

SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 2025

VOLUME 19 NO. 26

## THE STRENGTH OF OUR COMMUNITY

*Fourth of July Message from Mayor Robert Parkhurst*

2025 has been one of the most challenging years for our village in the foothills. We weathered four natural disasters in just the first three months of the year – a windstorm followed by one of the worst wildfires in the city's history, which led to two mudslides. When I decided to run for City Council and represent you and your interests, I did so because Sierra Madre is the most unique place I have ever lived. The compassion, civic virtues, and community spirit of residents are the treasure of the city and what makes it so unique.

This culture was exemplified in the hours, days, and weeks following the natural disasters of the year. As the windstorm started on January 7, the city opened our emergency operations center, which allowed staff to assess the dangers early and led to a proactive decision to evacuate the city, which allowed firefighters to save lives and protect property.



As the fire raged, cities throughout the San Gabriel Valley called to offer support. In just one example, the City of El Monte showed up unannounced with water and food for our first responders. Before the fire was out, our citizens worked with the YMCA to set up an emergency shelter and food bank. The outpouring of donations was tremendous. We had food and clothing not only for the residents of Sierra Madre whose homes were lost or damaged, but also for our friends and neighbors in Altadena who lost their homes.

In the coming days, weeks, and years we will continue to face challenges at the local, regional, state, and national level. Our resilience is in our sense of community. Many times I have seen our residents discuss and debate difficult issues with passion, but in a way that, at the end of the conversation, they can shake hands and continue to be friends, neighbors, and community members. Put another way, our culture allows us to disagree without being disagreeable.

As we celebrate this Fourth of July with the beer garden, fun run, parade, and swimming at the YMCA, I encourage all our residents to reach out to their friends and neighbors around the city and around the world to demonstrate the compassion, civic virtues, and community spirit that make this city so unique. Happy Fourth of July!!



## A FOND FAREWELL AND THANKS FOR 15 YEARS OF SERVICE



At the regular City Council meeting on Tuesday, outgoing City Manager Jose Reynoso was honored for his 15 years of service to Sierra Madre...his 'dream job'. (<https://mtnviewsnews.com/v19/htm/n14/index.htm>). Recipient of numerous tokens of appreciation included a unique and creative 'keepsake' (held by Councilwoman Lowe), representing his years with the SM water department. *Photo courtesy City of Sierra Madre*

## SIERRA MADRE APPOINTS MICHAEL BRUCKNER CITY MANAGER

The City of Sierra Madre is pleased to announce the appointment of Michael Bruckner as its next City Manager, following a comprehensive and competitive recruitment process. Mr. Bruckner brings more than 15 years of progressive leadership experience in municipal government, most recently serving as Assistant City Manager for the City of Culver City, California.

Throughout his public service career, Mr. Bruckner has been recognized for his innovative leadership, strategic vision, and strong commitment to community engagement. His areas of expertise include budget and financial management, service delivery optimization, and policy and program development.

Mr. Bruckner holds a Master's degree in Government Administration from the University of Pennsylvania's Fels Institute of Government and a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Sonoma State University. Some of his accomplishments include developing Culver City's Homeless Services reporting dashboard, streamlining internal city processes related to hiring and emergency preparedness, coordinating several successful municipal ballot initiatives, and



acting as a regional liaison on key intergovernmental issues.

"I am honored to join the Sierra Madre community and look forward to working alongside the City Council, staff, and residents to build upon the City's strong tradition of service excellence and civic pride," said Mr. Bruckner. "Together, we will continue to enhance the quality of life in Sierra Madre and address the opportunities and challenges ahead, including resolving the City's structural budget deficit."

Mayor Robert Parkhurst expressed confidence in the appointment, stating, "Mike's depth of experience, collaborative leadership style, and passion for city management make him the ideal person to guide Sierra Madre into the future."

Bruckner will start on July 7, 2025.

**HAPPY**

**4<sup>th</sup> of July**

**YOUR REFERRALS**

**MAKE OUR BUSINESS sparkle!**



Jan Greteman 626.975.4033

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### CELEBRATING AMERICA

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## ELI'S AUTO SERVICE

*Your Trusted Auto Care Partner*

**CERTIFIED SMOG TESTS & REPAIRS**

**8:00 am - 05:00 pm**

**125 W. SIERRA MADRE BLVD.  
SIERRA MADRE, CA. 91024**

We love our customers, so feel free to visit during normal business hours.

We offer free shuttle service locally.

Phone **626-325-3173**

Email **[service@ElisAutoService.com](mailto:service@ElisAutoService.com)**



**Are you ready to enter the 2025 Summer housing market?**

The Real Estate Market has shifted. Inventory in Sierra Madre has increased, giving buyers more options and some homes are staying on the market longer than in previous months.

Sierra Madre's charm and popularity remain high, making it a sought-after community. Whether you're looking to Buy or Sell, understanding these trends is key to making your next move.

Curious why some houses sell quickly with multiple offers, while others linger on the market?

Call us today to discuss what makes certain homes stand out and how to position your property for success!

**Call Us Today! We will get you where you want to be...HOME!**

**40+ Years of Combined Experience Representing Buyers and Sellers**



**Barbara Rogers**

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# SIERRA MADRE

## 4TH OF JULY EVENTS

### INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE!

PRESENTED BY THE KENSINGTON!

JOIN US ON THE 4TH!  
SIERRA MADRE BLVD AT SUNNYSIDE

PARADE 10AM TO 12PM

**FRIDAY  
JULY 4TH  
THE  
PARADE**

- 7:30 AM YMCA FIRECRACKER 5K FAMILY FUN RUN!
- 8 AM WOMAN'S CLUB PRE-PARADE OPEN HOUSE W/CONT BREAKFAST  
(LIVE MUSIC BY THE WABASH WAILERS, 550 WEST SIERRA MADRE BLVD)
- 12-2 PM FREE FAMILY SWIM @ SIERRA MADRE POOL SPONSORED BY YMCA!

**THURSDAY  
JULY 3RD  
COMMUNITY  
PICNIC  
MEMORIAL  
PARK**

- 5-10 PM FRIENDS OF HEASLEY FIELD BEER GARDEN!
- 6-9:30 PM LIVE MUSIC WITH GROOVY LEMON PIE!
- 7:45 PM COMMUNITY PHOTO AT BAND SHELL!
- 8 PM BUBBLE WRAP FIREWORKS!
- NON-PROFIT BOOTHS-KIDS ACTIVITIES 5-9 PM
- FOOD TRUCKS, CIVIC CLUB CONFETTI EGGS, ROTARY TRI-TIP

**THE KENSINGTON  
SIERRA MADRE**

**PARADE SPONSORS**



Mountain Views News

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★ CALIFORNIA ★

[WWW.SIERRAMADREEVENTS.ORG](http://WWW.SIERRAMADREEVENTS.ORG)





# SIERRA MADRE

SIERRA MADRE

ARCADIA

PASADENA

ALTADENA

MONROVIA

## THE NEXT CHAPTER FOR THE SIERRA MADRE PUBLIC LIBRARY

By Jujube Hutt

Renovations are currently underway to revitalize the Sierra Madre Public Library, with the new-and-improved building expected to reopen in June of 2026. The Sierra Madre Library Foundation is raising funds to support this exciting project.

The library has served the community for over a century as the fourth oldest city library in LA County. With a catalogue of over 70,000 items, it provides the community access to information in the form of books, movies, and eBooks, as well as hosting numerous programs promoting reading and learning for all ages.

Even in the digital age, libraries like Sierra Madre's are vital for creating connections and providing resources. "I think libraries bring communities together, and the beauty is it doesn't cost anything to rent a movie or check out a book," shared Sierra Madre Library Foundation board member Tonja Torres. "The whole community benefits when people have access to information."

The planned changes will add about 5,000 square feet to the library, featuring a new reading balcony, teen's room, expanded children's room, more study areas, and community meeting room. "Now we're going to have a meeting space that's going to hold 200+ people," stated Sierra Madre Library Foundation board member Dawn Denison, "that's a huge thing for our town to be able to have and help build the community and connection that we need."

In addition, the library will also include a maker space where various STEAM activities will be hosted and crafting resources will be available. This includes knitting lessons, sewing machines, a 3D printer, a Cricut cutting machine, and more. Finally, the downstairs area will include a climate-controlled historical archive, which will protect and provide open access to the town's historic documents. "Not every town has that kind of amazing research," noted Denison.

To fund these renovations, the library received state and federal grants totaling around \$10.6 million dollars. This money covers the building expansion and improvements, ADA and seismic upgrades, fire suppression equipment, and improving green spaces. However, the grants do not cover furniture, fixtures, and equipment (FF&E), such as bookshelves, tables, computers, and technology resources needed to reopen the library.



Library Artist Rendition



Library Front Elevation

The Sierra Madre Library Foundation is working to raise \$1.5 million to purchase the library's FF&E. Approximately \$1 million has already been raised, with substantial contributions from the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library, Mary Tumilty Fund, and Day Trust. Additionally, the library's new teen room is being funded by the Pasadena Tournament of Roses.

Other local organizations have also donated to support the library's renovations, such as the Rotary Club of Sierra Madre, Sierra Madre Community Foundation, Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society, Kiwanis Club of Sierra Madre, and Sierra Madre Civic Club.

The Sierra Madre Library Foundation still needs to raise about \$500,000 to reach their goal. Those interested in supporting can visit the foundation's website at <https://sierramadrelibraryfoundation.org/>.

With continued help from the community, these renovations will begin a new chapter for the Sierra Madre Public Library.

THE

Next Chapter

OF SIERRA MADRE'S LIBRARY

The Sierra Madre Library Foundation is raising funds to furnish the City's new library with furniture and technology - and we need your help. Here are some of the exciting new changes:

5,000 sq-ft  
Addition



Dedicated  
Community  
Meeting Space



Seismic & ADA  
updates



Join us by donating today, and play a vital role in shaping the future of our library!

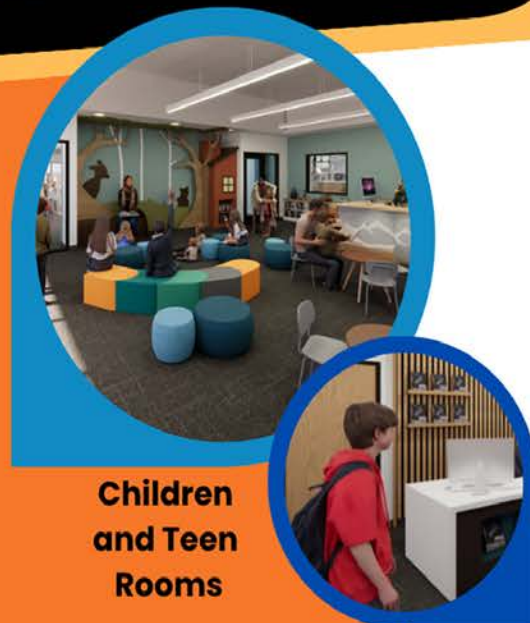
Support the new library!  
[SierraMadreLibraryFoundation.org](https://SierraMadreLibraryFoundation.org)  
PO Box 563 Sierra Madre, CA 91025



Historical Archives  
Room



Children  
and Teen  
Rooms







From the City of Sierra Madre's Website"

## CALIFORNIA RAPID RESPONSE NETWORKS

The City Of Sierra Madre is sharing this regional legal resource made available by the ACLU of Southern California for individuals seeking guidance on immigration enforcement activities. <https://www.aclusocal.org/en/california-rapid-response-networks>

# BEAR SIGHTINGS IN SIERRA MADRE ON THE RISE



This 172 Kg (379.195 lbs.) female bear, approximately 2 years old was trapped on the Mt. Wilson Trail. Photo submitted by Bob Spears.

## REPORT WILDLIFE ACTIVITY

Help us track wildlife in your area.

**Call 9-1-1**

- Animal inside a home or structure
- You feel unsafe

**Call (626) 355-1414**

- Animal was in structure but is now gone
- Wildlife keeps returning
- Illegal feeding of wildlife

**Report All Sightings:**

**wildlife.ca.gov/wir** – State tracking

**wildlife@cityofsierramadre.com** – City tracking

**Your reports help keep our community safe.**

## SIERRA MADRE 2025=2026 BUDGET ADOPTED - CHALLENGES AHEAD

By Kevin McGuire

City Council approved earlier this month, the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Annual Budget after receiving an update and breakdown by Finance Director Anthony Rainey during a recent public hearing. Three resolutions were adopted on June 10, 2025, adopting the budget and approving the Gann Appropriation Limits and Fee Schedule. The turnout for this public hearing was minimal, and no public comments were made.

City staff began working on the budget in April, utilizing a zero-based process that involves a line-by-line review of expenditures with Rainey and the City Manager, Jose Reynoso.

According to Mr. Rainey's report, while expenditures surpass current-year revenues, the use of reserves is both sensible and compatible with the city's financial policies and legal obligations. This approach enables the city to meet the community's needs and sustain essential services without compromising its economic stability.

The inclusion of reserves reflects responsible fiscal stewardship and a balanced budget, in line with recognized government finance practices, even as efforts continue toward achieving long-term structural balance, according to Rainey. The General Fund shows a projected shortfall of \$900,000, which is attributed to one-time capital projects at the Sierra Madre YMCA, which is property owned by the city. The remaining gap, approximately \$560,000, stems primarily from baseline cost increases, including a rise in CalPERS contributions and other combined increases in non-personnel services accounts.

Sierra Madre can expect approximately \$35 million in total revenue in the upcoming fiscal year, according to the report. This is the culmination of \$20.9 million from various government funds, including the General Fund, Special Revenue Funds, and Proprietary Funds such as water, sewer, and internal services. On the other hand, the city is expected to spend approximately \$45.8 million, which is broken down as follows: \$31 million for government operations and \$14.8 million for proprietary operations.

### Staffing Needs

Staff is recommending funding for 91 full-time positions in the city and 20,080 part-time seasonal hours for FY 2025-2026. There is a growing demand for increased customer service for the Planning and Community Preservation areas. Filling these staffing needs aims to benefit the community by providing expanded services and enhanced program delivery.

### General Fund Summary

The proposed FY 2025-2026 General Fund

budget shows a projected funding gap of \$1.46 million. According to Rainey, this results from \$19.1 million in total expenditures, along with \$336,900 in transfers out and \$100,000 in contingency allocations, which exceed the projected revenues of \$18.05 million. No transfers in are included in this proposed budget. In this projected funding gap, \$900,000 is attributed to multiple, one-time capital projects: the installation of an ADA-compliant elevator at \$750,000 and the YMCA pool safety improvements, which total \$150,000. These projects are eligible for funding from Unassigned General Fund Reserves because they represent one-time capital improvements. Staff recommends that the City Council authorize the use of \$900,000 in reserves at the time of budget adoption to fund these improvements fully.

In summary, Sierra Madre is expected to bring in less revenue than last fiscal year and incur approximately \$14 million more in expenditures. This will undoubtedly pave the way for a more challenging road ahead for the city.

### Future Concerns

After many years of a budget surplus, the city may seek to find other sources of revenue and resort to budget cuts to avoid digging a deeper hole for itself down the road.

Here are some things that need to be considered in the future.

- According to Director Rainey, it is projected that the General Fund will incur deficits in the coming years, as expenditures are expected to grow at a faster rate than revenues. Sierra Madre also faces significant new funding pressures related to emerging community needs and ongoing labor negotiations.
- These reports have identified critical operational and infrastructure needs in both the Police and Fire Departments to meet the evolving safety and emergency response requirements of the community.
- There is a growing gap between the Classified Employees Association (CEA), Mid-Management, and Executive Management salary ranges. This causes challenges in recruiting and retaining employees. This also puts a burden on efforts to offer competitive wages similar to those of surrounding cities.
- Sierra Madre is in the process of a major expansion and renovation of the existing library. Although this

renovation will address space issues, it will also raise questions about staffing and funding for future operations.

- Pension and retirement obligations continue to be a long-term fiscal challenge. These necessary liabilities have a significant impact on the City's annual budget. The City remains committed to its Pension Funding Policy and is projected to maintain a funded ratio of approximately 84%.
- There are \$15.1 million in new capital appropriations for Fiscal Year 2025-2026, along with \$2.92 million in carryover funding from prior fiscal years. These investments support a broad range of critical infrastructure and service improvements.

### Water and Sewer

The Water Enterprise Fund is projected to generate \$7.3 million in total revenues, primarily from customer service charges of \$6.95 million, and receive an additional \$26,000 in transfers, resulting in a total available resource of approximately \$7.33 million. Total expenditures are projected at \$7.91 million, resulting in a net reduction in available resources of \$584,000. Within the expenditure plan, \$2.4 million is allocated to capital outlay to support key infrastructure investments [\$882,000 of carryover from FY 2024-2025], according to Rainey's presentation.

The proposed budget for the Sewer Enterprise Fund projects totals \$1.36 million, primarily from service charges of \$1.33 million. Interest income is projected at \$25,000, with no additional revenues or transfers included in the budget. Total expenditures are estimated at \$1.05 million.

Resources from FEMA for the Eaton Fire were not considered for this budget plan, according to Rainey.

Here are the resolutions that were adopted.

- Resolution 25-39 adopting the fiscal year 2025-2026 budget
- Resolution 25-40 approving the Gann appropriations limit for FY 2025-2026
- Resolution 25-41 approving the FY 2025-2026 fee schedule.

According to city staff, by adopting this budget, the City Council will continue to implement the Strategic Plan in a fiscally responsible and community-focused manner.

