 351-8951 website: www.lasallehs.org Principal Ernest Siy
Arcadia High School 180 Campus Drive Arcadia, CA 91007 Phone: (626) 821-8370, Principal: Brent Forsee bforsee@ausd.net	Monrovia High School 325 East Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016 (626) 471-2800 Principal Darvin Jackson Email: schools@monrovia.k12.ca.us
Arroyo Pacific Academy 41 W. Santa Clara St. Arcadia, Ca, (626) 294-0661 Principal: Phil Clarke E-mail address: pclarke@arroyopacific.org	Odyssey Charter School 3225 E. Sierra Madre Dr. Altadena, Ca. 91001 (626) 229-0993 Head of School: Lauren O'Neill website: www.odysseycharterschool.org
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary School Ms. Rose Navarro, Principal 2660 East Orange Grove Blvd. Pasadena, Ca 91107 626-793-2089 https://school.abvmpasadena.org/	Pasadena High School 2925 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Pasadena, Ca. (626) 396-5880 Principal: Dr. Eric Barba website: http://phs.pusd.us
Barnhart School 240 W. Colorado Blvd Arcadia, Ca. 91007 (626) 446-5588 Head of School: Tonya Beilstein Kindergarten - 8th grade website: www.barnhartschool.org	St. Rita Catholic School 322 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024 Principal: Jon McMaster (626) 355-6114 mcmaster@st-ritaschool.org Website: www.st-ritaschool.org
Bethany Christian School 93 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024 (626) 355-3527 Preschool-TK-8th Grade Principal: Jonathon Hawes website: www.bcsllions.org	Sierra Madre Elementary School 141 W. Highland Ave, Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024 (626) 355-1428 Principal: Dr. Jodi Marchesso E-mail address: marchesso.jodi@pusd.us
Clairbourn School 8400 Huntington Drive San Gabriel, CA 91775 Phone: 626-286-3108 ext. 172 FAX: 626-286-1528 E-mail: jhawes@clairbourn.org	Sierra Madre Middle School 160 N. Canon Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024 (626) 836-2947 Principal: Garrett Newsom E-mail address: newsom.garrett@pusd.us
Foothill Oaks Academy 822 E. Bradbourne Ave., Duarte, CA 91010 (626) 301-9809 Principal: Nancy Lopez www.foothilloaksacademy.org office@foothilloaksacademy.org	Walden School 74 S San Gabriel Blvd Pasadena, CA 91107 (626) 792-6166 www.waldenschool.net
Frostig School 971 N. Altadena Drive Pasadena, CA 91107 (626) 791-1255 Head of School: Jenny Janetzke Email: jenny@frostig.org	Weizmann Day School 1434 N. Altadena Dr. Pasadena, Ca. 91107 (626) 797-0204 Lisa Feldman: Head of School
The Gooden School 192 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024 (626) 355-2410 Head of School, Jo-Anne Woolner website: www.goodenschool.org	Wilson Middle School 300 S. Madre St. Pasadena, Ca. 91107 (626) 449-7390 Principal: Ruth Esseln E-mail address: resseln@pusd.us
	Pasadena Unified School District 351 S. Hudson Ave., Pasadena, Ca. 91109 (626) 396-3600 Website: www.pusd@pusd.us
	Arcadia Unified School District 234 Campus Dr., Arcadia, Ca. 91007 (626) 821-8300 Website: www.ausd.net
	Monrovia Unified School District 325 E. Huntington Dr., Monrovia, Ca. 91016 (626) 471-2000 Website: www.monroviaschools.net
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Don't be chicken! Some of the words are long, but I sprinkled in letters to help you fit them into the crossword!

personification

onomatopoeia

spoonerism

Play On Words

Read the clues to fill in the crossword puzzle with different kinds of word play that we have fun with:

- a _____ word shrinks a word, making it easier to say; *airplane = plane*
- word that is spelled the same backwards and forwards; *kayak*
- series of words with the same starting sound; *big bad boy*
- words with the same letters, but moved around; *cat - act*
- words that resemble the sound they are talking about; *whiz, bang*
- set of “opposite” words; *jumbo shrimp, small crowd*
- swapping of letters or syllables in words;
bunny rabbit = runny babbit
- a tongue _____ puts together words that are hard to say in a row;
Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers
- an exaggerated statement; *I died laughing*
- putting two words together to make a new word; *squeeze + crunch = scrunch*
- words that have the same ending sound; *very cherry*
- a humor-filled story or trick; *knock, knock!*
- giving human-like abilities to something non-human;
the wind howled, time marches on
- a word named after a real person; *teddy bear* (Theodore Roosevelt)
- a clever question that needs thought to be answered; *What loses its head each morning, and gets it back in the evening? A pillow!*

I have a *bill* in my *bill* to pay my *bill*.

Match each expression to its meaning:

- man of few words
- man of his word
- get the word
- play on words
- mum is the word

- receive the message
- to use words with more than one meaning in a joke
- to keep quiet, secret
- keeps his promise
- doesn't talk very much

alliteration

rhyme

eponym

anagram

portmanteau

riddle

hyperbole

clipped

twister

joke

palindrome

personification

onomatopoeia

spoonerism

FILL-IN-THE-BLANK

- ACROSS
- 1. Little rascal
 - 6. Center of activity
 - 9. d'Ivoire lead-in
 - 13. Tree, in Latin
 - 14. *Common ____ or ____ of Good Feelings
 - 15. Supreme Teutonic god
 - 16. Large violin family member
 - 17. *Gravely ____ or ____ at ease
 - 18. Speak up
 - 19. *Holiday ____ or ____ weather
 - 21. *Butter ____ or ____ tape
 - 23. Zeppelin lead-in
 - 24. *Batman's ____ or ____ Cod
 - 25. What, in Oaxaca
 - 28. Whimper
 - 30. Smells
 - 35. Defender of skies
 - 37. Like debatable point
 - 39. *Stem to ____ or ____ parent
 - 40. *Ill at ____ or ____ up
 - 41. Famous fabulist
 - 43. Brain wave
 - 44. Opposite of digest
 - 46. "Will be," to Doris Day
 - 47. *Kitchen ____ or ____ or swim
 - 48. *Willie ____ or ____ Mandela
 - 50. To, archaic
 - 52. Had a meal
 - 53. Voyeur's glance
 - 55. Anger management issue
 - 57. *Passenger ____ or ____ post
 - 60. *Grammatically ____ or ____ answer
 - 64. Past participle of bear
 - 65. Go wrong
 - 67. Empower
 - 68. Assumed name
 - 69. Barn sound
 - 70. Fair attractions
 - 71. Catch one's breath
 - 72. Coniferous tree
 - 73. Baker's raiser