## THIEVES BREAK IN TWO SIERRA MADRE BUSINESSES



The tranquility of Sierra Madre was disrupted sometime between late Wednesday evening or early Thursday morning, when a thief broke into two popular Kersting Court businesses. Mother Moo Creamery (pictured above) and Something Healthy Cafe were both vandalized and had their cash registers stolen.

According to SMPD Chief Gus Barrientos, the cash registers at both locations were taken and recovered. One was found abandoned on Montecito Avenue. It is believed the break-ins occurred sometime after midnight but were not discovered until approximately 5 am. by a passing jogger.

According to security cameras, the break-ins were committed by one masked thief, believed to be male. Investigation into the identity, including the analysis of fingerprints at the crime scenes is ongoing. Video cameras at multiple locations are also under review.

SMPD regularly patrols the town, especially the downtown area at night. As a result of this incident, Barrientos stated that the department has implemented increased patrols in the area.

Anyone with any information on these burglaries should contact the Sierra Madre Police Department - 626-355-1414.

S. Henderson/MVNews



# SIERRA MADRE

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## Weather Wise



### 6-Day Forecast Sierra Madre, Ca.

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

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

## SIERRA MADRE CITY MEETINGS

### SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

July 8, 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](mailto: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](http://foothillsmmedia.org/sierramadre) and broadcast on Government Access Channel 3 (Spectrum)..

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

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

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

Your event must:

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

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



Sierra Madre Public  
**LIBRARY**  
Read • Discover • Connect

*This week at the*  
**Sierra Madre  
Public Library**  
**June 30 — July 5**

### Monday

**Baby Rhyme Time** — Library at 9:00am

**Preschool Storytime** — Library at 10:00am

**Reading Buddies** — Library from 3:30pm—5:30pm

### Thursday

**4th of July Craft** — Library All Day

**Reading Buddies** — Library from 3:30pm—5:30pm

### Saturday

**Library Closed for Holiday**

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

## WALKING SIERRA MADRE The Social Side

by Deanne Davis

*"Everything good, everything magical, happens between the months of June and August." Jenny Han*

*"Half the people in Sierra Madre are watching the parade. The other half are in it!"*

*"July is a blind date with summer." Hal Borland*

Can you believe it's almost July already? And next Friday is the 4th! What a weekend we have coming up! Don't make any plans to leave town, there's nothing happening anywhere else that can match what we have going on.

Thursday night, July 3rd, Memorial Park is the place to be with the beer garden, Groovy Lemon Pie sending out the music, bubble wrap fireworks, kids booths, community photo, food trucks and the Rotary is offering their tri-tip.

Then, at last, one of the Sierra Madre highlights of the year, the July 4th Parade is Friday starting at 10 a.m. The parade is such a great time. John and I always got up early, drove downtown, set up our chairs in front of Happy's Liquor, had coffee at dear departed Beantown and walked all over town to see who we would see. Every year it just got better. It is actually the best parade anywhere, mainly because it's stuffed with people we know. We loved seeing the kids from all the teams, the fire engines, the parents pulling wagons with little people in them looking bewildered. We admired the Search & Rescue Guys, waved at all the dignitaries smiling in the backs of open cars, trying not to sweat, wondering if they've got enough sunblock on, working hard to look responsible and re-electable. Our veterans carrying flags and please, friends and neighbors, stand when our flag goes by. Oh! And be sure you buy a rose from those nice folks in the Sierra Madre Rose Float Association to support our float, "Magic in Teamwork" celebrating the teamwork between the community, the fire department and first responders, who are, most fittingly, the Grand Marshals of the parade this year.

"You have to love a Nation that celebrates its independence every July 4th, not with a parade of guns, tanks and soldiers who file by the White House in a show of strength and muscle, but with family picnics where kids throw frisbees, the potato salad gets iffy, and the flies die from happiness. You may think you've overeaten, but it's really patriotism." Erma Bombeck

### JULY 4TH – BEST DAY OF SUMMER

Deanne Davis

I'll bring the hot dogs,  
You bring the beer,  
The Fourth of July,  
Is finally here!  
Let's walk downtown,  
And watch the parade.  
I hope we can find,  
A place in the shade.  
It's our day to celebrate,  
Our Nation's story.  
Is your hand on your heart?

Here she comes! It's Old Glory!  
Let's stand up and cheer!  
Old Glory's passing by.  
Here come our V.A. guys,  
Standing so tall and straight!  
Thank you, guys, for your service,  
We think you're just great!  
We love those old cars,  
Filled with folks that we know.  
We'll barbeque later,  
A burger...or three,  
A hot dog for you, some chicken for me.

We'll have potato salad,  
Sure! It's calorie free! (Not!)  
We'll count all our blessings,  
Be glad that we live in a land that is free.  
Free to celebrate Independence Day,  
To celebrate...Liberty!

Speaking of potato salad, I'm fond of the hard-boiled eggs, pickle relish, onions, potatoes, celery salt and seed, pepper, dill, mustard, mayonnaise, a dash of 1000 Island dressing and of making it a couple of days ahead of time so everything has a chance to get acquainted and develop flavor.

I've cut out dozens of potato salad recipes from magazines and various newspaper cooking pages but I can't bring myself to deviate from the old familiar one. I have great memories, though, of a potato salad made by a chef in Greece that featured Greek olive oil (he turned up his nose at any other kind) celery and diced scallions. Simple, but absolutely delicious.

Whatever you do this July 4th weekend, be sure you have a great time with people you love, people who enjoy food, laughter, each other, and maybe you can sit out somewhere and watch the sun set, put your feet in the water, have another hot dog and delight in every minute. Somewhere along the way, be sure to remember that freedom isn't free. It has been bought and paid for at great cost by people who gave all.

Let's Celebrate Everything!  
My book page: [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/s?ref=ap_r_dp_rdr&pf_rd_p=52714637-4000-4000-9000-000000000000): Deanne Davis  
Where you'll find the Emma Gainsworth Kindle novelettes,  
Along with other goodies like "A Treasure Map, A Drunken Owl  
And 47 Rattlers in A Bag" True Tales of Early California





## Fourth of July Closures and Reminders

Pasadena residents and businesses are reminded that City Hall and many City services and administrative offices will be closed Friday, in observance of the Independence Day holiday. Specific closures and exceptions are noted below.

Pasadena residents and businesses experiencing power emergencies should call the Pasadena Water and Power Department (PWP) at (626) 744-4673. For water-related emergencies, call (626) 744-4138. PWP's regular Customer Call Center will be closed for the holiday, but customers can access their accounts and pay bills online at PWPweb.com or by calling (626) 744-4005.

City trash collection will occur on Friday. There will be no delay in trash, recycling, and yard waste collection. Bulky item pick-ups will not be available.

The City's City Service Center (CSC) will be closed Friday. During this time, CSC requests can be submitted via the web, CSC mobile app, and by calling (626) 744-7311. All CSC requests, voicemails, and emails will be monitored. The CSC will return to normal business hours on Monday, July 7, opening at 8 a.m.

The City's Municipal Services Payment Center and Parking Office at City Hall will be closed. All parking meters not posted as a "No Parking" zone will be free on Friday, July 4, and time limits will not be enforced. Violations for overnight parking, red curb parking, "No Parking" zones, and blocking fire hydrants will be enforced. Motorists are especially cautioned about parking restrictions in the Arroyo Seco area near Rose Bowl Stadium. All regular enforcement resumes Saturday, July 5.

Pasadena Transit Route 33 will run a Sunday schedule on Friday. All other routes and Dial-A-Ride Service will not run on Independence Day.

All Pasadena Public Libraries will be closed on Friday. Community centers operated by the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department will also be closed on July 4; however, all parks will be open for picnics, fun and play. No site reservations will be accepted for the holiday. Honorable John J. Kennedy Pool will be open from 1 to 4 p.m. and the splash pad at La Pintoresca Park will be available from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. to help visitors stay cool and refreshed.

The Permit Center will be closed on July 4, although some services will still be available via the Permit Center Online website. Online services include: subtrade permits and plan submittals for new construction, tenant improvements, accessory dwelling units and additions. In-person operations will resume on Monday, July 7. To access our online services, please visit: CityOfPasadena.net/PermitCenterOnline.

Pasadena Police and Fire Departments will be staffed for all patrol, jail, fire, paramedic and other emergency services, but administrative offices will be closed. If you see something, say something; report suspicious activity to Pasadena Police at (626) 744-4241. For life-threatening emergencies, dial 9-1-1.

The City of Pasadena wishes everyone a safe Fourth of July holiday.



## South Pasadena's Festival of Balloons

The City of South Pasadena is set to again host its annual tradition, the 4th of July Festival of Balloons, on Friday. This year's theme, "Unity in Community: One Nation, One Neighborhood," celebrates the spirit of togetherness and pride that defines South Pasadena.

Festivities kick off early with the Kiwanis Club Pancake Breakfast at 7:00 a.m. at the South Pasadena Fire Station, located at 817 Mound Avenue. The Opening Ceremony begins at 10:30 a.m. at the South Pasadena Public Library Community Room, located at 1115 El Centro Street, followed by the annual Festival of Balloons Parade at 11:00 a.m., which travels from Diamond Avenue to Garfield Park.

At Garfield Park, the celebration continues until 2:30 p.m. with games, delicious food, and a live DJ to keep the fun going for the whole family.

The festivities culminate with an evening of entertainment at the South Pasadena High School Stadium, located at 1401 Fremont Avenue. featuring a live performance by Faultline from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., and the highly anticipated fireworks show at 9:00 p.m. Gates open at 7:00 p.m.

Fireworks Show Tickets:

- Presale: \$15.00 per person online at: southpasadenaca.gov/events
  - At the door: \$20.00 per person
  - Children 2 and under: Free
- Bring a copy of your receipt and tickets for stadium entry.

## SoCalGas Donates \$75,000 to Pasadena Foundation

The Pasadena Chamber of Commerce Foundation (PCCF) announced this week a \$75,000 donation from Southern California Gas Co. (SoCalGas) to support small businesses in Altadena impacted by the recent Eaton Fire.

According to officials the donation will help local businesses recover and reopen, and will cover critical expenses such as relocation, equipment replacement, and operational restart costs. The Pasadena Chamber Foundation will provide assistance to eligible businesses located in or previously operating within the 91001 ZIP code.

"As small businesses work to rebuild after the devastation of the Eaton Fire, this support from SoCalGas is both timely and deeply appreciated," said Paul Little, executive director of the Pasadena Chamber Foundation. "These grants will help cover essential costs—from replacing tools and vehicles to restoring internet and phone service—so that business owners can get back on their feet and continue serving the community."

The Pasadena Chamber Foundation and Altadena Chamber will jointly review applications and award grants based on need and the potential impact of the proposed use of funds. Business owners can apply at: pasadenachamberfoundation.org.

The Eaton Fire left a lasting impact on Altadena's small business community, and recovery will take all of us working together," said Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger. "I commend SoCalGas for stepping up with this generous donation and thank the Pasadena and Altadena Chambers for their leadership. These grants will provide a vital lifeline to help local businesses rebuild, reopen, and continue

serving our neighborhoods."

"SoCalGas stands with the Altadena business community during this critical time," said Andy Carrasco, vice president of communications, local government and community affairs at SoCalGas. "We recognize the resilience of these small businesses and the vital role they play in the local economy. Through this collaboration with the Pasadena Chamber Foundation and the Altadena Chamber, we hope to provide meaningful support that helps them recover and thrive."

"We encourage any business impacted by the fire to apply for assistance," added Little. "Sometimes, this help can make the difference between reopening and closing for good. We also hope this inspires others to contribute and help Altadena's small business community recover."

In January, SoCalGas contributed \$400,000 to the YMCA of Metropolitan Los Angeles (LA Y) to expand its Eaton Fire response. The funding enabled the LA Y to provide extended hours, free access to amenities (including showers, Wi-Fi, food, and water), emergency childcare for displaced families and first responders, and access to Teen Centers.

Since most of SoCalGas' infrastructure in the fire-affected areas is underground, it remains undamaged by the fires and safe to continue serving customers as they return to their homes and businesses to rebuild. To date, natural gas service has been restored to almost 16,000 customers in the Eaton and Palisades fire areas, and crews will continue that work as customers return to assess, repair and rebuild their properties.

For more information or to apply for a mini-grant, visit: pasadenachamberfoundation.org.

In celebration of this year's theme, winning entries from the Festival of Balloons Poster Contest will be on display at the South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce Gallery, located at 1121 Mission Street. The gallery offers a wonderful opportunity to view the creativity and community pride of local youth artists. The exhibit will be available for viewing by open and open to the public on July 4 and July 8.

## Meals on Wheels Providing Food in Altadena

Altadena Meals on Wheels (AMOW) announced Wednesday that they are again providing meals to homebound neighbors after suspending service in the wake of January's devastating wildfire.

There are no specific eligibility requirements to receive meals -- any Altadena resident in need is welcome to apply. To learn more or to sign up for service, please call us at 626-794-0313.

They are also seeking volunteer drivers to deliver meals along designated routes in Altadena, Monday through Friday. If you have a few hours to spare at least twice per month, they would like to hear from you. Call 626-794-0313 to get started.

Since 1973, Altadena Meals on Wheels has utilized a caring and dedicated team of volunteers to deliver hot, tasty meals to seniors who are homebound for reasons including illness, post-surgery rehabilitation/convalence, and/or age, to help them live healthier, more nourished lives and remain independent in the comfort and security of their own homes.

Altadena Meals on Wheels receives no federal funding and operates solely through the generosity of community partners, private donors and local organizations. To make a tax-deductible donation visit: altadenamealsonwheels.org.

## Former Manager of NASA Missions John Casani Dies

The visionary engineer John Casani, who served a central role in many of NASA's historic deep space missions, died on Thursday, June 19 at the age of 92.

Casani started at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Southern California in 1956 and went on to work as an electronics engineer on some of the nation's earliest spacecraft after NASA's formation in 1958. Along with leading the design teams for both the Ranger and Mariner series of spacecraft, he held senior project positions on many of the Mariner missions to Mars and Venus, and was project manager for three trailblazing space missions: Voyager, Galileo, and Cassini.

His work helped advance NASA spacecraft in areas including mechanical technology, system design and integration, software, and deep space communications. No less demanding were the management challenges of these multifaceted missions, which led to innovations still in use today.

"John had a major influence on the development of spacecraft that visited almost every planet in our solar system, as well as the people who helped build them," said JPL director Dave Gallagher. "He played an essential role in America's first attempts to reach space and then the Moon, and he was just as crucial to the Voyager spacecraft that marked humanity's first foray into interplanetary — and later, interstellar — space. That Voyager is still exploring after nearly 50 years is a testament to John's remarkable engineering talent and his leadership that enabled others to push the boundaries of possibility."

Casani became JPL's first chief engineer in 1994, retiring in 1999 and serving on several nationally prominent



committees, including leading the investigation boards of both the Mars Climate Orbiter and the Mars Polar Lander failures, and also leading the James Webb Space Telescope Independent Comprehensive Review Panel.

In early 2003, Casani returned to JPL to serve as project manager for NASA's Project Prometheus, which would have been the nation's first nuclear-powered, electric-propulsion spacecraft. In 2005, he became manager of the Institutional Special Projects Office at JPL, a position he held until retiring again in 2012.

"Throughout his career, John reflected the true spirit of JPL: bold, innovative, visionary, and welcoming," said Charles Elachi, JPL's director from 2001 to 2016. "He was an undisputed leader with an upbeat, fun attitude and left an indelible mark on the laboratory and NASA. I am proud to have called him a friend."

Casani received many awards over his lifetime, including NASA's Exceptional Achievement Medal, the Management Improvement Award from the President of the United States for the Mariner Venus Mercury mission, and the Air and Space Museum Trophy for Lifetime Achievement.

For more information and a complete bio visit: jpl.nasa.gov.

## Illegal Fireworks Ordinance Policy to be Strictly Enforced

Pasadena city officials are reminding the public that they have a strict enforcement policy for fireworks, and that Pasadena's municipal code holds property owners and tenants responsible for permitting the possession, sale, usage, or discharge of fireworks on their property. The ordinance allows for the prosecution of fireworks-related offenses and for the demand of payment for all costs associated with the safe disposal of confiscated fireworks. Any person who violates the ordinance or any state law regarding fireworks is subject to arrest; having their vehicles impounded; serving up to one year in county jail; and being fined up to \$50,000.

Even hand-held sparklers, which many consider safe, are dangerous and can reach 1,200 degrees Fahrenheit, causing



serious burns or fires.

Pasadena police and firefighters are teaming up for special fireworks enforcement patrols before and during the Fourth of July holiday, and officers will seize fireworks in an effort to protect the public. Parking enforcement officers will ensure that vehicles illegally parked in Pasadena's hillside areas on July 4 are impounded.

If you see something, say something! Call Pasadena Police Department at (626) 744-4241 to report illegal fireworks and other suspicious activities.



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NEWS BRIEFS

BARGER ELECTED SECOND VICE CHAIR OF METRO BOARD, SET TO LEAD METRO AS CHAIR INTO THE 2028 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES

The Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) Board of Directors yesterday unanimously elected Supervisor Kathryn Barger as Second Vice Chair, elevating her to one of the top leadership positions on the 13-member governing board.

Under Metro’s three-year leadership rotation, Supervisor Barger is slated to assume the role of Board Chair in the 2027-2028 fiscal year—a critical year when Los Angeles County will be finalizing preparations to host the Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games. “I’m joining a strong, experienced, and principled Metro Board leadership team and am deeply honored by the confidence my colleagues have placed in me,” Supervisor Kathryn Barger said. “From public and employee safety to transportation reliability, my focus has always been increasing public trust. As Second Vice Chair, I look forward to supporting incoming Metro Board Chair Fernando Dutra and remain committed to collaborating across sectors to ensure Metro meets the moment, especially as we gear up for the 2026 World Cup, the 2028 Games, and beyond.”

Since joining the Metro Board in 2016, Supervisor Barger has been a strong advocate for projects that expand regional connectivity and improve the rider experience. She has played an integral role in advancing critical initiatives, such as the Foothill Gold Line extension, Metrolink Antelope Valley Line improvements, and safety enhancements on the Metro system.

Her dedication to public service spans decades, beginning as an intern in the office of her predecessor, Supervisor Michael Antonovich, and rising to serve as chief deputy before her election to the Board of Supervisors in 2016.

As Metro prepares to welcome the world for the 2026 and 2028 mega events, Supervisor Barger emphasized that she is committed to putting rider and employee safety first, maintaining fiscal responsibility, and ensuring that Metro’s strategic investments deliver a reliable, world-class transportation network for both residents and international visitors.

ASSEMBLYMEMBER HARABEDIAN DELIVERS PEOPLE-FIRST WINS DESPITE BUDGET SHORTFALL

This week, Assemblymember John Harabedian (D-Pasadena) voted to pass the 2025-26 state budget agreement, which reflects months of negotiations and input from legislators and stakeholders across California. Assemblymember Harabedian’s advocacy helped promote the mental and infrastructure recovery from the Los Angeles wildfires.

“Our communities are hurting, and in one of the toughest budget years we’ve faced I’m proud to see the state support those most in need. We fought to make sure wildfire survivors—especially families still recovering from the devastating Los Angeles fires—weren’t left behind. And we’ve helped protect fundamental human services that will keep food on the table, expand housing development, and ensure access to mental healthcare for those who need it most,” said Assemblymember Harabedian.

The final budget agreement includes key provisions Assemblymember Harabedian advocated for, including:

Excluding taxpayers’ wildfire settlement amounts from gross income if received between January 1, 2021 and January 1, 2030.

\$3.6M for the Altadena Library District to backfill lost property tax revenue

\$4M to the Foothill Municipal Water District for impacts of the Eaton Fire on local water systems

\$500K for mosquito abatement in the areas impacted by the Eaton Fire.

\$4M to the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program for local agencies to advocate for the rights and well-being of residents in long-term care facilities.

\$5M to the California Workforce Development Board to support workforce development in areas of Los Angeles County impacted by wildfires.

\$20 million ongoing from the Behavioral Health Services Fund to support Foothill Family Services and other community-based behavioral health services.

Rejecting the proposed 3 percent ongoing cut to University of California and California State University systems

\$1.12B in funding for Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention, Low Income Housing Tax Credit, and Multi-Family Housing programs

Rejects \$11.5M in proposed cuts for the Performing Arts Equitable Payroll Fund

The budget agreement now heads to the Governor for final approval.



PUBLIC ASKING FOR ANSWERS AFTER ICE RAID IN PASADENA

A number of local leaders made statements, including Pasadena city officials, after a video captured footage of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers arresting six people Wednesday morning at the intersection of Los Robles and Orange Grove Avenue. Hundreds of protesters took to the same intersection later that night opposing the action of ICE.

“We want to be clear: Neither the City of Pasadena nor the Pasadena Police Department is involved in the enforcement of federal civil immigration laws,” Pasadena city officials said in a statement. “We do not inquire about a person’s immigration status when responding to service calls or providing city services.”

Pasadena Mayor Victor Gordo along with Congresswoman Judy Chu and State Senator Sasha Renée Pérez tried later Wednesday to visit the Metropolitan Detention Center in downtown Los Angeles, where the people were reportedly being held. Federal officials denied their entry according to Chu.

“These raids aren’t targeting criminals, they’re indiscriminately targeting workplaces, community institutions, and family homes,” Chu said. “They’re rounding up people who contribute to our communities and keep our economy running. I’ve heard from countless constituents who are sick with worry. I will not stop fighting for our immigrant communities and their right to due process.”

Chu said that she has the legal right, as a Member of Congress, to conduct oversight at the Detention Center.

Pérez said that the immigrant community deserves due process and access to legal counsel.

“The Trump administration’s immigration enforcement actions this morning in Pasadena paint another troubling picture of unidentifiable federal agents terrorizing and snatching vulnerable people off the street,” Pérez said. “All indications show these raids targeted decent, hard-working community members at a bus stop who are simply trying to make a living and support their families... “I have reached out to federal agencies to get answers. I want to know the status of the people detained this morning.”

According to news reports, Gordo said he saw “a stark and deeply troubling contrast” between the armored National Guard response in January and now. Gordo said that they were first in Pasadena and Altadena to help mobilize a rapid response to the Eaton Fire, working alongside firefighters, police officers community leaders and day laborers. He said that today, while the region is still healing from the fire, “President Donald Trump decided to turn the National Guard and other federal officers against the people.”

In related news a federal law enforcement officer jumped out of his unmarked vehicle with his gun drawn Wednesday morning on Orange Grove Avenue after a man ducked behind his car to take a photo of his license plate.

In a video, from inside a vehicle, the driver follows the unmarked vehicle until it stops at a red light and then the man runs over behind the unmarked car. The officer uses his gun to chase the person away.

“We are actively investigating social media posts, photos, and videos to gain a better understanding of the situation,” Pasadena city officials said.

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# DON'T SPARK A WILDFIRE THIS 4TH OF JULY!



Learn more at [FireworksSafetyCA.org](https://FireworksSafetyCA.org)

## FOURTH OF JULY SAFETY IS A PRIORITY FOR CAL FIRE

Sacramento – Safe and Sane firework sales start tomorrow at noon in some jurisdictions throughout California, resulting in fire officials emphasizing the dangers of fireworks. Prevent fires and injuries and always check local regulations before buying. Note that fireworks bought outside California are illegal without a license. Consider enjoying a professional display instead of purchasing fireworks.

If Safe and Sane fireworks are legal in your area and you choose to use them, it's important that you follow these safety tips:

- Use only State Fire Marshal approved fireworks.
- Local ordinances should be verified before purchasing and/or using fireworks.
- Always read directions.
- Always have an adult present.
- Only use fireworks outdoors.
- Never use fireworks near dry grass or other flammable materials.
- Light one firework at a time.
- Have a bucket of water and a hose nearby.
- It is recommended that you use a bucket of gray/reused water to submerge your fireworks after they are used to fully extinguish them.
- It is illegal to transport safe and sane fireworks through any city or county where they are not allowed.

"Since 2024, fireworks have caused over \$35 million in property damage across California, sparking 1,230 fires," said Chief Daniel Berlant, California State Fire Marshal. "It is your responsibility to prevent fires and injuries. Don't let your Fourth of July celebration end in flames."

To learn more about fireworks safety, visit <https://readyforwildfire.org/prevent-wildfire/fireworks-safety/>.

### ALL THINGS

By Jeff Brown

“WILDFIRE DAYS: A WOMAN, A HOT-SHOT CREW, AND THE BURNING AMERICAN WEST,” by Kelly Ramsey

Kelly Ramsey’s new book, chronicles her time fighting some of the state’s most dangerous conflagrations alongside an all-male crew of Hotshots. The elite wildland firefighters are tasked with applying their tactical knowledge to tamp down the biggest fires in the state.

When Kelly drives over a California mountain pass to join an elite firefighting crew, she’s terrified that she won’t be able to keep up with the intense demands of the job. Not only will she be the only woman on this hotshot crew and their first in ten years, she’ll also be among the oldest. As she trains relentlessly to overcome the crew’s skepticism and gain their respect, megafires erupt across the West, posing an increasing danger both on the job and back home. In vivid prose that evokes the majesty of Northern California’s forests, Kelly takes us on the ground to see how major wildfires are fought and to lay bare the psychological toll, the bone-deep weariness, and the unbreakable camaraderie that emerge in the face of nature’s fury.

Despite the wear and tear of her rookie year in fire, Kelly gears up for a second season, determined to prove that not only can a woman survive this work, she can excel. But when her plans to marry her partner start to crumble and sparks fly with a fellow crew member, Kelly wrestles with whether she’s truly outgrown the self-destructive patterns she’s learned from her father, whose drinking and itinerant ways haunt her. And as the season wears on, she discovers how tenuous “belonging” can be amid ever-changing crew dynamics.

In this vivid, visceral, and intimate memoir, Kelly wrestles with the immense power of fire for both destruction and renewal, confronted with the questions: Which fires do you fight, and which do you let burn?



After **Eaton Fire**  
What Can I Do to Help?



# FIRE SAFE COUNCIL

Get Involved, contact Gavin Lee at [gavinsmfsc@icloud.com](mailto:gavinsmfsc@icloud.com)

and Make Sierra Madre a **\*FIREWISE** Community  
for more information, please visit <https://cafiresafecouncil.org>

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



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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 messaged for advisory and alert messages

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SBA RELIEF STILL AVAILABLE TO CALIFORNIA SMALL BUSINESSES AND PRIVATE NONPROFITS AFFECTED BY THE CHINATOWN APARTMENT COMPLEX FIRE DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR ECONOMIC INJURY LOANS APPROACHING

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is reminding small businesses and private nonprofit (PNP) organizations in California of the July 25, 2025 deadline to apply for low interest federal disaster loans to offset economic losses caused by the Chinatown Apartment Complex Fire occurring Sept. 13, 2024.

The disaster declaration covers the California counties of Kern, Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino and Ventura.

Under this declaration, SBA’s Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program is available to small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, nurseries, and PNPs impacted by financial losses directly related to the disaster. The SBA is unable to provide disaster loans to agricultural producers, farmers, or ranchers, except for small aquaculture enterprises.

EIDLs are available for working capital needs caused by the disaster and are available even if the small business did not suffer any physical damage. The loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable, and other bills not paid due to the disaster.

“SBA loans help eligible small businesses and private nonprofits cover operating expenses after a disaster, which is crucial for their recovery,” said Chris Stallings, associate administrator of the Office of Disaster Recovery and Resilience at the SBA. “These loans not only help business owners get back on their feet but also play a key role in sustaining local economies in the aftermath of a disaster.”

The loan amount can be up to \$2 million with interest rates as low as 4% for small businesses and 3.25% for PNPs with terms up to 30 years. Interest does not accrue, and payments are not due until 12 months from the date of the first loan disbursement. The SBA sets loan amounts and terms based on each applicant’s financial condition.

To apply online, visit [sba.gov/disaster](https://sba.gov/disaster). Applicants may also call SBA’s Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or email [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov) for more information on SBA disaster assistance. For people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services.

Submit completed loan applications to the SBA no later than July 25.

DEADLINE EXTENDED: DISASTER RELIEF LOAN PROGRAM FOR ALTADENA BUSINESSES NOW OPEN THROUGH JUNE 30

*Loan Program Offers Up to \$75,000 in Capital to Aid Recovery and Resilience*

In continued response to the economic impact of the January 2025 Eaton Fire, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chair Kathryn Barger and the Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA) announced today that the application deadline for the Altadena Disaster Relief Small Business Loan Program has been extended to June 30, 2025.

The program offers loans of up to \$75,000 to eligible small businesses in Altadena seeking to recover, rebuild, and retain local jobs. In addition, enhanced technical assistance resources will be made available on the program’s website ([altadenabizrelief.lacda.org](https://altadenabizrelief.lacda.org)) to help applicants navigate the process and strengthen their submissions.

“Small businesses are essential to Altadena’s identity and economic vitality, so I want to ensure they have every opportunity to bounce back,” said Supervisor Kathryn Barger. “Extending the application deadline and expanding support tools will give more business owners the time and guidance they need to access this vital relief. I encourage every eligible business to apply and take advantage of this opportunity.”

To be eligible, businesses must operate a public-facing storefront in unincorporated ZIP codes 91001 or 91104, and have been in operation for at least six months prior to applying. FEMA assistance recipients are also eligible. Applications are reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis. For full program guidelines, webinar information, and application resources, visit [altadenabizrelief.lacda.org](https://altadenabizrelief.lacda.org).

SOCALGAS DONATES \$75,000 TO PASADENA CHAMBER FOUNDATION TO SUPPORT ALTADENA SMALL BUSINESS RECOVERY FOLLOWING EATON FIRE

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For more information or to apply for a mini-grant, visit [www.pasadenachamberfoundation.org](https://www.pasadenachamberfoundation.org).

*About Pasadena Chamber of Commerce Foundation*

The Pasadena Chamber of Commerce Foundation, established in 2017, is a 501c3 charitable organization that supports workforce development, internships, homelessness prevention and disaster recovery efforts for businesses in the greater Pasadena area. Since its inception, the PCCF has placed more than 100 interns in local schools, provided financial literacy workshops for public middle schoolers and initiated a homelessness prevention effort.

*About SoCalGas*

SoCalGas is the largest gas distribution utility in the United States, serving more than 21 million consumers across approximately 24,000 square miles of Central and Southern California. Our mission is: Safe, Reliable, and Affordable energy delivery today. Ready for tomorrow. SoCalGas is a recognized leader in the energy industry and has been named Corporate Member of the Year by the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce for its volunteer leadership in the communities it serves. SoCalGas is a subsidiary of Sempra (NYSE: SRE), a leading North American energy infrastructure company. For more information, visit [SoCalGas.com/newsroom](https://www.socalgas.com/newsroom) or connect with SoCalGas on social media @SoCalGas.

FREE SOIL TESTING for homes in the Eaton fire burn area

- Representative soil sampling by Public Health suggests that some homes located downwind and just outside the Eaton Fire burn area may have higher than expected lead levels in their yards.
- Soil samples from properties located within the burn scar, downwind of, and just outside, the Eaton Fire area can be submitted for testing.
- For additional information about soil contaminants and testing, please visit [ph.lacounty.gov/eaton-soil-testing](https://ph.lacounty.gov/eaton-soil-testing).

Pruebas de tierra gratuitas para casas en áreas quemadas por el incendio de Eaton

- Muestras representativas de tierra realizadas por Salud Publica sugieren que algunas casas ubicadas a favor del viento y justo afuera del área quemada por el incendio de Eaton pueden tener niveles de plomo más altos de lo esperado en sus patios.
- Se pueden enviar muestras de tierra de propiedades ubicadas dentro de la cicatriz del incendio, a favor del viento y justo afuera del área del incendio de Eaton para analizar.
- Para obtener información adicional sobre los contaminantes de la tierra y las pruebas, visite [ph.lacounty.gov/eaton-soil-testing](https://ph.lacounty.gov/eaton-soil-testing).



For more information, including instructions on how to participate, please scan the QR code or visit: [ph.lacounty.gov/eaton-soil-testing](https://ph.lacounty.gov/eaton-soil-testing)

Para obtener más información, incluyendo instrucciones para participar, escanee el código QR o visite: [ph.lacounty.gov/eaton-soil-testing](https://ph.lacounty.gov/eaton-soil-testing)



HAVE A QUESTION ABOUT DEBRIS ?

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The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has established a Debris Call Center to help answer questions regarding Private Property Debris Removal.

Debris Call Center Hours of operation

- Monday-Friday
- 6:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.
- Saturday
- 6:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
- Sunday
- 6:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.



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# SCHOOL DIRECTORY

June 23, 2025

Dear PUSD Community,

In light of the recent events affecting many of our families, we want to begin by reaffirming what matters most to us: your safety, your well-being, and our collective strength as a community.

All PUSD summer programs remain open at this time. We want to reassure you that our campuses are secure, private spaces designed to protect and support our students. Student safety is our top priority, and always will be.

We understand that some families may need flexibility during this time. Please contact your child's summer program administrator or teacher if this is your situation.

We also recognize the emotional toll recent events may have taken on many of our students and families. If your student is feeling fear, stress, or anxiety, please know that they are not alone. Our counselors and support teams are here to help. We are also working with our Food Services team to explore alternative meal options to ensure every student continues to receive the nourishment they need.

For additional help, including legal and wellness resources, we encourage families to visit [pusd.us/immigrationresources](https://pusd.us/immigrationresources). You will find information there that is meant to support and uplift our families during uncertain times.

We are in this together. Thank you for your trust, your strength, and your unwavering partnership as we navigate these challenges, always with the care of our students and employees at the center.

With deep gratitude,

Elizabeth Blanco, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

## PASADENA POLICE CHIEF SHARES COMMITMENT WITH PUSD BOARD

Pasadena Police Chief Gene Harris joined the Pasadena Unified School District Board meeting with a shared commitment to the safety and well-being of our entire Pasadena community.

As local and national events unfold, we stand together with the City to support all students, families, and employees who are part of our school district community.

Chief Harris and I are available to support families and community members as needed. For more details or to request participation in community meetings, please contact the Superintendent's Office at 626.396.3619.

Our schools are places of learning, inclusion, and calm, and the Pasadena Police Department remains our partner in upholding these values with dignity and respect for all. We urge our school community to stay informed, remain peaceful, and support one another.

We also encourage our families and employees to visit the district's dedicated webpage with helpful resources for those navigating immigration-related concerns: [pusd.us/immigrationresources](https://pusd.us/immigrationresources).