- DOWN
- 1. Bursas
 - 2. *Rowing ____ or ____ cut
 - 3. *Willing and ____ or ____-bodied
 - 4. Relating to mole
 - 5. Temporarily, Latin (2 words)
 - 6. *Rightful ____ or ____ apparent
 - 7. Dot-com address
 - 8. Craft wood
 - 9. Native Egyptian, in Roman times
 - 10. Related to ear
 - 11. Hyperbolic tangent
 - 12. Opposite of WSW
 - 15. Suitors
 - 20. Possible allergic reaction
 - 22. Tax person's designation, acr.
 - 24. Shut down (2 words)
 - 25. *Dancing ____ or ____ bee
 - 26. Cell phone bill item
 - 27. Art class support
 - 29. Things to lament
 - 31. Singer-songwriter Redding
 - 32. The press, e.g.
 - 33. Are not
 - 34. *Garter ____ or ____ eyes
 - 36. Come clean, with up
 - 38. *Tattered and ____ or ____ apart
 - 42. Outdoor entertainment area
 - 45. Pith helmets
 - 49. Not paleo
 - 51. Solar system model
 - 54. Japan to U.S., in WW2
 - 56. "Sesame Street" regular
 - 57. *The North ____ or ____ dancer
 - 58. Van Gogh's famous botanical subject
 - 59. Flying biter
 - 60. *Eat ____ or ____ to pick
 - 61. Cocoyam
 - 62. Prompt box comments
 - 63. Multiple choice challenge
 - 64. *Raise the ____ or ____ none
 - 66. Beluga yield

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13						14				15				
16						17				18				
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CHRISTOPHER Nyerges

[Nyerges is an educator and the author of over two dozen books including "Urban Survival Guide," "Extreme Simplicity," "Foraging Californai," and other books. More information at www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance.com]

LEARNING ABOUT THE TOILET PAPER PLANT

On a recent Sunday, my wife and I drove over to Griffith Park to attend an event that was advertised on Facebook where we would obtain free plants of the toilet paper plant. What an unusual idea, I thought, but let's check it out. What have we got to lose?

On the southwest part of Griffith Park, north of the Greek Theatre in a field of lawn, we recognized the leader, Robin Greenfield, barefoot, in the little circle. My wife and I approached and we welcomed in to the group of 9 people listening to the prophet of the toilet paper plant. Robin was holding one of the plants, just a stick, which would be replanted. The leaves are almost as big as the palm of your hand, a soft fuzzy green, and very aromatic.

Robin is on a mission to get people to think about human waste and toilet paper very differently. He is a walking encyclopedia on everything having to do toilet paper and using human manure as a viable fertilizer, rather than regard it as something to discard. "These leaves are the Charmin of the Garden!" says Robin, speaking of the Plectranthus babatus plant, also known as the blue spur flower of the Mint Family. The leaves are soft, each about the size of a piece of toilet paper. In Brazil, a tea is made from this plant to treat upset stomachs.

"According to one study," Robin tells the group of gathered followers, "the average U.S. household of 2.6 people uses 409 regular rolls of toilet paper per year. You can reduce that to zero. Plus you can save all that storage space in your closet and the gas guzzling trips to the store. According to one study, many U.S. Americans spend \$11,000 on toilet paper in their lifetime."

Of course, one of the main questions that people asked was whether or not you could flush the plant into the toilet. "No, you can't" explained Robin, who then explained some of the simplest methods of composting toilets that you can make under \$30. These comprise of mostly a 5 gallon bucket, and a place to empty those contents where they can decompose safely. Robin also pointed out that expensive composting toilets, which can be put into any household, can be purchased for a thousand dollars or so. If one wasn't willing to create a compost toilet, one could use the "toilet paper plant" leaves and then put them into a special container, to be later added to a dedicated compost pile outside.

Robin shared the Permaculture concept, that what we call "waste" is a resource out of place. He says that human waste material is not a waste product, but a resource that should be used as a safe and valuable fertilizer.

So he's really promoting something much greater than just using a leaf instead of toilet paper. Robin discussed the many factors that are involved in the simple act of using toilet paper and regular flush toilets. There is the vast amount of wood involved for all that paper, and all the water needed to flush it all away, since our society regards that as useless waste. Robin described the cost of all the toilet drain overflows every year throughout the country, causing countless problems with fresh water. And he describes the world of farming with petroleum-based fertilizers and pesticides, which could theoretically be avoided if everyone were part of a process of making fertilizer.

"If we could do a handful of things that would actually change the world, composting our poop would be one of the most important. It can be done with nearly no cost, easily, with no change to any infrastructure," says Robin. On his website, Robin Greenfield describes himself as a truth-seeker, activist, social reformer and servant to Earth, humanity and our plant and animal relatives. He lives simply and sustainably to be the change he wishes to see in the world. Through living closely connected to Earth, he rejects the status quo of consumerism and demonstrates a way of being in gratitude, mindfulness and presence. He describes his life as an experiment with



truth and integrity.

Robin told the small group that he once had a good paying job but he turned his back on it because he didn't want to be a part of a lifestyle that was destructive. Robin has committed to earning below the federal poverty threshold for life and donates 100% of his media earnings to grassroots nonprofits, with a focus on supporting Black and Indigenous women-led organizations.

In fact, during our short instructional session with Robin, I offered him a \$20 bill as appreciation for getting some of the toilet paper plants. He gave it back to me, telling me that he was currently in a period where he is seeing what it is like to not handle any money! You can learn more about Robin and his mission by checking the web site at <http://robingreenfield.org/tp>

Any questions you have about him are probably answered there, so don't bother asking questions since he said he doesn't have the staff to answer questions.

Katnip News!



MEET JJ—PERFECT PUPPY!

In case you missed him last week, here is JJ one more time. As you can see, this sweet Austra-



lian Kelpie mix is a real CUDDLER! He's playful, loyal, loves walks, loves other dogs, loves people, but not great with cats. JJ is neutered and totally vetted, all ready for his new home. Please apply to meet him. Contact Laura Paolinelli@LonelyPawsAdoption Network, or 703-489-7470. He is currently being fostered in Encino. This cutie is available for adoption and although that shelter named him Urban, we're calling him JJ.