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Blanco, Ed.D.  
Superintendent



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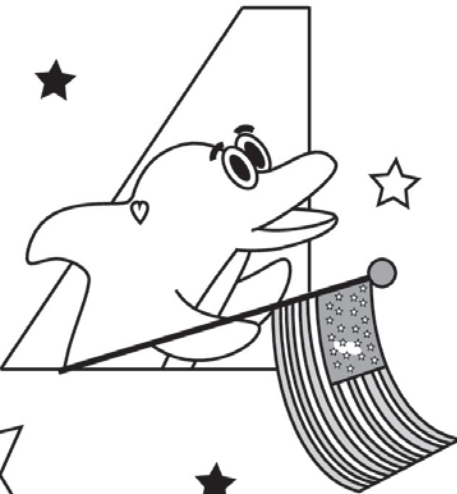
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# Happy <sup>12</sup> of July!




Follow this color key to see how many stars are in our nation's flag:

● = Blue    + = Red

+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
+	●	●	●	+	+	●	+	+
+	●	+	+	+	+	●	+	+
+	●	●	+	+	+	●	+	+
+	+	+	●	+	+	●	+	+
+	●	●	+	+	+	●	+	+

# of July!



The Declaration of Independence is the document that told the world that the 13 colonies were united as one country - the United States of America. It told that all ties to England were broken. The people wished to have a voice in their own government.

**Independence Day**

Philadelphia

July 4, 1776

**Liberty Bell**

**The Spirit of '76**

**George Washington**

**Answer the six questions below and fill in the puzzle.**

I love to wave my flag at parades and at the fireworks. I'm very proud of my country. Do you know how many stars are on our nation's flag? There is one for each state in the union. **Color in the squares.**

- What was rung to call people to the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence?
- In what city was the Declaration of Independence signed?
- A painting was done for America's 100th birthday. It shows a boy, a father and a grandfather marching off to war to fight for freedom. What is the painting called?
- Upon what date was the Declaration of Independence adopted?
- What is the name of the holiday celebrating our nation's birthday?
- What is the name of the General who became our first President?





FIRST IMPRESSION: ANDY’S COFFEE — WHERE THE REFILL NEVER STOPS

Every city needs that one reliable coffee shop—the place that knows your name, keeps your mug topped up without prompting, and feels like a slice of living, caffeinated history. For Pasadena, that place is Andy’s Coffee. I’ve driven past it countless times, but it took my ever-curious dining wingman, Hansalicious, to pull me inside. One step across the threshold and I felt as if I’d wandered onto a classic Warner Bros. back-lot diner set: chrome stools, checkerboard floor, and walls plastered with faded reviews and snapshots of regulars past and present. (With any luck this review earns a respectable spot up there, too.)



Service & Vibe

Owned and operated by a warm crew of Latinas, Andy’s embodies puro café Americano with a welcome dash of Mexican soul. Our server Gloria earned a perfect 10 on the service scale—if I’m not around, consider her your personal ambassador. She moves like a seasoned pro, balancing bottomless coffee refills with genuine conversation that makes newcomers feel like weekend regulars. Pro tip: weekdays hum along nicely, but Saturdays and Sundays pack out fast. Arrive early or prepare to practice patience.

The Eats

Prices sit comfortably in diner territory—no shockers, no sticker-skip beats. Gloria steered me toward the tuna melt on rye (pro move: upgrade the side to tangy coleslaw). Hansalicious tackled the Classic Club, a skyscraper of turkey, bacon, lettuce, and tomato so tall he needed a Sherpa halfway through. Next visit, I’m eyeing the lighter “Fitness” menu—summer waits for no waistband. Traditional breakfast plates dominate the griddle each morning, and the Mexican-leaning specialties are sleeper hits. Gloria swears by the Chilaquiles Plate; it’s firmly penciled in for round two.

Atmosphere

Andy’s feels lived-in without being tired. Locals sip dark roast while catching up with the morning paper; a rotating cast of neighborhood characters keeps the counter lively. Street parking is usually forgiving, though lunchtime can get competitive.

IN SUMMARY

Coffee: Hot, strong, and endlessly refilled—just the way the diner gods intended.

Must-Try: Tuna melt on rye; Chilaquiles Plate for your next visit.

Service: Gloria sets the gold standard—expect friendly banter and lightning-quick refills.

Price Point: Classic diner dollars; your wallet leaves unbruised.

Pro Tip: Weekends fill up fast—get in by 9 a.m. for prime seating.

Overall Vibe: A cinematic slice of Americana with a Latin heartbeat.

Rating: Solid 8.5/10—the kind of spot you’ll claim as “your” coffee shop after one visit.

See you at Andy’s—save me a counter seat and tell Gloria I sent you

1234 E. Colorado Blvd. Pasadena

check out my podcast and email thechefknows@yahoo.com

TOM PURCELL

LET’S RETURN TO COMFORT FOOD



My favorite summer comfort food is the fried chicken and potato salad dinner my mother made throughout my childhood — one I’ve spent three years trying to reinvent. It turns out I’m not alone.

According to a 2025 study by the Food Institute and Nestlé USA, more Americans — citing increased food costs, health concerns and a longing for emotional calm — are recreating the meatloaf, stews and other family meals they enjoyed as children. But they’re not just copying old recipes — they’re reinventing them with bold new flavors and creative techniques, a trend called “new-stalgia.”

Though I’ve been experimenting with my mother’s fried chicken and potato salad recipes, I’ve not yet come close to improving them.

She’s 88 now and no longer makes meals to feed her large clan, but I was wise enough to capture her recipes and techniques on video.

Her fried chicken started with a very large family pack of thighs and breasts. She mixed some eggs and water in a bowl for the egg wash, then poured inexpensive, store-bought Italian bread crumbs into another bowl for the dredge.

The Italian mix included a blend of flour, onion and garlic powder, parsley, sea salt, paprika and white and black pepper — all tasty stuff.

She’d brown the bread-coated chicken in our ancient cast-iron skillet, then finish it off in an oven pan for 45 minutes more.

Her potato salad started by cleaning and then boiling 10 large Idaho potatoes. Once they cooled, and my father helped peel them, she cut the potatoes into cubes.

She boiled a dozen eggs, cut up celery and onions into very small pieces, then mixed her simple but incredibly special dressing — a cup or so of Hellmann’s mayonnaise, a few spoonfuls of regular sugar, an orange juice glass of condensed milk and a touch of white vinegar.

Her sweet, vinegary, watery potato salad is a one-of-a-kind creation — just as every family’s potato salad is!

My greatest fried chicken and potato salad memory as a kid involves my community’s “Kennywood Day,” when we spent the whole day at the Kennywood Amusement Park.

My father would pack our old green cooler full of ice, then stuff in my mother’s pans filled with the chicken, potato salad and a six-pack of his cherished Pabst Blue Ribbon.

We’d arrive at the picnic pavilion in the morning and set our provisions at the same picnic table every year — every family knew which was theirs.

We kids would meet up with our friends and hit the rides and roller coasters all day.

Then we’d return to the pavilion, absolutely famished, for dinner at 5 p.m. The chicken and potato salad were ice cold and devouring them was — and will always be — the most satisfying gastro-nomic experience I’ve ever known.

That’s why I’m having a blast trying different approaches and flavors — add some cayenne pepper to the chicken dredge or maybe some brown mustard and scallions to the potato dressing? — to make my mother’s creations even better.

Hey, maybe a little new-stalgia can calm all of us down — because food has a special way of bringing us together.

By sharing our creative takes on our most cherished comfort meals — by breaking bread together — I’m confident we’ll realize our passions, hopes and beliefs are far more common than they are different.

Especially if the meal involves my mother’s incredibly delicious fried chicken and potato salad!

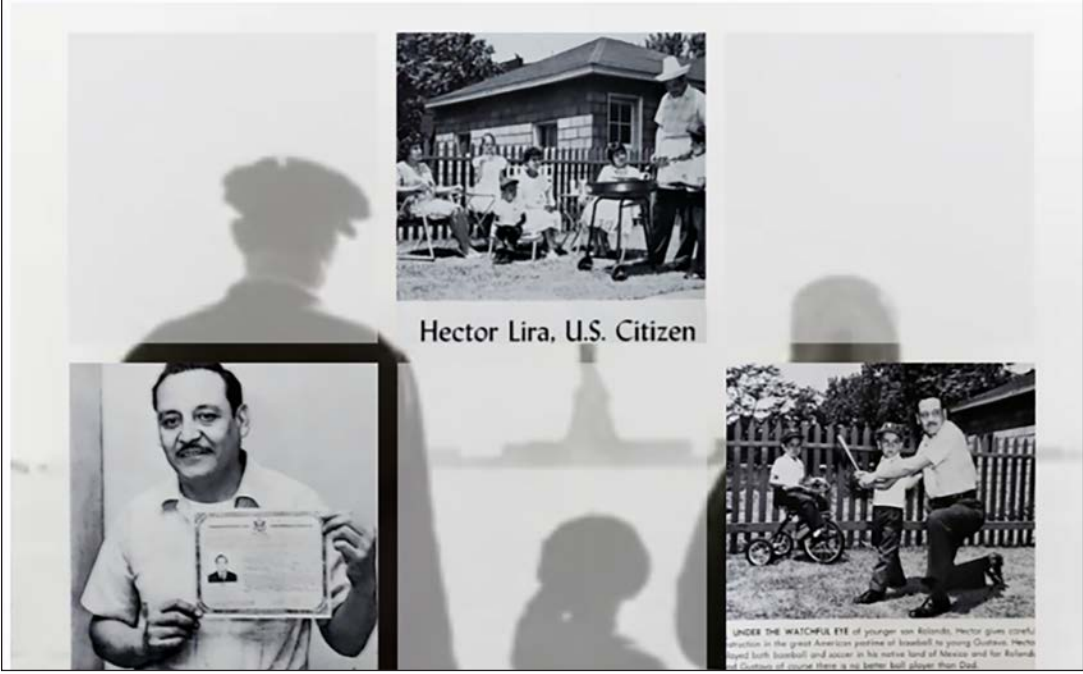
THE TASTING ROOM

WINES MADE BY IMMIGRANTS

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

Every Fourth of July in honor of my late father who came to this country from Mexico in search of a better life, I feature winemakers who also came to this country in search of a better life.

My father worked hard all his life, became a US citizen, and loved this country very much. I’m forever grateful for the gift of this country that he gave to me and my family. He met my mom in Texas, and they moved to Chicago. He found work with Car-gill Grain Company and spent his entire career with that company. He loved the Chicago White Sox and I followed in his footsteps and rooted for them also. Every 4th of July he would have a bbq and invite friends and family over to celebrate Independence Day. He was proud of his native country, but he loved his new home very much. My dad was an immigrant. My dad was a U.S. citizen. I will always be proud of all the immigrants who came before him and after him, and all that they have contributed to this country of ours.



Join me as I feature four wines made by immigrants while sharing compelling stories of their journeys to this country. One of the wines I will feature is Farmworker Red Wine produced by Hugo Maldonado and his father Jose Guadalupe – aka Lupe. Lupe came to this country from Michoacan, Mexico. He worked at apple farms and vineyards in northern California before buying his first vineyard in the 1990’s. They made their first wine in 2002 and eventually a Maldonado wine was served at the White House. Hard work, sweat, pride, and dignity – characteristics shared by many an immigrant – resulted in superbly made wines.

This is just one personal story that I will tell – stories of struggles, hard work, dedication, and opportunity. The wines are exceptional, but the human spirit behind the wines is even more exceptional. I welcome immigrants with open arms. Join me as we taste wines made by immigrants.

If you would like to join me for this tasting on July 12th at 5pm, email me at glira@gratedwine.com for more details and information.

Until next time – Salud!

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SENIORS AND KEEPING YOUR PETS SAFE DURING THE 4TH OF JULY

The 4th of July is a time of celebration, but it can be stressful for pets—especially for seniors who may find it more difficult to manage their animals during fireworks and gatherings. Loud noises, flashing lights, and unfamiliar guests can cause pets anxiety, making it important to take extra precautions.

First, create a quiet, safe space in your home where your pet can retreat during fireworks. This could be a bedroom or a cozy corner with their favorite bed and toys. Close windows and curtains to muffle sounds and reduce visual stimulation. Playing calming music or white noise can also help soothe them.

Seniors should ensure pets are wearing collars with up-to-date ID tags. Microchipping is another safeguard in case a pet escapes during a noisy celebration. Walking dogs earlier in the day before festivities begin is recommended to avoid startling them with sudden booms or crowds.

If mobility is a concern, consider asking a friend, neighbor, or pet-sitting service to help care for the animal during peak noise times. Having someone around to check on them can ease both the senior's and the pet's stress.

Keep party food and alcoholic beverages out of reach, as many holiday treats can be toxic to animals. Make guests aware that pets should not be fed scraps, no matter how adorable they may look. Above all, preparation is key. With a little planning, seniors can enjoy Independence Day while ensuring their furry companions stay safe, calm, and close by. Taking these simple steps can prevent emergencies and make the holiday enjoyable for everyone—pets included.



NIFTY GOLF GADGETS THAT CAN HELP OLDER GOLFERS



Dear Savvy Senior,  
Can you recommend some good golf gadgets that can help older golfers? I like to walk the course when I play but I have some back problems that make stooping over to tee-up or retrieve the ball difficult, and some hand arthritis that make gripping the club painful. Fragile Golfer

Dear Fragile,

There are actually a wide variety of adaptive golf equipment that can help older golfers who struggle with arthritis, injuries or mobility problems. Here's a rundown of some of the different types of golf equipment you can purchase that can help with many different needs.

Upright Golf Products

For golfers with back, hip or knee problems, there are several different products on the market that will allow you to tee up the ball (and retrieve the tee) from an upright position without having to bend or stoop over. To find these stoop-proof devices see Zero Bend Golf ([ZeroBendGolf.com](http://ZeroBendGolf.com), \$80), Reacher Golf ([ReacherGolf.com](http://ReacherGolf.com), \$65), Tee Pal Pro ([TeePalLLC.com](http://TeePalLLC.com), \$79), Joe's Original Backtee ([UprightGolf.com](http://UprightGolf.com), \$20) and Toss Tees ([TossTee.com](http://TossTee.com), \$15.50).

Many of these same companies also offer accessory products for retrieving the ball from the ground or cup, repairing divots, marking the ball on the green, or picking up a club, sand rake or flag stick off the ground, all without bending over.

Gripping Solutions

Gripping a golf club can also be challenging for golfers with hand arthritis or those who have hand or elbow injuries. To help alleviate this problem there are specially designed golf gloves and grips that can make a big difference.

Some good gloves to consider include the Bionic Golf Glove ([BionicGloves.com](http://BionicGloves.com), \$18 to \$33) that has extra padding in the palm and finger joints to improve grip. And the Eagle Claw ([The-Eagle-Claw.com](http://The-Eagle-Claw.com), \$50), which includes a golf glove and a plastic claw that fits over you thumb and index finger to lock the club to your hand.

Another gripping solution is to get oversized grips installed on your clubs. These can make gripping the club easier and more comfortable and are also very good at absorbing shock. Oversized grips are usually either one-sixteenth-inch or one-eighth-inch larger in diameter than a standard grip, and cost around \$10 per grip. You can find these grips and have them installed at your local golf store or pro shop.

Low Vision Golf Balls

If diminished vision from cataracts or eye problems makes locating the ball difficult, Chromax golf balls ([ChromaxGolf.com](http://ChromaxGolf.com)) can help. These are reflective colored golf balls that make them appear larger and brighter. Cost: \$11 for a three-pack.

Age-Friendly Golf Carts

For older golfers who like to walk the course, there are ergonomically designed golf carts that are lightweight and easy to push or pull. Brands like Sun Mountain ([SunMountain.com](http://SunMountain.com)), Bag Boy and Clicgear ([Clicgearusa.com](http://Clicgearusa.com)) offer a variety of three and four-wheeled push/pull carts that are highly rated for function and foldability. Costs typically range between \$280 and \$350.

There are also remote electric caddies that will transport your clubs around the course for you as you walk. Some top brands include Stewart Golf ([StewartGolfusa.com](http://StewartGolfusa.com)), Motocaddy ([Motocaddy.us](http://Motocaddy.us)) and MGI ([MGIfgolf.com](http://MGIfgolf.com)). These run anywhere between \$1,000 and \$3,500.

Or, for people with severe mobility loss, there's a specialized electric golf cart called the SoloRider ([SoloRider.com](http://SoloRider.com)). This provides mobility challenged golfers the ability to play from a seated or standing-but-supported position. Retailing for \$16,500, plus a \$600 shipping fee, this cart is lightweight and precisely balanced so it can be driven on tee boxes and greens without causing any damage. Federal ADA laws require that all public golf courses allow them.

Send your questions or comments to [questions@savvysenior.org](mailto:questions@savvysenior.org), or to Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070.

A photograph of the exterior of a self-storage facility. The building is a single-story structure with a dark roof and light-colored walls. A large red sign on the roof reads 'SELF STORAGE' in white capital letters. Below it, a smaller sign lists services: 'Storage Lockers', 'Mail Boxes', 'Fax Services', and 'and more....!'. The entrance is visible, and there's a parking area in front.

**Sierra Madre Self Storage**  
130 E. Montecito Ave.  
Sierra Madre, CA 91024  
(626) 355-1837

SENIOR HAPPENINGS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! ...JUNE BIRTHDAYS\*



Joanne Thrane, Nellie Haynes, Dorothy McKay, Diane Hatfield, Georgette Dunlay, Elizabeth Shula, Donna Doss, Mary Carney, Carol Handley, Marilyn McKernan, Pat Fujiwara, Beth Smith-Kellock, Ann Disbrow, Joan Ellison, Anne Montgomery, Trini Ornelas,, Pat Starkey, Kathleen Coyne, Jacque Persing, Jeanne Peterson, Roxana Dominguez, Carolyn Lanyi, Claire McLean, Suzanne Decker and Grace Sanders.

A flyer for 'Chair Yoga' featuring a group of people sitting in chairs and performing yoga poses. The text on the flyer reads: 'Chair Yoga', '10am - 10:45 am', 'Monday's and Wednesday's at the Hart Park Senior Center'. There are decorative floral patterns on the sides.

A flyer for 'Monthly Blood Pressure Screening'. It features a stethoscope and a blood pressure cuff on a wooden surface. The text on the flyer reads: 'Monthly BLOOD Pressure SCREENING', 'IS NOW TAKING PLACE AT THE HART PARK SENIOR CENTER', 'THE SECOND TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 12:30PM'. There is a red heart graphic at the bottom right.



OUT TO PASTOR

A Weekly Religion Column by Rev. James Snyder

HEAT IS NOT JUST A NUMBER, IT'S AN ATTITUDE

Lately, the temperature in Florida has topped 100°. I saw on the news that the Northeast is also hitting 100°.

It's easy to see why everyone wants to come to Florida. If they can't, they wish for some of our heat. Well, good luck with that. We'll send you all you can handle.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and I have lived in Florida for over thirty years. We've enjoyed every single day, and we have no plans to leave. At first the heat was more than we expected, but within a short time we got used to it. Now we enjoy it.

Records show this is the hottest June our country has seen. This heat has serious consequences. The human body can't handle such heat for long.

Just the other day, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage complained about how hot it was. "Oh, my," she said, "where does all this heat come from?"

For a moment, I almost answered. But after 54 years of blissful marriage, I've learned when to speak and when to stay quiet. Of course, I'm still learning when to speak. That's one of my biggest challenges. I could have said, "It's summer, the sun is out, and the heat comes from the sun." But I knew that wasn't the answer she wanted, so I held back.

I remember my father saying that life isn't about numbers but attitude. I'm starting to understand what he meant.

When I was young I had two female dogs at home, male dogs in the neighborhood would gather in our backyard when the females were "in heat." It was something beyond my control even though I tried. But that's not the attitude I mean here.

At my stage in life, when I step out into the hot sun, I start sweating. That sweat drives me crazy. The sweat runs from the top of my head all the way to the bottom of my feet. Everything about me is soaked. Believe me, it's not my favorite attitude.

I walked into the house and The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage looked up and asked, "Did you take a shower with your clothes on?" Then she laughs. I did not respond.

My recliner is next to our big glass door. I can see the sun shining and feel the heat. I sigh deeply because I'm glad to be on the cool side. I enjoy the heat outside while I stay cool indoors.

One thing about this heat season that I have learned is, I avoid driving when it's this hot—not because my A/C doesn't work, but because other drivers have attitudes I can't relate to. The other day, I was driving across town. I saw cars go by with drivers shaking their fists out the window. It's like they thought that would fix anything!

If I shook my fist, it would only create more problems. I don't think those drivers realized that shaking their fists out the window didn't make the heat go away.

I don't want to drive among those people. After all, I love living.

One great perk of being retired is that I can choose not to drive if I don't want to. I am increasingly appreciating that.

My body isn't as strong as it used to be, so I avoid the 100° heat whenever possible. I respect my body, even if I'm not sure it respects me. That's a different issue.

In the late afternoon, the sun had been blazing all day and showed no signs of letting up. I was in my recliner drinking some ice tea when The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage sat down in the rocking chair and asked, "When will this heat go away?"

I chuckled to myself, remembering about a month ago a cloudy day with rain. Back then, she looked out the window and asked, "Where in the world is the sun?"

I wanted to respond, "My dear, the sun is in the sky, just above the clouds."

You have no idea how much I wanted to say that, but being a seasoned and successful husband, I kept it to myself.

The heat is not about numbers; it's about attitude. Some people's attitudes make me uncomfortable. Shaking fists and yelling at the sky show an attitude not rooted in sanity.

One of the best things about a hot, sunny afternoon is, I can sit down and enjoy it in a cool atmosphere. I remember those days far, far away when I lived up north and had to look out the window and see white fluffy stuff fill up our yard and driveway. Maybe if I would've stood there and shook my fist at the snow it would have gone away. If only I knew that back then.

Now that I have experienced both of these weathers, the hot and the cold, I have chosen the hot weather. And I am unanimous in that decision.

While contemplating on this I thought of some scripture.

"My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing" (James 1:2-4).

My attitude should not be based on what's going on around me. The heat and the cold comes and goes, but my relationship with God is firmly rooted in God's Word.

Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala, FL with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail [jamesnsnyder51@gmail.com](mailto:jamesnsnyder51@gmail.com), website [www.jamesnsnyderministries.com](http://www.jamesnsnyderministries.com)





**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](http://www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance.com).]

**GARDENING FOR MRS. KOHLER**  
[This is excerpted from Nyerges' book of childhood stories, "Watermelon Dreams," available from Amazon.]

Occasionally, if I needed money, my mother would suggest that I call Mrs. Kohler to earn some money doing her gardening. Mrs. Kohler always had something for me to do whenever I happened to show up.

Mrs. Kohler seemed old even when I was 7 or 8 years old. She was a very large woman with elephant feet who was usually very stationary in a large chair. When she moved, she moved very slowly with the aid of a cane. She wore layers of "old woman" clothes that swished as she moved.

"I'm coming," she'd yell after I knocked on her door.

"Do you have any gardening I can do?" I'd ask.

"It doesn't look like a gardener has been here, does it?" she'd reply in her indirect fashion.

"I want the walkways swept, and all the weeds in the front and driveway pulled. I want all the dead flowers raked out from under the camelias, and I want the trellises fixed in back, and I want the weeds pulled out..." She'd go on and one like this for 10 to 15 minutes, point to the tools, and then disappear inside.

I'd first work the front yard by pulling the weeds, raking everything up, and then sweeping it all clean. Then I'd work the driveway, then the back. I always raked the ground clean to the dirt under her many camelias out back. "Didn't your mother ever teach you how to pull weeds?" she'd yell. I never tried to answer her question about what my mother did or did not teach me. Her yard was very different from ours, and we never needed to be concerned about weeding.

Once I pulled out a bush way in the back that she claimed was her pie bush. "Didn't your mother teach you anything?" she scorned. "Didn't your mother teach you the difference between a weed and my vegetables?" she added. She later told me that she made delicious pies from the "huckleberries." Much later, I realized that there are two plants commonly referred to as huckleberries, and one of them is a close relative to the black nightshade plant which is a common weed in our area. When I saw the nightshade huckleberry years later in a friend's garden, it had much larger berries and larger leaves, clearly a cultivated plant. I am still convinced that I pulled the black nightshade plant from Mrs. Kohler's yard, and that I was justified in pulling it because I was instructed to "pull all weeds."

Finally, after four to five hours of boring tedium, I'd march back up her backsteps in my triumphant but humble posture, and knock. I'd then wait several minutes for a response. She'd slowly shuffle to the door, and seem surprised when I told her I was done.

"So soon?" she'd ask. I wondered how long she expected me to toil in her quiet but complicated yard. I didn't answer, and she slowly descended the wooden back steps for her inspection. She usually just did a quick inspection, then we went into her kitchen. I'd be sitting in an old-fashioned chair in the corner of the stark kitchen. The smell was like a house that was unoccupied and not lived in. I never detected the odors of cooking, of coffee, of soups, and other odors we commonly associated with a family kitchen.

Mrs. Kohler then asked me how long I worked, and how long, if any, I took for lunch. She'd then take 10 minutes or so to figure out what to pay me. Then she'd pay me, and she'd tell me, "Now, give some money to your mother, some to the church, some to your savings account, and some to the poor, some for your college education..." And she'd continue like that, and I'm thinking, you're only paying me seven dollars – are you kidding?

After I departed, I usually went directly to a store and spent it all, and had very little money left over for my mother, the poor, the church, or my non-existent savings account. So I never saw working for Mrs. Kohler as any sort of a career, and even found it distasteful for "quick cash."

Aside: Though Mrs. Kohler always seemed old, she died in the 1980s at the age of about 100. My mother had been a nurse for Mrs. Kohler and had been an administrator of her estate. Frugal old Mrs. Kohler turned out to be worth over \$1 million – mostly from oil stocks – and she gave it all to the Catholic Church, minus minor fees to handle her estate.

**Katnip News!**



Remember the 3 babies we featured last month? They're 3 months now and about ready for delivery so we thought you'd like to see them again. I'll start this week with little JACK, but if you can't wait, you can see all 3 on our website. Little Jack was so sweet for his photo shoot! He is a real snuggler, and purr-factly content to be held and kissed! Yet, he's playful and often joins in the fun antics of his siblings. We prefer that you adopt 2 together or have another young kitten at home. This age is also fine to be introduced to a nice doggie. We take care of vaccines, spay & neuter, testing, microchips, and more!



Please go to our website to submit your application to meet them, <https://www.lifelineforpets.org/babies.html>. Hurry and don't miss out on their kitten cuteness! Born 4/1/25.

**Pet of the Week**

Kylo is a spunky 4-year-old black Labrador Retriever who is full of personality. He came to Pasadena Humane as a stray, and while he may still be working on his basic commands, his enthusiasm for life is undeniable!



Kylo loves his walks, enjoys the outdoors, and is very curious about the world around him. He has a gentle temperament and his affectionate side shines through once he feels comfortable. He is a fun and energetic dog who will need a little patience to adjust to his new environment, but once he does, his personality is evident.

His loving nature makes him a great companion for an active individual or family who is ready to enjoy all the fun he brings. Adopt sweet Kylo today!

The 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](http://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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Mountain View News Saturday, June 28, 2025

## Sierra Madre Playhouse Welcomes Families to "A FEAST FROM THE EAST," *a Delightful Theatrical Show Geared for Children of all Ages*

Presented by WE TELL STORIES

Saturday, August 2, 2025, 11:00 AM, at Sierra Madre Playhouse

Sierra Madre Playhouse kicks off its August programming with "A Feast from the East," a delightful theatrical event that encourages audience participation presented by We Tell Stories, featuring a collection of interactive tales from Japan, China, and India, on Saturday, August 2, 2025, 11AM. The family-friendly show includes stories such as "The Two Stonecutters," with children invited to help to bring to life the tale of a stonecutter who learns the power of being true to oneself, and "How the Rabbit Got Long Ears," in which kids assist a farmer in outsmarting a mischievous rabbit. In "Shankar and the White Elephant," children play neighbors who journey to Heaven on the back of a magical elephant. By participating in the engaging performance young audience members learn valuable lessons through imaginative storytelling.



We Tell Stories, established in 1981, is a multi-ethnic theatre troupe that educates, nurtures, and strengthens communities by summoning the power of storytelling and theatre. With its unique blend of storytelling and audience participatory theatre, We Tell Stories brings world folklore, literature, legends, and mythology to joyful life. An iconic, antique trunk filled with homemade props and costumes serves as the vehicle through which sets and characters are created. The audience participates from their seats, and every story includes integral roles for audience members to play, extemporaneously, on stage. Humor and fantasy enthrall as stories of honesty, friendship, self-esteem, and more enlighten while inspiring creativity, enhancing literacy, cultivating intercultural awareness, and sparking a love for theater and the spoken word.

For tickets (\$12) and information, please call 626.355.4318 or visit [www.sierramadreplayhouse.org](http://www.sierramadreplayhouse.org). Sierra Madre Playhouse is located at 87 West Sierra Madre Boulevard, Sierra Madre, CA 91024.

### ABOUT SIERRA MADRE PLAYHOUSE

Sierra Madre Playhouse, a vibrant Southern California cultural hub with a rich history spanning a century, energizes audiences and the community with distinctive theatrical productions and captivating live performances. Hailed as a "jewel" (Pasadena Weekly) and "a landmark theater" (ABC7 Los Angeles), the performing arts center has garnered tremendous accolades for its varied repertoire and thought-provoking education and outreach programs curated with social impact in mind. The Los Angeles Times proclaims, "This is theater from the heart." As one of San Gabriel Valley's only performing arts center presenting a broad spectrum of performance genres, including theater, music, dance, film, comedy, and family-friendly productions featuring eminent local and national professional artists, the treasured artistic beacon draws audiences from across the Southland. The intimate 99-seat Sierra Madre Playhouse offers an up-close and personal connection to performances that resonate deeply, earning multiple Ovation Awards, NAACP Awards, and LA Times Critics' Choice honors. It is nestled into a historic building on the inviting Main Street of Sierra Madre, a charming village in the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains. Retaining its distinctive movie theater façade and instantly recognizable marquee, the structure has undergone numerous transformations since opening in 1910, from furniture emporium to silent movie theatre to the artistic institution that now stands as a vibrant embodiment of the region's rich cultural legacy. The Sierra Madre Playhouse fosters creativity that aspires to bridge divides and spark dialogue, all while celebrating the rich tapestry of the American experience and the enduring pursuit of shared understanding.

### A MOUNTAIN VIEWS NEWS EXCLUSIVE\*:



## "CAMINO DE SANTIAGO-MY JOURNEY MY WAY IN 29 DAYS April 17-May 15, 2025"

by: Lorie Veiner-Clause

It all started 6 years ago in 2019 while reading a Facebook Post.

My eyes were intrigued viewing a captivating photo with written captions. A lady smiling carrying a backpack. Walking her feet on a brown, dirt trail path, along "The Way" with various rocks. Rolling green hills in the background. Peek-a-boo blue and gray skies with puffy clouds surfacing through the photo. This appeared to be in the middle of nowhere. Several Facebook posts continued from this lady for at least a month. Intrigued with this foreign post, I reached out to that person privately on Facebook.

She informed me to join Camino de Santiago Facebook Groups. "What is that. I asked?" She said, "Join the group and read". I did just that. I remained confused and had many questions. I had no idea what 'Camino de Santiago' was.

Could 'Camino de Santiago' be a religious event? A certain group of people to participate? Is this something I could participate in?

What is 'Camino de Santiago'?

I joined several different 'Camino de Santiago' Facebook groups as there were many. My obsession with reading about this subject continued for 5 years.

The clarity of the Pilgrim journey increased my curiosity.

However, there were several 'Camino de Santiago' groups. Different subjects. Various Caminos. Numerous posts. Comments. Criticism. Judgement. And very helpful responses. The curiosity was a daily obsession!

Did my Camino start when I reached out to that lady?

Did my Camino start from the first time I was learning about being a Pilgrim?

Did my Camino start when a Pilgrim sent me the book, "A Pilgrim's Guide to the Camino de Santiago"?

Did my Camino start when I made my airplane reservation on January 7, 2025? That day the Eaton Fire broke out as flames were approaching my house. Soon the electricity went out. Rapid winds with gusts were howling at astronomical speeds.

Did my Camino start when I took 2 trains from Paris and Bayonne, France, arriving at Saint-Jean-Pied-de Port, France?

Did my Camino start as I was walking to the Pilgrim's Office upon arriving in Saint-Jean-Pied-de Port?

Did my Camino start as I walked my first steps leaving Saint-Jean-Pied-de Port to the beginning of the French Camino de Santiago?

When did my Camino start?

Buen Camino



\*This is the first of a series on Sierra Madre resident Lorie-Veiner-Clause incredibly courageous journey. Follow her as she recalls her 'Camino' each week right here in the Mountain Views News. By the way, if you aren't familiar with the Camino Santiago, you will be!

S. Henderson, Publisher/Editor



## THE 14TH ANNUAL SAN MARINO MOTOR CLASSIC RETURNS TO LACY PARK ON AUGUST 23-24, 2025.

The San Marino Motor Classic is a prestigious Concours d'Elegance where many of the world's finest classic cars are on display and are judged. But that is half of the story.

The Motor Classic a non-profit organization that raises and donates funds to Charities. A winning combination: a wonderful event that supports our community.

Recently, representatives of Motor Classic Beneficiaries -

Pasadena Humane,  
San Marino Rotary Charities,  
Give-Mentor-Love Foundation,  
Shriners Hospitals for Children – Southern California,  
and  
Cancer Support Community of San Gabriel Valley  
- participated in a panel discussion led by Aaron Weiss, Founder and CEO of the Motor Classic.



They discussed the work that their organization does and expressed their gratitude for the support received from the Motor Classic. The panel discussion was video recorded for distribution to a wider audience.

The 2025 Motor Classic weekend begins with the Symphony of Cars Gala, and the Automotive Fine Arts Society exhibit on Saturday, August 23rd. Cars are on display on Sunday, August 24th from 9:00am – 3:00pm.



Bring the family to see automotive history and enjoy offerings from food trucks or VIP area.

Become a Sponsor or Donor and support charities.

For further information, and to purchase tickets, see our web site. <https://sanmarinomotorclassic.com>

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# SIERRA MADRE GIRLS SOFTBALL ALL-STAR TEAMS CONTINUE TO SHINE AS MULTIPLE TEAMS QUALIFY FOR STATE TOURNAMENT AND 10U GOLD ALL STARS WIN NORTHERN DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP

SMGSA's All-Star teams have continued their strong play with multiple tournament wins and qualifying for the USA Softball State Tournament.