See more of him at <https://www.lifelineforpets.org/pooch-place.html>.

Pet of the Week

Monfils is a sensitive and handsome Belgian Malinois mix who is more than ready for his forever family! This whip-smart guy is three years old, and a lean 65 pounds. He's been spending time in a foster home, and his foster parents have learned so much about him that will make his transition to an adoptive home very easy.

Monfils is full of love and enjoys nothing more than snuggling up with his favorite person. He's a big fan of fetch and absolutely loves being outdoors, making him the perfect match for someone with a yard or a peaceful space where he can roam and play. He is housetrained and very well-behaved inside—he's never destructive and rarely barks. He's happiest when he's by your side, soaking up belly rubs and showering you with affection.



He knows how to sit and is generally obedient at home, but he can be a bit impatient with training. Monfils would likely do best as the only pet in a quiet household. He's looking for someone who will give him the love and stability he needs while understanding his quirks. During the week of 4/28 - 5/3, all dog adoption fees are waived at Pasadena Humane! The normal adoption fee for dogs is \$150. All dog adoptions include spay or neuter, microchip, and age-appropriate vaccines.

Walk-in adoptions are available every day from 10:00 – 5:00. View photos of adoptable pets at pasadenahumane.org.

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.

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

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DECLUTTERING FOR SENIORS: A PATH TO SAFER, SIMPLER LIVING



As we age, our homes—filled with memories and mementos—can gradually become cluttered, making everyday life more challenging and less safe. For older adults, decluttering isn't just about tidiness; it's a vital step toward safety, clarity, and peace of mind.

Start Small, Think Big
Tackling a whole house at once can feel overwhelming. Experts recommend starting small—perhaps a single drawer or night-

stand. Sorting items into four categories—Keep, Donate, Discard, and Not Sure—helps guide decisions and keep progress on track.

Safety First
A cluttered home increases the risk of trips and falls, one of the leading causes of injury among seniors. Removing loose rugs, clearing hallways, and improving lighting can significantly improve home safety. Items used daily, like medications and glasses, should be kept within easy reach.

Preserving the Important Things
Decluttering doesn't mean letting go of everything meaningful. Creating a “memory box” for treasured keepsakes or digitizing old photos can preserve memories without taking up space. When it comes to paperwork, sorting and safely storing key documents—such as wills, insurance, and medical records—brings both clarity and peace of mind.

A Gentle Approach
Decluttering can be emotional, especially for those who've lived in the same home for decades. Involving seniors in every decision honors their autonomy and memories. Take your time—this process is about care, not speed.

A Fresh Start
Whether you're downsizing, preparing for a move, or simply wanting to create a safer home, decluttering is a thoughtful and empowering act. And sometimes, the most meaningful transformations begin with clearing just one small shelf.

STRATEGIES FOR PAYING OFF CREDIT CARD DEBT

Dear Savvy Senior,
My husband and I, who are retired, have accumulated about \$7,000 in credit card debt over the past few years and need some help paying it off. What can you tell us?
Living Underwater



Dear Living,
I'm sorry to hear about your financial woes but know that you're not alone. Credit card debt has become a big problem in this country for millions of older Americans. According to a recent AARP report, 52 percent of adults ages 50 to 64 have credit card debt, along with 42 percent of those ages 65 to 74.

Rising costs of basic expenses like food, housing, utilities and health care are the main culprits. But now, new tariffs on products made in China and other foreign countries will make many goods more expensive, which could make this problem worse. Of older adults carrying a balance, nearly half owe \$5,000 or more, and nearly a third owe upwards of \$10,000.

While paying off credit card debt can feel overwhelming, it's doable with a solid plan and a bit of belt-tightening and persistence. Here are some strategies to help you tackle it:

Create a Budget
Start by taking a close look at your income and expenses to see where you can free up money to put toward your credit card debt. Also look for areas to reduce spending, such as dining out, entertainment or subscriptions. And see if you're eligible for any financial assistance programs (see BenefitsCheckUp.org) that can help boost your budget by paying for things like food, utilities, medicine and health care.

Call the Card Company
While the average credit-card interest rate is more than 20 percent, some credit card companies may be willing to lower your interest rate or work out a payment plan, especially if you're struggling. It doesn't hurt to ask.

Pay More Than the Minimum
Credit card companies only require the minimum payment, but it's usually mostly interest. Try to pay more than the minimum every month to make a dent in the principal balance.

Choose a Repayment Strategy
If you have more than one credit card, pick one and get serious about paying it off. Start with the card that carries the highest interest rate, or the one with the smallest balance.

If you focus on paying off the card with the highest interest rate first, you'll pay less interest over time, saving yourself a lot of money. Once the highest-interest card is paid off, move to the next highest, and so on.

Or you may want to start with the card with the smallest balance. Paying off smaller debts quickly can give you a sense of accomplishment and motivate you to keep going.

Consolidate Your Debt
If you have multiple high-interest cards, look into consolidating your debt with a low-interest personal loan from your bank or credit union. Or consider moving your debts to a balance transfer credit card with 0 percent interest for an introductory period, which is usually 15, 18 or 21 months. This will eliminate the amount of interest you're paying temporarily. But be careful! Once the introductory promotion ends, the card company will charge interest on any remaining balance.

Consider a Debt Management Plan
If you need more help, use a nonprofit credit counseling agency (see NFCC.org) to create a debt management plan for you. At no cost, a counselor will go over your income and debts and determine what's workable. The counselor will then negotiate with your lenders, to get a payment plan that will lower your interest and monthly payments and maybe forgive some debt.

If you accept their negotiated offer, you'll start making one monthly payment to the counseling service, which will in turn pay the issuers. You'll likely pay the agency a small fee and give up the cards included in the plan, but over time you'll be able to pay off your debt.

Send your questions or comments to questions@savvysenior.org, or to Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070.

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SENIOR HAPPENINGS

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



OUT TO PASTOR

A Weekly Religion Column by Rev. James Snyder

IT WAS A SNARKY KIND OF DAY



Last week The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage had another one of her girl days with our daughter and granddaughter.

Don't let this get around, but it is one of my favorite days of the year, including my birthday. It's a day on which I can do what I want to do. That doesn't come often; when it does, I cherish it and celebrate with an Apple Fritter or two...