The 10U Silver team coached by Josh Meza won the Pride of the Foothills Tournament in Glendora for its first tournament win of the All-Star Season. The 10U Silver Team then qualified for the C-State Tournament in Lancaster with a strong showing at the Northern District Championship. SMGSA's 14U team coached by Clement Chung also qualified for the C-State Tournament in Lancaster. The 12U Gold Team coached by Myles Meeden qualified for the B-State Tournament in Irvine with an impressive 2nd Place finish in the Northern District Championship.

The 10U Gold Team coached by Chris Bates followed up its Tournament win in San Clemente by winning the Temecula Old Town



Above: 12U @nd Place Districts



Above: 10U Northern Champions



Shoot-Out. The team has also qualified for the B-State Tournament by winning the Northern District Championship in undefeated fashion. This is the first time in 6 years a team from Sierra Madre has won the 10U B Northern District Championship.

The 10U Gold Team, known as the Maniacs, won the Championship game by defeating Glendora 5-0. Brooklyn Wiele threw a complete game shutout, and was helped by amazing defensive plays by Giselle Luna, Abigail Sanchez, and Presley Staley. The offense was led by Molly Stearns, Grace Martin and Olivia Loya, who each had two hits, and Kira Mora and Petra Bragiel, who had one hit each. Victoria Moreno was the winning pitcher in the first game of the Tournament and Mikayla Tejeda's baserunning was a key reason why the team won in extra innings against Pasadena. Finally, Sarah Bates caught every inning of the tournament and turned an impressive double play in extra innings against Pasadena. This team has put together an impressive run and has won a total of four tournaments.

Want to join in on the fun? Registration for the Fall Softball Season for 6U to 14U divisions will open on July 1, 2025 at smaga.org.

For more information, visit smgsa.org and follow SMGSA on Instagram @sierramadregirlssoftball and Facebook @sierramadregirlssoftballassociation.

Left: 10U Meza Glendora



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## SECOND TIME AROUND

Starting an exercise program for the very first time is hard. But for many people, starting again after stopping feels even harder. Whether you took a break because of an injury, illness, a busy schedule, or just lost your motivation, getting back into a routine can be more difficult than you expected. You might remember how far you had come before, and now you feel like you're back at square one. That feeling can stop you before you even get started.

There are real reasons why returning to exercise feels harder. It's not your imagination, and it's not because you're lazy. It has to do with the way we think, the emotions we feel, and how our bodies change when we stop moving for a while.

One big reason is because now you have something to compare yourself to—your past self. If you used to be able to lift a certain weight, run a certain distance, or finish a workout without getting tired, it can be frustrating when you can't do those things anymore. Your mind remembers what you could do before, but your body isn't there yet. That can lead to disappointment or even embarrassment, even if no one else is judging you.

Another reason starting over feels harder is that people often blame themselves for quitting or taking time off, even when it wasn't their fault. Those feelings don't help you move forward. In fact, they can make you avoid exercise altogether because you don't want to be reminded of what you "lost."

There's also "all-or-nothing" thinking. When people believe that if they can't do everything perfectly, they might as well do nothing. So instead of doing a short, easy workout, they skip it because it doesn't feel like enough. This kind of thinking can keep you stuck, especially after a break.

It's also common to feel nervous about starting again. You may worry about getting injured, feeling sore, or failing. You might wonder if you'll be able to stick with it this time. Those doubts are normal, but they can hold you back if you don't deal with them.

And then there's the physical side. When you stop exercising for a while, your muscles get weaker, your heart and lungs lose some of their fitness, and your body becomes less efficient. This can happen in just a few weeks. So when you come back to exercise, it's normal to feel slower, weaker, or more tired. That doesn't mean you've failed. It just means your body needs time to rebuild.

When restarting your fitness routine remember you are not starting from zero. You still have the knowledge, experience, and understanding you gained before. That gives you a head start.

Instead of trying to pick up where you left off, treat your return like a fresh beginning. Start small. Focus on building consistency, not performance. That means it's better to do short workouts regularly than to push yourself too hard and risk burnout or injury.

Don't compare yourself to how you used to be. You've been through something and you're coming back, which takes courage. Focus on the path ahead, not the path behind.

Set simple goals you can achieve right away. It could be a 10-minute walk every day, doing a few stretches in the morning, or trying one fitness class a week. The goal is to rebuild the habit and feel successful, not to prove anything to yourself or anyone else.

Also, pay attention to how your body feels now, not how it felt before. Your body is always changing, and that's okay. Go at your own pace. Rest when you need to. Celebrate small wins. Progress might feel slow at first, but it adds up over time.

If you feel nervous about getting back into a gym or class, start at home. There are plenty of free videos online and remote classes for all levels of fitness. You can also go for walks, bike, or play outside with your kids or pets. Anything that gets your body moving counts.

And finally, be kind to yourself. There is no perfect way to exercise. You don't have to earn your way back or make up for lost time. Life happens, and breaks are part of the process. What matters is that you're ready to begin again.

So if you've been thinking about returning to fitness, take the first small step today. Don't wait until you feel "ready." Just move a little, and then do it again tomorrow. It may feel hard at first, but it gets easier with each step. And soon, you'll be back in motion—stronger in more ways than one.

## UNLOCK YOUR LIFE



Lori A. Harris

### MOVING FROM IMPOSSIBLE TO POSSIBLE

I came across this powerful true story and wanted to share it with you... George Danzig was a grad student in mathematics at a time when jobs were very, very difficult to get in the United States.

His math professor, who was the head of the mathematics department, said to the grad students that whoever got the best grade on the final had the opportunity to be hired as his research assistant for the next year.

That job was a plum job. Everybody wanted the job. George said that he studied so hard for that test that he was up until the middle of the night and overslept and was actually late to the test.

But he got there in time to take the test, was handed the test and went to the back of the room. As he was answering the eight math questions, he got through the eight math questions fairly easily. When he looked on the blackboard and there were two problems on the board. He copied them down and he began to work on those two problems and he couldn't solve them.

He began to think that somebody in this room is going to solve these problems. What's wrong with me? He kept working and working and working on the problems. He couldn't get them solved and by the end of the time that was allowed some of the students asked for additional time to work.

The professor said they could take the test home and bring it back by Friday. So George, too, asked for more time. He was told to bring the test back by Friday.

George went home and sat up night after night. This was Monday. All day Tuesday. Tuesday night. Wednesday and Wednesday night.

He just kept thinking somebody is going to get these solved. Why not me? Why not me? Finally, by Thursday morning he had one of them solved. Then he kept working, working, working late into Thursday night and on Friday morning he solved the second one.

He took the test back and got it turned in by eleven a.m., which was the deadline. He went home wondering what would happen. Sunday morning at seven am there was a knock, knock, knock at his door.

He jumps out of bed. It's his professor. His professor says "George, you've made mathematical history! I was thinking on the way over here, you were late to the test right?"

George said, "Well yeah, did I do something wrong?"

"No," the professor said, "It's just that the eight questions were the test. I told everybody who was gathered. I've had such a great time teaching all of you. If you want to have fun for the rest of your life, these two questions are the two unsolved math questions that even Einstein himself went to his grave unable to solve. How did you do this George?"

George recounted that if he had heard ahead of time that no one has been able to solve those problems, his way of defining his relationship to that problem would have been so different that he would not have made himself available to the access to the solution that was within him.

What is amazing, is that same access to overcome the impossible is within every one of us.


Now I don't know what it is that you are facing. But I know this about you: That you are connected to the Infinite. You have the power and the potential to be everything you want to be, to give everything you want to give...and to build a life you truly love!

Know that there is always a solution available for any problem you may be facing.

Your job is to stay open to that possibility...








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*Fourth of July*

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# July Events Around Town!

Brought to you by Sue Cook

### Independence Day Events

**July 3**  
**Sierra Madre Community Picnic at Memorial Park**  
Live music, kids activities, food trucks, Rotary Tri Tip, and a beer garden. 5 pm – 10 pm

**July 4**  
**Sierra Madre 2025 Fourth of July Celebration**  
5K Family Fun Run 7:30 am. Woman's Club Open House at 8 am. a.m. Hometown parade 10am. Free swim time at the Sierra Madre pool from 12 – 2 pm

**July 4**  
**Fourth of July Concert & Fireworks Show in Monrovia's Library Park**  
Live music 7 pm. Fireworks begin at 9 pm

**July 4**  
**Fourth of July Celebration in San Marino**  
Parade-Palooza at 4:45 pm travels along Monterey Road to Virginia Road and through Lacy Park. Food trucks, entertainment and fireworks 7 – 9:30 pm

**July 4**  
**Alhambra Fourth of July Celebration**  
Food, games, live entertainment and fireworks at Almansor Park. 4 – 9 pm

### One Time Events

**July 10**  
**Descanso Gardens Summer Music and Dance**  
Uplifting performance by Vivir Brasil at the amphitheater. 5:30 pm – 6:45 pm

**July 12**  
**The Art Deco Architecture of the Playhouse Village**  
Enjoy a narrated, guided walking tour of the Playhouse District featuring notable landmarks. 10 am – 11:30 am

**July 12**  
**Mariposa Night at Caltech**  
Evening of storytelling and healing for Altadenans and the Eaton Fire Community at Beckman Auditorium 7pm. Resource fair on Beckman Lawn 5:30pm – 7:30 pm

**July 18**  
**LAAS Star Party at Mount Wilson**  
Evening under the stars looking through telescopes from the LA Astronomical Society. 7:30 pm – 1 am

**July 19**  
**2025 Pasadena Heritage Bridge Party**  
Live music, great food, vintage cars and family fun – on the iconic Colorado Street Bridge. 6 pm – 11 pm

**July 20**  
**Sunday Afternoon Concerts in the Dome**  
"Celebrating The First Walk on the Moon with Sarah Gilles, Astronaut-Violinist" Gilles is joined by a quartet of other talented musicians performing under the Mount Wilson Dome. 3 pm - 5pm

### Ongoing Events

**July 4 – 6**  
**Foodieland at the Rose Bowl**  
Enjoy food and drink, shopping and entertainment. Friday 3 – 10 pm & Saturday/ Sunday 1 pm – 10 pm

**July 4-6 and July 11-13**  
**626 Night Market at Santa Anita Park**  
The festival features food, merchandise, crafts, artists, games, live concerts, and entertainment. 4 pm – 11 pm

**July 12, 26**  
**Pasadena Pops Concert at the Arboretum**  
Gates open 5:30 pm Concerts begin at 7:30 pm  
**July 12** – Moonlight Melodies  
**July 26** – Queens of Soul

**July 13, 20, 27, August 3, 10**  
**Sierra Madre Concerts in the Park**  
Concerts at Memorial Park Bandshell including covers of the Beatles and Elvis 6 pm – 8 pm

**July 18, August 1**  
**City of Sierra Madre Family Movie Fridays**  
Enjoy family movies at the Memorial Park Bandshell. Bring your blanket and a picnic. Movies start at dusk.

**July 18, 19**  
**Plumeria Festival at the Arboretum**  
Celebrate all things plumeria with guided tours, talks by experts, live music, food trucks and vendors. Friday 4 - 8 pm and Saturday 9 am – 2 pm

**July 19, August 16, September 20**  
**Musical Storytime at the Gamble House with Pasadena Conservatory of Music**  
Children's books focused on seasons, nature, and creativity become vehicles for musical play. 11:00 am

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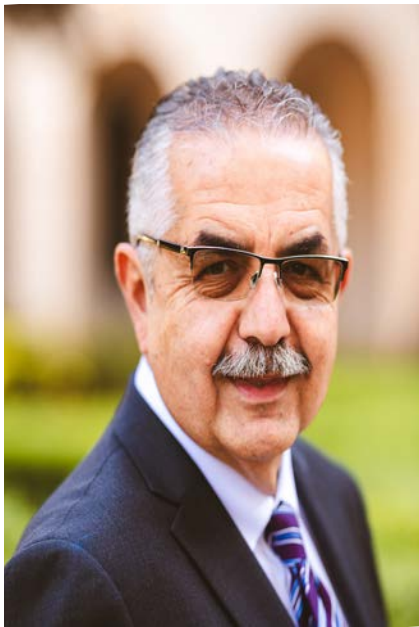




# Happy 4th of July!

Join me in honoring the spirit of independence that defines our great nation.

This Independence Day, let's reflect on the values of liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Celebrate our nation's birthday with family, friends, and a renewed sense of patriotism.

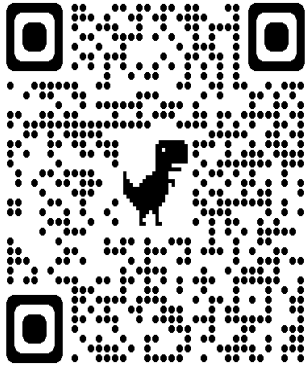


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# Mountain Views News

Sierra Madre Arcadia Duarte Monrovia Pasadena Altadena South Pasadena San Marino

SATURDAY JUNE 28, 2025

SECTION B

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

## The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America,

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation. — We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. — That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, — That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government; and to provide new Guards for their future security. — Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world. — He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good. — He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them. — He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only. — He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their Public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures. — He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people. — He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within. — He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Law for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands. — He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary powers. — He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries. — He has created a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance. — He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our Legislatures. — He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil power. — He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation: — For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us: — For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States: — For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world: — For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent: — For depriving us in many cases, of the benefits of Trial by jury: — For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences: — For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies: — For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments: — For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever. — He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us. — He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people. — He is at this time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to complete the works of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of cruelty and perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation. — He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands. — He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the Inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions. In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people. Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their Legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be, Free and Independent States; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. — And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes and our sacred Honor.

Boston Gwinnett  
Lynnan Hall  
Geo Walton.

John Hooper  
Joseph Hewes  
John Penn

Edward Rutledge

Thos Heyward Jr.  
Thomas Lynch Jr.  
Arthur Middleton

Samuel Chase  
Wm Paro  
Thos Stone  
George Carroll of Carrollton

George Wythe  
Richard Henry Lee  
Th Jefferson  
Wm Harrison  
Th Nelson Jr.  
Francis Lightfoot Lee  
Carler Braxton

John Hancock

Rob Morris  
Benjamin Rush  
Beng Franklin  
John Morton

John Smith  
Geo Taylor  
James Wilson  
Gt. Wops  
Cesar Rodney  
Gt. Wops  
Thos M. Dray

Edmund Livingston  
Joan Lewis  
Lewis Morris

Rich. Stockton  
Jos. Witherspoon  
Tra. Hopkinson  
John Ross  
Abra Clark

Josiah Bartlett  
M. Weynple  
Sam Adams  
John Adams  
Robt Treat Paine  
Elbridge Gerry  
Step. Hopkins  
William Ellery  
Roger Sherman  
Sam. Huntington  
M. Weynple  
Oliver Wolcott  
M. Weynple



The Declaration of Independence:  
A TRANSCRIPTION

IN CONGRESS, July 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America,

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, --That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.--Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.  
He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.  
He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only.  
He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.  
He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.  
He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.  
He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.  
He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary powers.  
He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.  
He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harrass our people, and eat out their substance.  
He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our legislatures.  
He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:  
For Quartering large bodies of armed troops among us:  
For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:  
For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world:  
For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent:  
For depriving us in many cases, of the benefits of Trial by Jury:  
For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences  
For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies:  
For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:  
For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.  
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He has plundered our seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.  
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In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our Brittish brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

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Note: The 56 signatures on the Declaration appear in the positions indicated.

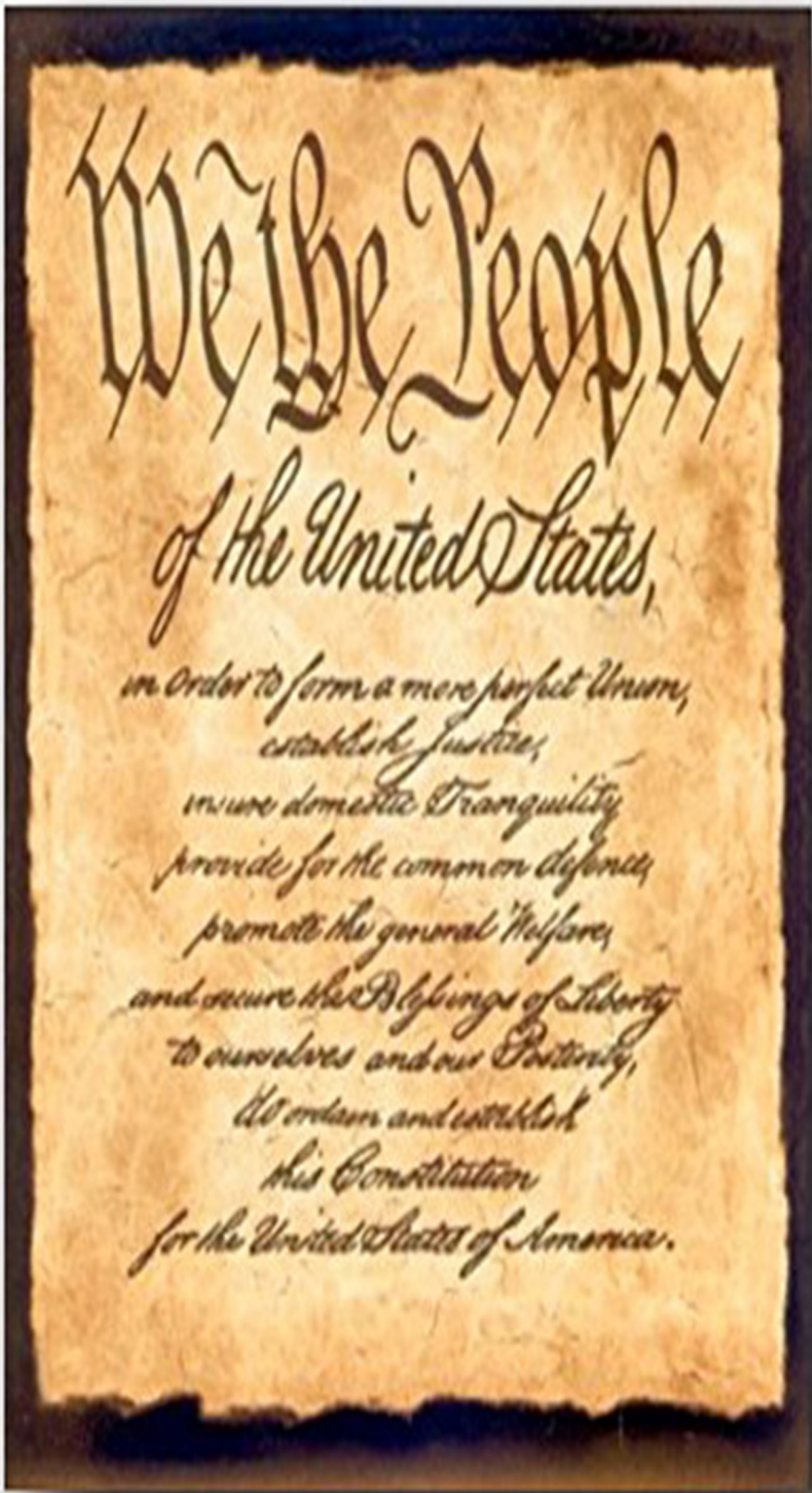
Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5	Column 6
Georgia: Button Gwinnett Lyman Hall George Walton	North Carolina: William Hooper Joseph Hewes John Penn South Carolina: Edward Rutledge Thomas Heyward, Jr. Thomas Lynch, Jr. Arthur Middleton	Massachusetts: John Hancock Maryland: Samuel Chase William Paca Thomas Stone Charles Carroll of Carrollton Virginia: George Wythe Richard Henry Lee Thomas Jefferson Benjamin Harrison Thomas Nelson, Jr. Francis Lightfoot Lee Carter Braxton	Pennsylvania: Robert Morris Benjamin Rush Benjamin Franklin John Morton George Clymer James Smith George Taylor James Wilson George Ross Delaware: Caesar Rodney George Read Thomas McKean	New York: William Floyd Philip Livingston Francis Lewis Lewis Morris New Jersey: Richard Stockton John Witherspoon Francis Hopkinson John Hart Abraham Clark	New Hampshire: Josiah Bartlett William Whipple Massachusetts: Samuel Adams John Adams Robert Treat Paine Elbridge Gerry Rhode Island: Stephen Hopkins William Ellery Connecticut: Roger Sherman Samuel Huntington William Williams Oliver Wolcott New Hampshire: Matthew Thornton

Inside This Section:



WHAT THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE ACTUALLY SAYS  
WE THE PEOPLE: OUR CONSTITUTION  
OPINION  
LEGAL NOTICES  
SIERRA MADRE JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> ACTIVITIES





FYI: WHO SIGNED THE U.S. CONSTITUTION?

The 38 signers of the U.S. Constitution were delegates from the original states who gathered several times and in several places, first drafting the Declaration of Independence, and then, after the colonists defeated the British army and won independence, writing the U.S. Constitution. The signers of the two documents have some overlap — Benjamin Franklin signed both, but John Hancock wrote large only on the Declaration of Independence. The delegates are here grouped by the states they represented:

- Connecticut: William Samuel Johnson, Roger Sherman
- Delaware: George Read, Gunning Bedford Jr., John Dickinson, Richard Bassett, Jacob Broom
- Georgia: William Few, Abraham Baldwin
- Maryland: James McHenry, Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, Daniel Carroll
- Massachusetts: Nathaniel Gorham, Rufus King
- New Hampshire: John Langdon, Nicholas Gilman
- New Jersey: William Livingston, David Brearley, William Paterson, Jonathan Dayton
- New York: Alexander Hamilton
- North Carolina: William Blount, Richard Dobbs Spaight, Hugh Williamson
- Pennsylvania: Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Mifflin, Robert Morris, George Clymer, Thomas FitzSimons, Jared Ingersoll, James Wilson, Gouverneur Morris
- South Carolina: John Rutledge, Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, Pierce Butler
- Virginia: George Washington (President and deputy), John Blair, James Madison Jr.

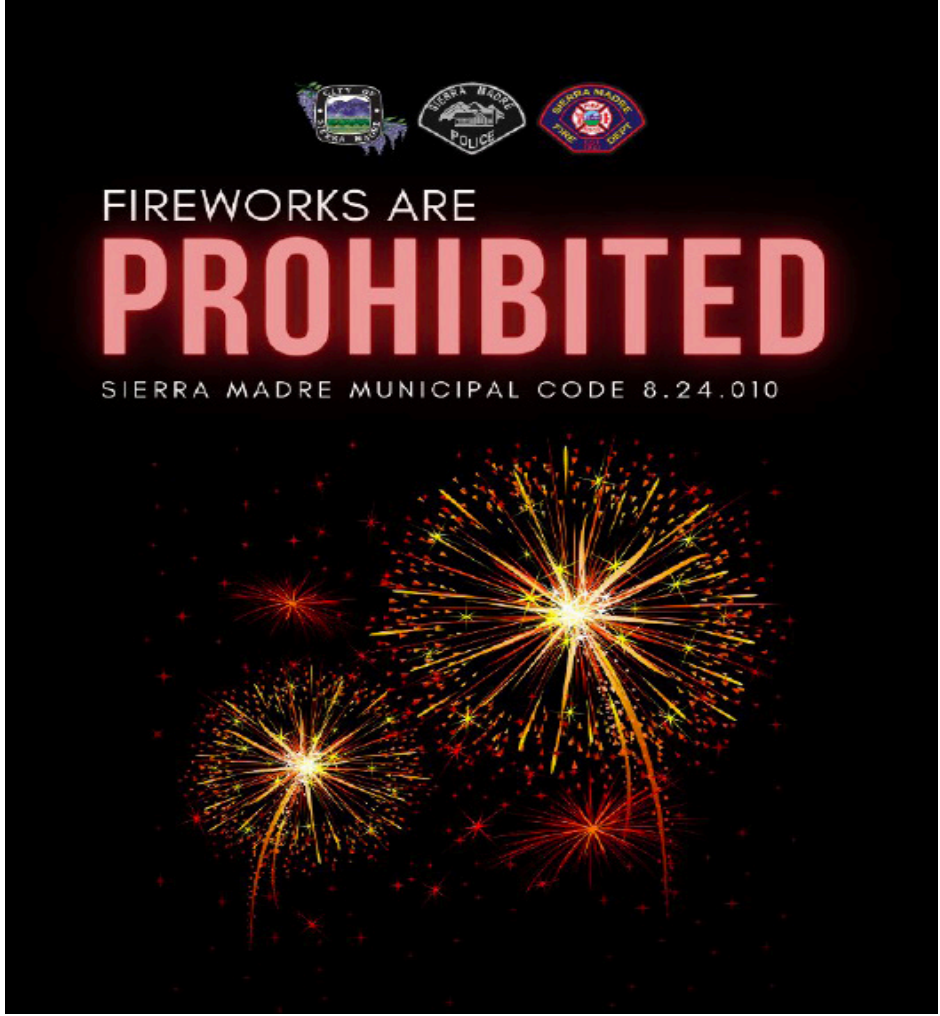
We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

Editor’s Note: Just to refresh your memory here is a synopsis of what is in the U.S. Constitution. At the end of this list you will find a website where you can read the entire document.)

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

PREAMBLE

Article I	[The Legislative Branch]
Section 1.	[Legislative Power Vested]
Section 2.	[House of Representatives]
Section 3.	[Senate]
Section 4.	[Elections of Senators and Representatives]
Section 5.	[Rules of House and Senate]
Section 6.	[Compensation and Privileges of Members]
Section 7.	[Passage of Bills]
Section 8.	[Scope of Legislative Power]
Section 9.	[Limits on Legislative Power]
Section 10.	[Limits on States]
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Section 3.	[State of the Union, Receive Ambassadors, Laws Faithfully Executed, Commission Officers]
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Article V	[The Amendment Process]
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Article VII	[Ratification]
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Amendment II	[Right to Bear Arms (1791)]
Amendment III	[Quartering of Troops (1791)]
Amendment IV	[Search and Seizure (1791)]
Amendment V	[Grand Jury, Double Jeopardy, Self-Incrimination, Due Process (1791)]
Amendment VI	[Criminal Prosecutions - Jury Trial, Right to Confront and to Counsel (1791)]
Amendment VII	[Common Law Suits - Jury Trial (1791)]
Amendment VIII	[Excess Bail or Fines, Cruel and Unusual Punishment (1791)]
Amendment IX	[Non-Enumerated Rights (1791)]
Amendment X	[Rights Reserved to States or People (1791)]
Amendment XI	[Suits Against a State (1795)]
Amendment XII	[Election of President and Vice-President (1804)]
Amendment XIII	[Abolition of Slavery (1865)]
Amendment XIV	[Privileges and Immunities, Due Process, Equal Protection, Apportionment of Representatives, Civil War Disqualification and Debt (1868)]
Amendment XV	[Rights Not to Be Denied on Account of Race (1870)]
Amendment XVI	[Income Tax (1913)]
Amendment XVII	[Election of Senators (1913)]
Amendment XVIII	[Prohibition (1919)]
Amendment XIX	[Women's Right to Vote (1920)]
Amendment XX	[Presidential Term and Succession (1933)]
Amendment XXI	[Repeal of Prohibition (1933)]
Amendment XXII	[Two Term Limit on President (1951)]
Amendment XXIII	[Presidential Vote in D.C. (1961)]
Amendment XXIV	[Poll Tax (1964)]
Amendment XXV	[Presidential Succession (1967)]
Amendment XXVI	[Right to Vote at Age 18 (1971)]
Amendment XXVII	[Compensation of Members of Congress (1992)]





**THE PREAMBLE**  
*We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.*

ARTICLE I  
Section 1  
All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Section 2  
The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States, and the Electors in each State shall have the Qualifications requisite for Electors of the most numerous Branch of the State Legislature.

No Person shall be a Representative who shall not have attained to the Age of twenty five Years, and been seven Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State in which he shall be chosen.

Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which may be included within this Union, according to their respective Numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole Number of free Persons, including those bound to Service for a Term of Years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other Persons. The actual Enumeration shall be made within three Years after the first Meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent Term of ten Years, in such Manner as they shall by Law direct. The Number of Representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty Thousand, but each State shall have at Least one Representative; and until such enumeration shall be made, the State of New Hampshire shall be entitled to chuse three, Massachusetts eight, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations one, Connecticut five, New-York six, New Jersey four, Pennsylvania eight, Delaware one, Maryland six, Virginia ten, North Carolina five, South Carolina five, and Georgia three.

When vacancies happen in the Representation from any State, the Executive Authority thereof shall issue Writs of Election to fill such Vacancies.  
The House of Representatives shall chuse their Speaker and other Officers; and shall have the sole Power of Impeachment.

Section 3  
The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature thereof, for six Years; and each Senator shall have one Vote.

Immediately after they shall be assembled in Consequence of the first Election, they shall be divided as equally as may be into three classes. The Seats of the Senators of the first Class shall be vacated at the Expiration of the second Year, of the second Class at the Expiration of the fourth Year, and of the third Class at the Expiration of the sixth Year, so that one third may be chosen every second Year; and if Vacancies happen by Resignation or otherwise, during the Recess of the Legislature of any State, the Executive thereof may make temporary Appointments until the next Meeting of the Legislature, which shall then fill such Vacancies.

No Person shall be a Senator who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty Years, and been nine Years a Citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an Inhabitant of that State for which he shall be chosen.

The Vice President of the United States shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no Vote, unless they be equally divided.

The Senate shall chuse their other Officers, and also a President pro tempore, in the Absence of the Vice President, or when he shall exercise the Office of President of the United States.

The Senate shall have the sole Power to try all Impeachments. When sitting for that Purpose, they shall be on Oath or Affirmation. When the President of the United States is tried, the Chief Justice shall preside: And no Person shall be convicted without the Concurrence of two thirds of the Members present.

Judgment in Cases of Impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from Office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any Office of honor, Trust or Profit under the United States: but the Party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to Indictment, Trial, Judgment and Punishment, according to Law.

Section 4  
The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by Law make or alter such Regulations, except as to the Places of chusing Senators.

The Congress shall assemble at least once in every Year, and such Meeting shall be on the first Monday in December, unless they shall by Law appoint a different Day.

Section 5  
Each House shall be the Judge of the Elections, Returns and Qualifications of its own Members, and a Majority of each shall constitute a Quorum to do Business; but a smaller Number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the Attendance of absent Members, in such Manner, and under such Penalties as each House may provide.

Each House may determine the Rules of its Proceedings, punish its Members for disorderly Behaviour, and, with the Concurrence of two thirds, expel a Member.

Each House shall keep a Journal of its Proceedings and

from time to time publish the same, excepting such Parts as may in their Judgment require Secrecy; and the Yeas and Nays of the Members of either House on any question shall, at the Desire of one fifth of those Present, be entered on the Journal.

Neither House, during the Session of Congress, shall, without the Consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other Place than that in which the two Houses shall be sitting.

Section 6  
The Senators and Representatives shall receive a Compensation for their Services, to be ascertained by Law, and paid out of the Treasury of the United States. They shall in all Cases, except Treason, Felony and Breach of the Peace, be privileged from Arrest during their Attendance at the Session of their respective Houses and in going to and returning from the same; and for any Speech or Debate in either House, they shall not be questioned in any other Place.

No Senator or Representative shall, during the Time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil Office under the Authority of the United States, which shall have been created, or the Emoluments whereof shall have been encreased during such time; and no Person holding any Office under the United States, shall be a Member of either House during his Continuance in Office.

Section 7  
All Bills for raising Revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with Amendments as on other Bills.

Every Bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it become a Law, be presented to the President of the United States; If he approve he shall sign it, but if not he shall return it, with his Objections to that House in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the Objections at large on their Journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If after such Reconsideration two thirds of that House shall agree to pass the Bill, it shall be sent, together with the Objections, to the other House, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by two thirds of that House, it shall become a Law. But in all such Cases the Votes of both Houses shall be determined by yeas and Nays, and the Names of the Persons voting for and against the Bill shall be entered on the Journal of each House respectively. If any Bill shall not be returned by the President within ten Days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the Same shall be a Law, in like Manner as if he had signed it, unless the Congress by their Adjournment prevent its Return, in which Case it shall not be a Law.

Every Order, Resolution, or Vote to which the Concurrence of the Senate and House of Representatives may be necessary (except on a question of Adjournment) shall be presented to the President of the United States; and before the Same shall take Effect, shall be approved by him, or being disapproved by him, shall be repassed by two thirds of the Senate and House of Representatives, according to the Rules and Limitation prescribed in the Case of a Bill.

Section 8  
The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

To borrow Money on the credit of the United States;

To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;

To establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization, and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States;

To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures;

To provide for the Punishment of counterfeiting the Securities and current Coin of the United States;

To establish Post Offices and post Roads;

To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries;

To constitute Tribunals inferior to the supreme Court;

To define and punish Piracies and Felonies committed on the high Seas, and Offences against the Law of Nations;

To declare War, grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal, and make Rules concerning Captures on Land and Water;

To raise and support Armies, but no Appropriation of Money to that Use shall be for a longer Term than two Years;

To provide and maintain a Navy;

To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces;

To provide for calling forth the Militia to execute the Laws of the Union, suppress Insurrections and repel Invasions;

To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining, the Militia, and for governing such Part of them as may be employed in the Service of the United States, reserving to the States respectively, the Appointment of the Officers, and the Authority of training the Militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress;

To exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten Miles square) as may, by Cession of particular States, and the Acceptance of Congress, become the Seat of Government of the

United States, and to exercise like Authority over all Places purchased by the Consent of the Legislature of the State in which the Same shall be, for the Erection of Forts, Magazines, Arsenals, dock-Yards, and other needful Buildings;—And

To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

Section 9  
The Migration or Importation of such Persons as any of the States now existing shall think proper to admit, shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the Year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but a Tax or duty may be imposed on such Importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each Person.

The Privilege of the Writ of Habeas Corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in Cases of Rebellion or Invasion the public Safety may require it.

No Bill of Attainder or ex post facto Law shall be passed.

No Capitation, or other direct, Tax shall be laid, unless in Proportion to the Census or enumeration herein before directed to be taken.

No Tax or Duty shall be laid on Articles exported from any State.

No Preference shall be given by any Regulation of Commerce or Revenue to the Ports of one State over those of another: nor shall Vessels bound to, or from, one State, be obliged to enter, clear, or pay duties in another.

No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law; and a regular Statement and Account of the Receipts and Expenditures of all public Money shall be published from time to time.

No Title of Nobility shall be granted by the United States: And no Person holding any Office of Profit or Trust under them, shall, without the Consent of the Congress accept of any present, Emolument, Office, or Title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State.

Section 10  
No State shall enter into any Treaty, Alliance, or Confederation; grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal; coin Money; emit Bills of Credit; make any Thing but gold and silver Coin a Tender in Payment of Debts; pass any Bill of Attainder, ex post facto Law, or Law impairing the Obligation of Contracts, or grant any Title of Nobility.