Of course, I had some work to do in my office, so I was rather happy to be alone for the day. Nothing is more important to me than getting my work done.

I planned to catch up on several writing projects in the morning. Getting behind in a project is easy, so setting aside time just to catch up is wonderful.

I kissed The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage goodbye, got a hot cup of coffee from the kitchen, and went to my office to begin the day's work. I was almost singing as I was getting to my desk. I'm not allowed to sing aloud when The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage is home. If you heard me sing, you would understand.

I was getting started, and suddenly realized there was a problem with the Internet and that my computer was not working. I fiddled with it for about 20 minutes and then realized there was nothing I could do but wait for the Internet to return. (Grrr)

Being a little frustrated, I didn't quite know what to do, and then remembered I had something to pick up across town. I don't like driving across town because there are so many idiots with licenses who are driving. How these people get driver's licenses is beyond my curiosity.

I wanted to get there and back as quickly as possible, thinking I could take advantage of this time.

I was becoming frustrated because every traffic light was red. I had to drive and then stop, drive another two blocks, and then stop. I was getting irritated by this kind of nonsense. I was trying to take advantage of my time to get across town and back home.

Have you ever been tempted? At one of the red lights there was no traffic coming or going, and not even any cars behind me. I sat there for three seconds, and then I was tempted to drive across the highway despite the red light. After all, there's no harm if there's nobody on the street and I won't get caught.

The thought danced in my head as I was about to do that. There is around here somewhere a police officer watching me, and as soon as I cross the line, he's going to pull me over and give me a ticket. Believe it or not, it would not be a ticket for the Policeman's Ball.

I was reminded of a hymn we sing in church: "Yield not to temptation for yielding is sin."

Although frustrated, I waited for the light to turn green, not yielding to temptation.

This was my routine across town.

As I was coming back, I noticed it was lunchtime. This would be a great time to stop at one of my favorite restaurants and have lunch.

The host seated me at my favorite table when I entered the restaurant. I've been to this restaurant often, so they knew me.

My waitress came, introduced herself, and handed me the menu. Being such a faithful customer I really did not need a menu because I knew what I wanted. I cheerfully gave the waitress my order and then she brought me some coffee as I waited for my order.

I sipped my coffee rather cheerfully and was finally happy that things were going my way. What a day it had been, but now, things will start going my way at my favorite restaurant.

I don't always experience this, but today, I'm going to celebrate that it is finally happening to me.

I was sitting there drinking my coffee and anticipating my cheeseburger and fries lunch when the waitress came and put a plate on my table.

When I saw that plate, I gasped in horror. I've never seen such a terrible plate of food in my life.

How can my day get any worse?

In the center of that plate before me was some of the worst vegetables I've ever seen—broccoli. The fact that this waitress brought me a plate with broccoli made me realize my day was not improving yet.

While I was gasping, the waitress turned around, started gasping, and said, "Oh, I'm sorry. That's not your plate; that's for the table on the other side of you."

Finally, my real plate came, and as I ate, I thought of what a snarky day this has been. What is going to happen between now and when I get home?

Where are my Apple Fritters when I need them?

As I was driving home I was reminded of of a verse of Scripture. "He that is slow to wrath is of great understanding; but he that is hasty of spirit exalteth folly" (Proverbs 14:29).

One of the great challenges for me is patience. I can be patient when everything is going my way, but that is not patience. I need to practice the "slow to wrath" part of my life.

Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala, FL with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail jamesnyder51@gmail.com, website www.jamesnyderministries.com

DINING WITH DILLS

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Peter Dills

THE FIRST SHOW IN OVER A YEAR!

LITTLE PROVENCE CAFÉ – A TASTE OF FRANCE, RIGHT IN ARCADIA

Stop me if you’ve heard this one before—my father, Elmer Dills, made a good living discovering restaurants that most folks would simply drive by. Well, I found one, and it’s tucked away at the corner of Baldwin and Naomi in Arcadia. Blink and you might miss it—but that would be your loss.

Little Provence Café is a tribute to owner Dennis’ mother, Rosemari, and his love for the flavors of southern France. Now, I’ve never been to France myself, but the moment I walked in—with its subtle music, casual charm, and the scent of real herbs in the air—I thought, “This must be it.”

Here’s a little trivia to impress your friends: France has more pizzerias than Italy. Shocking, right? And if you think pizza came from New York, think again. But back to the café...

Nothing here is pre-prepared. The Quiche Lorraine is made from scratch—light, fluffy, and buttery. The salmon sandwich? Four ounces of fresh, flaky salmon so good I swore it might kiss me back. Every detail matters here. There’s even an herb garden out back to give the dishes that authentic touch—like the olive oil laced with just a hint of pepper.

The star of the lunch was the Roast Beef Sandwich, or as they call it in Provence, Rôti de Bœuf. It’s slow-smoked and blanketed in a Dijonnaise sauce that’s been marinating overnight. French comfort food at its finest.

Salads? Yes, and worth the spotlight. A creative Caesar (which, fun fact, hails originally from Mexico) and a picture-perfect Niçoise Salad, just like you’d find in a seaside bistro in Provence.

You’re probably wondering—how did I eat all this in one sitting? The secret: one bite at a time.

The vibe? Classic café. Whether you’re coming in for a leisurely lunch or just a morning espresso, Little Provence Café delivers the kind of warmth and flavor that’s hard to find—even in Paris.



- IN SUMMARY:
- Standout dish: Rôti de Bœuf sandwich
 - Unexpected treat: Salmon sandwich with garden-fresh herbs
 - Café charm: From the music to the menu, it’s France by way of Arcadia
 - Insider tip: Try the Niçoise salad and take a moment to smell the herbs
 - Located at Baldwin and Naomi in Arcadia—don’t drive by this one

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DANCE

SERIES 2025

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"IN SEARCH OF AN EXIT"

17/18

MAY

PACÍFICO
DANCE COMPANY

14

JUNE

RGWW
"SUGAR HOUSES"

28/29

JUNE

D. SABELA GRIMES
"PARABLE OF PORTALS"

6

SEPT

VIVER BRASIL
"REZAS E FOLHAS"

17/18

OCT

TIX \$12-45: sierramadreplayhouse.org/dance

THE TASTING ROOM

HISTORY IN A GLASS. THE MISSION GRAPE.

I’m Gustavo Lira, Tasting Room Manager and Wine Buyer at The Bottle Shop in Sierra Madre with another wine and spirits selection.



Have you ever been to the San Gabriel Mission and looked at the old grapevine that is there? It’s called the “Mother Vine” or the “Trinity Vine” and it’s the oldest vine in California. Planted in the 1770’s, the grape varietal is the Mission grape. The Mission grape came to California along with the missionaries. It originally was grown in Spain, then made it to the Canary Islands where it is currently known as Listan Prieto. From the Canary Islands it made its way to South America where it is still grown in Chile as Pais. It continued its journey to Mexico and then California where it is called the Mission grape. It was used primarily for sacramental purposes. Over the years, the Mission grape fell in and out of favor. Currently it is still being made into a quite delicious and refreshing wine by a handful of winemakers.

One such winemaker is Adam Sabelli-Frisch. He’s a local winemaker located in Los Angeles who focuses on making wine with minimal intervention, no chemicals or additives, naturally fermented, and minimal sulfites. His passion for winemaking comes through in every glass of his wines.

The 2020 Sabelli-Frisch “Marina” Mission is sourced from the Somers Vineyard in Lodi. Somers is organically farmed and is believed to have some of the oldest Mission vines in America. The wine was aged 15 months in French neutral oak with about 10% American oak. It’s mostly Mission grape with 5% Zweigelt grape blended in for color. It’s a lighter style wine along the lines of Pinot Noir but with lower acid. You get floral notes, strawberry, and very subtle white pepper and herbs. The wine is low in tannins, and it also is low alcohol. This wine is best served slightly chilled. I can see it pairing very well with salmon, spicy pasta, and even tuna poke. A wonderful wine that will evoke the history of the missions and the history of winemaking in the area and throughout the state.

The 2020 Sabelli-Frisch “Marina” Mission is available at The Bottle Shop for \$29.99. Say you saw it in the Mountain Views News and get the MVN special price of \$27.00. The special price is good through May 2nd.

Please keep in mind all those who have suffered and are trying to rebuild from the Eaton Fire. Visit DenaMadreStrong.com to learn how you can continue to help those impacted by the Eaton Fire.



Until next time – Salud!

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ALL THINGS

By Jeff Brown

MOZART'S STARLING BY LYANDA LYNN HAUPT

An NPR Best Book of the Year: “A heady hybrid of science, history, how-to and memoir” about a great composer, a common bird, and our bond with nature (Los Angeles Times).

On May 27, 1784, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart met a flirtatious little starling in a Viennese shop who sang an improvised version of the theme from his Piano Concerto no. 17 in G major. Sensing a kindred spirit in the plucky young bird, Mozart bought him and took him home to be a family pet. For three years, the starling lived with Mozart, influencing his work and serving as his companion, distraction, consolation, and muse.

Two centuries later, starlings are reviled by even the most compassionate conservationists. A non-native, invasive species, they invade sensitive habitats, outcompete local birds for nest sites and food, and decimate crops. A seasoned birder and naturalist, Lyanda Lynn Haupt is well versed in the difficult and often strained relationships these birds have with other species and the environment. But after rescuing a baby starling of her own, Haupt found herself enchanted by the same intelligence and playful spirit that had so charmed her favorite composer.

In Mozart’s Starling, Haupt explores the unlikely and remarkable bond between one of history’s most cherished composers and one of earth’s most common birds. The intertwined stories of Mozart’s beloved pet and Haupt’s own starling is “a hard-to-put down, charming blend of science, biography, and memoir . . . brimming with starling information, travelogues, and historical details about Mozart’s Vienna” (Booklist).

“Shed[s] light on the connection between humans and birds—those of us bound to terra firma, and those who are free to soar.” Garth Stein, New York Times–bestselling author of The Art of Racing in the Rain

The book can be ordered at Sierra Madre’s bookstore Fables & Fancies (626)665-8856



MOUNTAIN VIEWS NEWS

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

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Letters to the editor and correspondence should be sent to:

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STUART TOLCHIN

PUT THE LIGHTS ON

THE DAY OF DYING OR IS IT DIEING?



Every time I think of the word or hear it, I'm unsure of the spelling and the meaning. I know or think there is some connection between the words, but I am unsure. On the first Easter after I separated from my then wife, I had both my kids on Easter Sunday, and I wanted to celebrate the Holiday in some way. Now, remember this was well over seventy years ago and I am undoubtedly forgetting something, but I wanted the day to be memorable for the kids and me too. I told them "We are going to dye Easter eggs".

My daughter, who at the time was about five, which is the age her daughter is now and "why" is a favorite question of many five-year-olds. Well, I didn't know the answer then and still don't know the answer today, but I've been thinking about it in connection with the death of Pope Francis which occurred right around Easter Sunday. (The last rites are pending) I wanted to use the word "dieing" but I checked it on the web and learned that using the "ing" after "die" was correct only relating to the process of using a die to shape metal, also known as 'die-casting'.

As you can tell I'm pretty confused, but I want to write about the death of the Pope in connection with another person who "died" arguably on the same April 20th date. This, of course, brings us back to the initial question of why we color eggs on Easter. You probably know much about the "history" of Jesus Christ; but let me tell you what interests me about his story. Just like me Jesus as a Jew, but sometimes we forget. He was a rabbi, a teacher, but like many Jews he was a contrarian. He challenged the old ways and was a threat to the Pharisees. They were a powerful Jewish group who were critical of the teachings of Jesus and may have even sought his destruction. (There are different views about this).

Speaking about destruction, on the cross of Jesus it turns out there is a connection to Easter Egg coloring. Just now I looked stuff up about Easter egg dying and read about the tradition of coloring of eggs. I read that there existed in many pre-Christian cultures egg coloring as symbolic of new life and fertility and the arrival of Spring.

These old traditions fit right in with the story of resurrection and rebirth and the coloring of the eggs, particularly, as it is thought to relate to symbolize the blood of Christ on the cross.

So, there is a connection between dying and dying. I want to move now to talk about my other favorite person who died on April 20, I now want to talk about Pope Francis. Of course, I know he is not in any way spoken of as being Jewish, but I like to imagine that this is a great secret that will not be revealed for centuries. I have read that the Pope's father originally fled to Argentina from fascist Italy not for economic reasons. Was it fear of religious persecution? It makes me wonder. Notice that Pope Francis during his life behaved in accordance with the way I believe a Jew should behave. He complained, he opposed authority, even when he was in authority. As Pope he demonstrated humility and the desire to accept those who had been previously considered as outsiders. He was sympathetic to the rights of women, to the disabled, and to gay people. Maybe he spoke more about change than he actually changed but he did what he could without causing too major a disruption to the Catholic hierarchy. (No. Female Catholic Priests are still not allowable.)

The Pope, contrary to the present American President consistently demonstrated concern for the poorest and most marginalized. He himself had worked as a janitor, a night club bouncer, and a philosophy teacher. Books and literature and conversation were always important to him. He wanted not to control but to understand and possibly unify. He was fascinated by the intricacies of the mind and logic. He is a model for the kind of person I would like to be remembered as after I dyed or is it died? As somebody said on their deathbed "dying is easy, comedy is hard".

Today, it's hard to laugh when you want to cry. What do ewe think? Can words and peaceful protest make a difference or is the die already cast? Are we sheep who have become poor little lambs who have lost their way? My birthday is today and I have never felt so old!

Stuarttolchin@gmail.com

RICH JOHNSON

CONSPIRACY THEORIES AND LESS



What's your favorite conspiracy theory? Elvis still alive? If he is, he turned 90 years old on January 8th. His get up and go certainly already got up and went. He actually left this level of existence in 1977 at the age of 42.

Paul is Dead

My first moment of real terror over a conspiracy theory was the then reported death of Paul McCartney of the Beatles back in 1966. And that a perfect stand-in for McCartney was supplied by MI5, also known as British Intelligence. Paul chimed in by telling the press: "The rumors of my death have been greatly exaggerated". I ignored the quote. The Beatles decided to have fun with the bogus story. If you look at the album cover "Abbey Road", you will notice the Liverpool lads crossing the road in different articles of clothing. It was a mock funeral procession. First John, with long flowing hair and beard, wearing pure white was Jesus leading the pack, Next Ringo, dressed in a suit was the Minister, next barefoot Paul dressed up as the dead body. Followed by grave digger George. Another clue on the Abbey Road album cover was the parked Volkswagen a little down the road. Take particular attention at the license plate. The plate read "28IF" signifying Paul's age if he had survived.

The Moon Landing Was Faked

Afraid the Russians would make it to the moon first, the U.S. government faked the moon landing. These theorists claim Stanley Kubrick was responsible for the film footage and the movement of the flag in a supposed vacuum.

The "Flat Earth" Conspiracy

A fellow named Samuel Shenton created the International Flat Earth Society in 1956. His primary goal was to reach children before they were convinced about a spherical Earth. When he died in 1971 the reins to the Flat Earth Society were handed over to another questionable character from California named Johnson. According to him other Flat Earthers throughout history included Moses, Columbus and Franklin Delano Roosevelt. In 2021 polling reported that 10% of Americans believe the Earth is flat, 3% of the British and 7% of the Brazilians. I'm still on the fence...ouch!

A Tunnel From New York to the Vatican

105 years ago, a fellow named Al Smith ran for president. He was the first Catholic to run for president. A famous campaign photo of him was in front of the opening of the Holland Tunnel in New York. A group of Anti-Catholics believed Mr. Smith was going to

build a underground tunnel from New York all the way to the Vatican in Rome, Italy.

Queen Elizabeth I was a Man

No, not Queen Elizabeth II. The first one who reigned from 1558-1603. There is a group of historians convinced the young woman destined to become Queen Elizabeth I died of bubonic plague and was replaced by a young boy who grew up to be the queen. They pointed to her intellect and financial acumen plus the fact she refused to marry and never bore children as proof of their claim.

Having a blank moment here, I think I'll close with a look at life from a hopefully humorous perspective:

Common sense is like deodorant. The people who need it most, never use it.

I'm not arguing with you, I'm just explaining why I'm right.

I don't need a hair stylist, my pillow gives me a new hairstyle every morning.

I thought growing old would take longer.

Don't worry if Plan A fails, there are 25 more letters in the alphabet.

No, I didn't fall. The floor just needed a hug. So why do they call it rush hour when nothing moves.

I'm not lazy. I'm just on energy-saving mode.

Don't give up on your dreams. Keep sleeping.

Some people are like clouds. When they disappear, it's a beautiful day.

Age is merely the number of years the world has been enjoying you.

Remember, you don't have to attend every argument you're invited to.

I'm not great at advice. Can I interest you in a sarcastic comment.

I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not sure.

Doing nothing is hard; you never know when you're done.

I followed my heart, and it led me to the fridge.

Never let your best friends get lonely. Keep disturbing them.

I will close with a profound quote. Not necessarily profound because of the words contained in the quote, but because of who said it. The quote: "Life would be tragic if it weren't funny."

The quoter: Stephen Hawking

HOWARD Hays As I See It



"The world will move on without us . . . Indeed, it's already happening."
- Professor Nicholas Grossman, University of Illinois

For a change, I'll write about something Donald Trump and his administration aren't involved with - developments in global trade, security and scientific advancement. Though Trump remains the focus over here, the world moves on without us.

Prof. Grossman recently wrote of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), negotiated under President Obama, encompassing 12 Pacific Rim nations generating 40% of the world's economy, setting terms for mutually beneficial trade. At the start of his first term, Donald Trump pulled the U.S. out of the group - arguing instead for negotiations with individual countries (which didn't happen).

The remaining countries moved on without us in a re-branded, successful and now expanding trade pact. Last year, the U.K. became the first non-original member to be admitted while others are waiting - including Taiwan, Costa Rica, Ecuador and China. In the original TPP, the U.S. played a leadership role with China on the sideline. But with Trump having withdrawn the U.S., China has its opportunity.

Vietnam had become a reliable, pro-American trading partner - largely to fend off its northern neighbor China. When slapped with a 46% "Liberation Day" tariff, Vietnam offered to bring its own tariff to 0%. White House advisor Peter Navarro responded, "that means nothing to us". Last week, Vietnam signed new cooperation agreements on production and supply chains - with China; moving on without us.

Weeks before the tariff announcement, China's Foreign Minister Wang Li was in Europe talking trade. Vice President Vance had just been in Munich scolding allies for being too hard on their far-right parties and not hard enough on their immigrants. Foreign Minister Li noted Europe's "playing a significant role" in countering Russia's invasion of Ukraine, as Secretary of State Rubio was refusing Europe any role in U.S.-mediated, Saudi-sponsored talks.

Following "Liberation Day", Trump said countries would be lining up to make a deal. They are - but not here. European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen told Politico, "In a more and more unpredictable global environment, countries are lining up to work with us". She mentioned "strong, reliable partners" and how "In the middle of the chaos, Europe stands firm, grounded in values, ready to shape what comes next".

Von der Leyen explained to the German newspaper Der Zeit, "the West as we knew it no longer exists", calling Europe "the best place for democracy, equality, healthcare and for the middle class" - a place where "controversial debates are allowed at our universities". Now, she says, "Everyone is asking for more trade with Europe - and it's not just about economic ties. It is also about establishing common rules and it is about predictability . . . Europe is known for its predictability and reliability."

From Canadian PM Mark Carney, "The 80-year period when the United States embraced the mantle of global economic leadership, when it forged alliances rooted in trust and mutual respect and championed the free and open exchange of goods and services, is over. . . Canada is ready to take a leadership role in building a coalition of like-minded countries who share our values."

With Trump siding with Putin in Russia's war on Ukraine, Europe's von der Leyen warns that "The security architecture that we relied on can no longer be taken for granted". The European Union announced a program offering loans to member nations for purchasing military equipment - as long as the equipment is made in Europe. Poland is arranging arms purchases from South Korea. Military ties are being strengthened between the EU and countries like Britain, Canada, Norway, Australia, Japan, South Korea and India. For security concerns, the world is moving on without us.

The Aix-Marseilles University in southern France sent out a call for applications: "In a context where some scientists in the United States may feel threatened or hindered in their research, our university announces the establishment of the Safe Place For Science program dedicated to welcoming scientists wishing to pursue their work in an environment conducive to innovation, excellence and academic freedom." Over half the eligible applications submitted came from Americans at institutions like Johns Hopkins, Columbia, Yale, Stanford and NASA - in fields ranging from humanities to life sciences and the environment.

Former French President Francois Hollande introduced legislation to support them. Regarding the work of climate researchers, "If they are interrupted, hindered, prevented, it will be a step backwards for humanity". He says the legislation shows "France is an open country at a time when the United States is closing in on itself and authoritarian regimes are pursuing aggressive, repressive policies."

Here, it's a matter of hoping the courts step in or waiting until the mid-terms next year. In other countries, they share Canadian PM Carney's view that "While this is a tragedy, it is also the new reality" - and they move on without us.

On her meeting with NATO Foreign Ministers in Brussels, Canada's FM Melanie Joly said, "That's my message to Europeans: The relationship with the U.S. will never be the same." She added, "the only people on Earth that will be able to really have President Trump change course are the Americans themselves."





FITNESS FOR LIFE



CHILL OUT WITH SMART GOGGLES

You've heard of fitness watches, smart rings, and apps that track your steps—but have you heard of smart goggles that help you relax? They might look like a cross between a sleep mask and a pair of ski goggles, but their real power is in helping you unwind, ease stress, and give your eyes a break. Whether you're feeling tense after a long day, staring at screens for hours, or just need a few minutes of peace and quiet, smart goggles might be just what your brain (and body) needs.

Smart goggles are electronic eye masks that cover your eyes and sometimes your forehead and temples. They're designed to help you relax using heat to gently warm the area around your eyes, massage to ease tension, vibration to boost blood flow, and soft air pressure that moves across your forehead and temples. Some even play calming music or nature sounds while you use them. Most smart goggles connect to an app so you can pick the kind of session you want—whether it's to help you fall asleep, wake up more gently, or just take a mental break.

You may wonder why you'd need something like this. Think about how much we use our eyes every day. Between phones, computers, TV, and driving, our eyes work hard. If you add stress, lack of sleep, or sinus pressure, it's easy to feel wiped out by the end of the day. Smart goggles are like a spa session for your face. They can help relax tight muscles in your face and head, reduce eye strain, ease tension headaches, calm anxiety, and even help you fall asleep faster. They also support recovery after workouts by helping your body shift from "go-go-go" to rest mode.

These goggles aren't just for tech lovers or athletes. They're useful for anyone who needs a moment to relax. That could be people who work on screens all day, busy parents, teens who are stressed from school, or older adults who want to soothe tired eyes and ease tension. They're

also great if you've tried meditation or breathing exercises and find it hard to sit still. Smart goggles give your mind something to focus on while your body rests.

When shopping for a pair, look for goggles with heat settings, adjustable massage modes, and sound features. Some play white noise or calming sounds. Others let you connect your phone and play your own music. Make sure they feel comfortable on your face, especially around the nose and forehead. Make sure they come with a rechargeable USB port for easy charging, so you won't have to worry about replacing batteries. Many goggles fold up for easy storage or travel. Prices range from about \$50 to over \$200, but you don't need to spend a lot to get the benefits. Even simple models can be helpful if you use them regularly.

You can use smart goggles just about any time of day. After a workout, instead of scrolling your phone, try closing your eyes and letting the goggles do the work while your body cools down. Before bed, they can help you settle your thoughts and fall asleep more easily. During the day, they're great for a quick break when you're feeling overwhelmed or when your eyes are tired. Even a 10-minute session can leave you feeling calmer and more focused. Some models of smart goggles even track your usage and adjust the settings based on your preferences or the amount of stress detected. These advanced features can help personalize your experience, making the relaxation process even more effective. For example, some goggles monitor how tense your forehead or temples are, adjusting the pressure or heat to provide a more tailored massage. With supervision, kids and teens can use them too—especially if they've been doing a lot of screen time or have trouble winding down before sleep.

Smart goggles are safe for most people, but there are a few things to keep in mind. They're not a medical device. If you've had eye surgery, have glaucoma, or are sensitive to pressure or heat around the eyes, it's best to check with your doctor first.

In today's busy world, learning to relax is just as important as eating right or staying active. Smart goggles are one more tool that can help you take care of yourself—without needing a full day off or a trip to the spa. If your eyes feel tired, your mind is racing, or you just need a break, try putting on a pair. A few minutes of warmth, quiet, and gentle massage might be all you need to turn your day around.

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SOUR GRAPES

by Tim Jones

I'M GONNA REALLY EXERCISE AND GET INTO SHAPE, AESOP. NO EXCUSES AND NO MORE LAZINESS FOR THIS GUY!

HAVE YOU BEEN TO THE GYM, YET?

I DROVE THERE, BUT I TURNED AROUND AND WENT BACK HOME.

WHY'D YOU DO THAT?

THERE WEREN'T ANY PARKING SPACES NEAR THE DOOR.

GUESS IT DIDN'T WORK OUT.



May Events Around Town!

Brought to you by Sue Cook

One Time Events

May 2
Cinco De Mayo at San Gabriel Mission District
Entertainment, vendors, food trucks, kids' activities, beer/wine garden. 5:30pm – 9pm

May 3
Beethoven "Pastoral" Symphony at Ambassador Auditorium
Pasadena Symphony performs Beethoven's joyful and expansive symphony 2pm & 8pm

May 3
UCLA Spring Showcase and Cinco de Mayo at the Rose Bowl
See UCLA Football's preparations for the 2025 season, and celebrate Cinco de Mayo with food, music, shops, and boxing. 11am

May 4
Museums of the Arroyo Day
Experience family fun at six area museums 12pm – 4:00pm

May 4
Monrovia Historic Home Tour
Explore five vintage homes and museums in Monrovia. 10am – 4:00pm

May 10
Pasadena Heritage's Arts and Crafts Architecture Bus Tour
Discover Pasadena's Arts and Crafts architecture 10am – 12:30pm & 2pm – 4:30pm

May 10
Pasadena Walking Film Tour
Explore Old Pasadena and learn about movies and TV shows filmed here. 10am – 12pm

May 11
Mother's Day Brunch at The Huntington
Celebrate Mom with an elegant brunch in the beautiful Garden Court. 11am & 3:30pm

May 17
Cruel World Music Festival at Brookside at the Rose Bowl
The festival features performances by New Order, The Go-Gos, and more. 11am -11pm

May 20
Camarata Pacifica: Auerbach's Dreammusik at The Huntington
Enjoy the music of Auerbach, Bolcom and Chopin. Rothenberg Hall. 7:30pm – 9pm

Ongoing Events

April 5 – May 18
Renaissance Pleasure Faire 2025
Enjoy rollicking games, demonstrations, food, and more. Santa Fe Dam 10am – 7pm

April 22 – June 15
Cai Gur-Qiang: A Material Odyssey at Pacific Asia Museum
Artworks and scientific displays explore the properties of gunpowder use by the artist.

April 22 – August 1
Wired for Wonder: A Multisensory Maze at Kidspace Museum
Immerse yourself in this multisensory maze for all ages. Tues – Sun 10am – 5pm

April 20 – May 18
Pasadena Showcase House of Design
The Bauer Estate and Gardens set in five acres of peace and seclusion. Proceeds fund music programs and grants to non-profits.

May 2 – May 26
LA County Fair at The Fairplex
Enjoy attractions, concerts, competitions, fair food and more!

May 3, 4
Sierra Madre Art Fair
Held in Memorial Park this art fair features over 80 fine artists. 9:30am -5pm

May 10, May 24
Greene & Greene Drop in Talks - Huntington
Gamble House docents host drop in talks at The Huntington's Greene & Greene Gallery May 10 the Robinson Dining Room May 24 At the Hearth 11:30, 12:30, 1:30

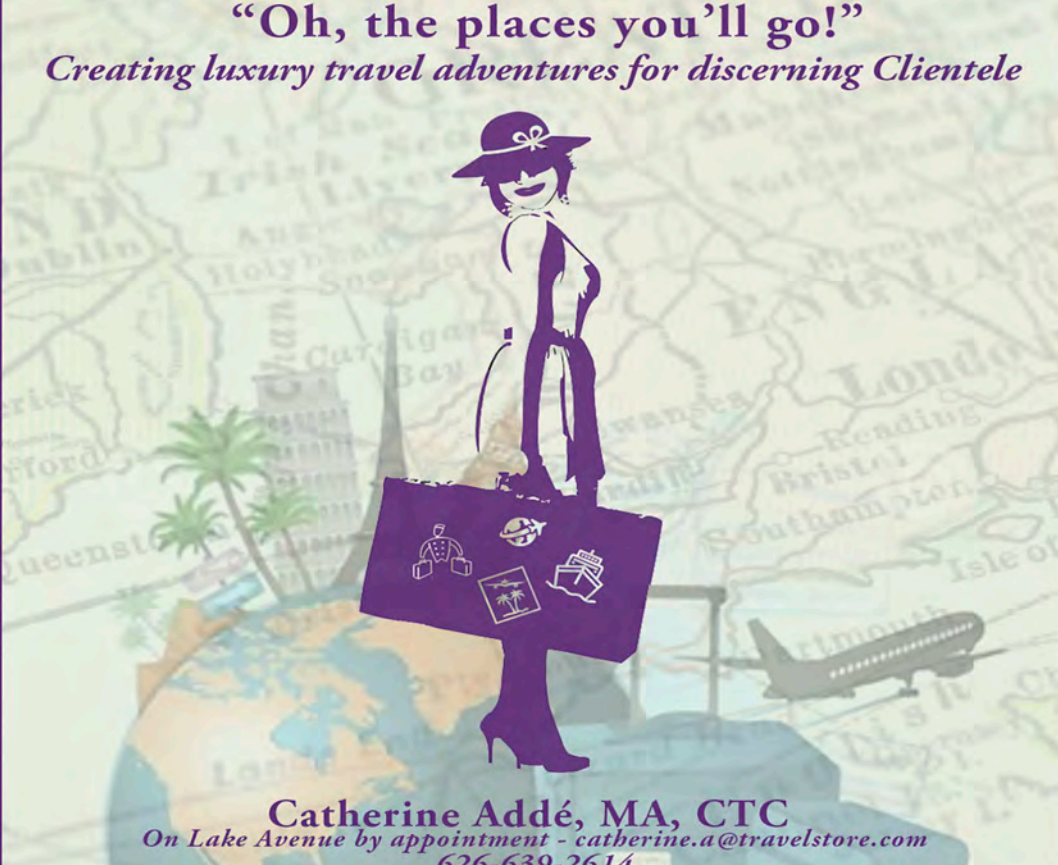
May 22, May 29
Twilight Music and Cocktails at the Peacock Café Terrace
Relax with cocktails and delicious bites 6 – 8pm



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SIERRA MADRE
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