No State shall, without the Consent of the Congress, lay any Imposts or Duties on Imports or Exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for executing it’s inspection Laws: and the net Produce of all Duties and Imposts, laid by any State on Imports or Exports, shall be for the Use of the Treasury of the United States; and all such Laws shall be subject to the Revision and Controul of the Congress.

No State shall, without the Consent of Congress, lay any Duty of Tonnage, keep Troops, or Ships of War in time of Peace, enter into any Agreement or Compact with another State, or with a foreign Power, or engage in War, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent Danger as will not admit of delay.

ARTICLE II  
Section 1  
The executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. He shall hold his Office during the Term of four Years, and, together with the Vice President, chosen for the same Term, be elected, as follows

Each State shall appoint, in such Manner as the Legislature thereof may direct, a Number of Electors, equal to the whole Number of Senators and Representatives to which the State may be entitled in the Congress: but no Senator or Representative, or Person holding an Office of Trust or Profit under the United States, shall be appointed an Elector.

The Electors shall meet in their respective States, and vote by Ballot for two Persons, of whom one at least shall not be an Inhabitant of the same State with themselves. And they shall make a List of all the Persons voted for, and of the Number of Votes for each; which List they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the Seat of the Government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate. The President of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the Certificates, and the Votes shall then be counted. The Person having the greatest Number of Votes shall be the President, if such Number be a Majority of the whole Number of Electors appointed; and if there be more than one who have such Majority, and have an equal Number of Votes, then the House of Representatives shall immediately chuse by Ballot one of them for President; and if no Person have a Majority, then from the five highest on the List the said House shall in like manner chuse the President. But in chusing the President, the Votes shall be taken by States, the Representation from each State having one Vote; A quorum for this Purpose shall consist of a Member or Members from two thirds of the States, and a Majority of all the States shall be necessary to a Choice. In every Case, after the Choice of the President, the Person having the greatest Number of Votes of the Electors shall be the Vice President. But if there should remain two or more who have equal Votes, the Senate shall chuse from them by Ballot the Vice President.

The Congress may determine the Time of chusing the Electors, and the Day on which they shall give their Votes; which Day shall be the same throughout the United States.

No Person except a natural born Citizen, or a Citizen of the United States, at the time of the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the Office of President; neither shall any Person be eligible to that Office who shall not have attained to the Age of thirty five Years, and been fourteen Years a Resident within the United States.



In Case of the Removal of the President from Office, or of his Death, Resignation, or Inability to discharge the Powers and Duties of the said Office, the Same shall devolve on the Vice President, and the Congress may by law provide for the Case of Removal, Death, Resignation or Inability, both of the President and Vice President, declaring what Officer shall then act as President, and such Officer shall act accordingly, until the Disability be removed, or a President shall be elected.

The President shall, at stated Times, receive for his Services, a Compensation, which shall neither be encreased nor diminished during the Period for which he shall have been elected, and he shall not receive within that Period any other Emolument from the United States, or any of them.

Before he enter on the Execution of his Office, he shall take the following Oath or Affirmation:– I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my Ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States.

Section 2

The President shall be Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, and of the Militia of the several States, when called into the actual Service of the United States; he may require the Opinion, in writing, of the principal Officer in each of the executive Departments, upon any Subject relating to the Duties of their respective Offices, and he shall have Power to grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offences against the United States, except in Cases of Impeachment.

He shall have Power, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, to make Treaties, provided two thirds of the Senators present concur; and he shall nominate, and by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, shall appoint Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, Judges of the supreme Court, and all other Officers of the United States, whose Appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by Law: but the Congress may by Law vest the Appointment of such inferior Officers, as they think proper, in the President alone, in the Courts of Law, or in the Heads of Departments.

The President shall have Power to fill up all Vacancies that may happen during the Recess of the Senate, by granting Commissions which shall expire at the End of their next Session.

Section 3

He shall from time to time give to the Congress Information of the State of the Union, and recommend to their Consideration such Measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient; he may, on extraordinary Occasions, convene both Houses, or either of them, and in Case of Disagreement between them, with Respect to the Time of Adjournment, he may adjourn them to such Time as he shall think proper; he shall receive Ambassadors and other public Ministers; he shall take Care that the Laws be faithfully executed, and shall Commission all the Officers of the United States.

Section 4

The President, Vice President and all civil Officers of the United States, shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors.

ARTICLE III

Section 1

The judicial Power of the United States, shall be vested in one supreme Court, and in such inferior Courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. The Judges, both of the supreme and inferior Courts, shall hold their Offices during good Behaviour, and shall, at stated Times, receive for their Services, a Compensation, which shall not be diminished during their Continuance in Office.

Section 2

The Judicial Power shall extend to all Cases, in Law and Equity, arising under this Constitution, the Laws of the United States, and Treaties made, or which shall be made, under their Authority;--to all Cases affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls;---to all Cases of admiralty and maritime Jurisdiction;---to Controversies to which the United States shall be a Party;---to Controversies between two or more States;--between a State and Citizens of another State;---between Citizens of different States,--- between Citizens of the same State claiming Lands under Grants of different States, and between a State, or the Citizens thereof, and foreign States, Citizens or Subjects.

In all Cases affecting Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, and those in which a State shall be a Party, the supreme Court shall have original Jurisdiction. In all the other Cases before mentioned, the Supreme Court shall have appellate Jurisdiction, both as to Law and Fact, with such Exceptions, and under such Regulations as the Congress shall make.

The Trial of all Crimes, except in Cases of Impeachment, shall be by Jury; and such Trial shall be held in the State where the said Crimes shall have been committed; but when not committed within any State, the Trial shall be at such Place or Places as the Congress may by Law have directed.

Section 3

Treason against the United States, shall consist only in levying War against them, or in adhering to their Enemies, giving them Aid and Comfort. No Person shall be convicted of Treason unless on the testimony of two Witnesses to the same overt Act, or on Confession in open court.

The Congress shall have Power to declare the Punishment of Treason, but no Attainder of Treason shall work Corruption of Blood, or Forfeiture except during the Life of the Person attained.

ARTICLE IV

Section 1

Full Faith and Credit shall be given in each State to the public Acts, Records, and judicial Proceedings of every

other State. And the Congress may by general Laws prescribe the Manner in which such Acts, Records and Proceedings shall be proved, and the Effect thereof.

Section 2

The Citizens of each State shall be entitled to all Privileges and Immunities of Citizens in the several States.

A Person charged in any State with Treason, Felony, or other Crime, who shall flee from Justice, and be found in another State, shall on Demand of the executive Authority of the State from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the State having Jurisdiction of the Crime.

No Person held to Service or Labour in one State, under the Laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in Consequence of any Law or Regulation therein, be discharged from such Service or Labour, but shall be delivered up on Claim of the Party to whom such Service or Labour may be due.

Section 3

New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union; but no new State shall be formed or erected within the Jurisdiction of any other State; nor any State be formed by the Junction of two or more States, or Parts of States, without the Consent of the Legislatures of the States concerned as well as of the Congress.

The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.

Section 4

The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government, and shall protect each of them against Invasion; and on Application of the Legislature, or of the Executive (when the Legislature cannot be convened) against domestic Violence.

ARTICLE V

The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose Amendments to this Constitution, or, on the Application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several States, shall call a Convention for proposing Amendments, which, in either Case, shall be valid to all Intents and Purposes, as Part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several States, or by Conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other Mode of Ratification may be proposed by the Congress; Provided that no Amendment which may be made prior to the Year One thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any Manner affect the first and fourth Clauses in the Ninth Section of the first Article; and that no State, without its Consent, shall be deprived of its equal Suffrage in the Senate.

ARTICLE VI

All Debts contracted and Engagements entered into, before the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be as valid against the United States under this Constitution, as under the Confederation.

This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in Pursuance thereof; and all Treaties made, or which shall be made, under the Authority of the United States, shall be the supreme Law of the Land; and the Judges in every State shall be bound thereby, any Thing in the Constitution or Laws of any State to the Contrary notwithstanding.

The Senators and Representatives before mentioned, and the Members of the several State Legislatures, and all executive and judicial Officers, both of the United States and of the several States, shall be bound by Oath or Affirmation, to support this Constitution; but no religious Test shall ever be required as a Qualification to any Office or public Trust under the United States.

Article VII

The Ratification of the Conventions of nine States, shall be sufficient for the Establishment of this Constitution between the States so ratifying the Same.

First Amendment

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Second Amendment

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

Third Amendment

No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Fourth Amendment

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Fifth Amendment

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

Sixth Amendment

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right

to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defence.

Seventh Amendment

In Suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

Eighth Amendment

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

Ninth Amendment

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Tenth Amendment

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

Eleventh Amendment

The Judicial power of the United States shall not be construed to extend to any suit in law or equity, commenced or prosecuted against one of the United States by Citizens of another State, or by Citizens or Subjects of any Foreign State.

Twelfth Amendment

The Electors shall meet in their respective states, and vote by ballot for President and Vice-President, one of whom, at least, shall not be an inhabitant of the same state with themselves; they shall name in their ballots the person voted for as President, and in distinct ballots the person voted for as Vice-President, and they shall make distinct lists of all persons voted for as President, and of all persons voted for as Vice-President, and of the number of votes for each, which lists they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the seat of the government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate;--The President of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates and the votes shall then be counted;--The person having the greatest number of votes for President, shall be the President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of Electors appointed; and if no person have such majority, then from the persons having the highest numbers not exceeding three on the list of those voted for as President, the House of Representatives shall choose immediately, by ballot, the President. But in choosing the President, the votes shall be taken by states, the representation from each state having one vote; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two-thirds of the states, and a majority of all the states shall be necessary to a choice. [And if the House of Representatives shall not choose a President whenever the right of choice shall devolve upon them, before the fourth day of March next following, then the Vice-President shall act as President, as in the case of the death or other constitutional disability of the President.--]The person having the greatest number of votes as Vice-President, shall be the Vice-President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of Electors appointed, and if no person have a majority, then from the two highest numbers on the list, the Senate shall choose the Vice-President; a quorum for the purpose shall consist of two-thirds of the whole number of Senators, and a majority of the whole number shall be necessary to a choice. But no person constitutionally ineligible to the office of President shall be eligible to that of Vice-President of the United States.

Thirteenth Amendment

Section 1

Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

Section 2

Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

Fourteenth Amendment

Section 1

All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

Section 2

Representatives shall be apportioned among the several States according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each State, excluding Indians not taxed. But when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors for President and Vice-President of the United States, Representatives in Congress, the Executive and Judicial officers of a State, or the members of the Legislature thereof, is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such State, being twenty-one years of age, and citizens of the United States, or in any way abridged, except for participation in rebellion, or other crime, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens twenty-one years of age in such State.

Section 3

No Person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or elector of President and Vice-President, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any State, who, having previously taken an oath, as a



member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may by a vote of two-thirds of each House, remove such disability.

**Section 4**  
The validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, including debts incurred for payment of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned. But neither the United States nor any State shall assume or pay any debt or obligation incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any claim for the loss or emancipation of any slave; but all such debts, obligations and claims shall be held illegal and void.

**Section 5**  
The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

**Fifteenth Amendment**  
**Section 1**  
The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude—

**Section 2**  
The Congress shall have the power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

**Sixteenth Amendment**  
The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several States, and without regard to any census or enumeration.

**Seventeenth Amendment**  
The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, elected by the people thereof, for six years; and each Senator shall have one vote. The electors in each State shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the State legislatures.

When vacancies happen in the representation of any State in the Senate, the executive authority of such State shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies: Provided, That the legislature of any State may empower the executive thereof to make temporary appointments until the people fill the vacancies by election as the legislature may direct.

This amendment shall not be so construed as to affect the election or term of any Senator chosen before it becomes valid as part of the Constitution.

**Eighteenth Amendment**  
**Section 1**  
After one year from the ratification of this article the manufacture, sale, or transportation of intoxicating liquors within, the importation thereof into, or the exportation thereof from the United States and all territory subject to the jurisdiction thereof for beverage purposes is hereby prohibited.

**Section 2**  
The Congress and the several States shall have concurrent power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

**Section 3**  
This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of the several States, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress.

**Nineteenth Amendment**  
**Section 1**  
The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

**Section 2**  
Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

**Twentieth Amendment**  
**Section 1**  
The terms of the President and Vice President shall end at noon on the 20th day of January, and the terms of Senators and Representatives at noon on the 3d day of January, of the years in which such terms would have ended if this article had not been ratified; and the terms of their successors shall then begin.

**Section 2**  
The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and such meeting shall begin at noon on the 3d day of January, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

**Section 3**  
If, at the time fixed for the beginning of the term of the President, the President elect shall have died, the Vice President elect shall become President. If a President shall not have been chosen before the time fixed for the beginning of his term, or if the President elect shall have failed to qualify, then the Vice President elect shall act as President until a President shall have qualified; and the Congress may by law provide for the case wherein neither a President elect nor a Vice President elect shall have qualified, declaring who shall then act as President, or the manner in which one who is to act shall be selected, and such person shall act accordingly until a President or Vice President shall have qualified.

**Section 4**  
The Congress may by law provide for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the House of Representatives may choose a President whenever the right of choice shall have devolved upon them, and for the case of the death of any of the persons from whom the Senate may choose a Vice President whenever the right of choice shall

have devolved upon them.

**Section 5**  
Sections 1 and 2 shall take effect on the 15th day of October following the ratification of this article.

**Section 6**  
This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission.

**Twenty-First Amendment**  
**Section 1**  
The eighteenth article of amendment to the Constitution of the United States is hereby repealed.

**Section 2**  
The transportation or importation into any State, Territory, or possession of the United States for delivery or use therein of intoxicating liquors, in violation of the laws thereof, is hereby prohibited.

**Section 3**  
This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by conventions in the several States, as provided in the Constitution, within seven years from the date of the submission hereof to the States by the Congress.

**Twenty-Second Amendment**  
**Section 1**  
No person shall be elected to the office of the President more than twice, and no person who has held the office of President, or acted as President, for more than two years of a term to which some other person was elected President shall be elected to the office of the President more than once. But this Article shall not apply to any person holding the office of President when this Article was proposed by the Congress, and shall not prevent any person who may be holding the office of President, or acting as President, during the term within which this Article becomes operative from holding the office of President or acting as President during the remainder of such term.

**Section 2**  
This Article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission to the States by the Congress.

**Twenty-Third Amendment**  
**Section 1**  
The District constituting the seat of Government of the United States shall appoint in such manner as the Congress may direct:

A number of electors of President and Vice President equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives in Congress to which the District would be entitled if it were a State, but in no event more than the least populous State; they shall be in addition to those appointed by the States, but they shall be considered, for the purposes of the election of President and Vice President, to be electors appointed by a State; and they shall meet in the District and perform such duties as provided by the twelfth article of amendment.

**Section 2**  
The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

**Twenty-Fourth Amendment**  
**Section 1**  
The right of citizens of the United States to vote in any primary or other election for President or Vice President, for electors for President or Vice President, or for Senator or Representative in Congress, shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State by reason of failure to pay any poll tax or other tax.

**Section 2**  
The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

**Twenty-Fifth Amendment**  
**Section 1**  
In case of the removal of the President from office or of his death or resignation, the Vice President shall become President.

**Section 2**  
Whenever there is a vacancy in the office of the Vice President, the President shall nominate a Vice President who shall take office upon confirmation by a majority vote of both Houses of Congress.

**Section 3**  
Whenever the President transmits to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives his written declaration that he is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, and until he transmits to them a written declaration to the contrary, such powers and duties shall be discharged by the Vice President as Acting President.

**Section 4**  
Whenever the Vice President and a majority of either the principal officers of the executive departments or of such other body as Congress may by law provide, transmit to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives their written declaration that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, the Vice President shall immediately assume the powers and duties of the office as Acting President.

Thereafter, when the President transmits to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives his written declaration that no inability exists, he shall resume the powers and duties of his office unless the Vice President and a majority of either the principal officers of the executive department or of such other body as Congress may by law provide, transmit within four days to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker

of the House of Representatives their written declaration that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office. Thereupon Congress shall decide the issue, assembling within forty-eight hours for that purpose if not in session. If the Congress within twenty-one days after receipt of the latter written declaration, or, if Congress is not in session, within twenty-one days after Congress is required to assemble, determines by two-thirds vote of both Houses that the President is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office, the Vice President shall continue to discharge the same as Acting President; otherwise, the President shall resume the powers and duties of his office.

**Twenty-Sixth Amendment**  
**Section 1**  
The right of citizens of the United States, who are eighteen years of age or older, to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of age.

**Section 2**  
The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

**Twenty-Seventh Amendment**  
No law, varying the compensation for the services of the Senators and Representatives, shall take effect, until an election of Representatives shall have intervened.

## Preamble

## ARTICLES OF THE CONSTITUTION

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Legislative Branch

Article II  
Executive Branch

Article III  
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Article IV  
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Article V  
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TOM PURCELL  
HOT DOGS, BURGERS & POTATO SALAD



I love the hot dogs and burgers and my mother’s delicious potato salad.

Mostly, though, I’ve always cherished the great gatherings of family and friends that culminate with spectacular fireworks displays that light up the dark summer sky.

I knew as a kid that on July 4th we were celebrating our many freedoms, which we earned by gaining independence from the British during the Revolutionary War, and which we cemented with the creation of the U.S. Constitution.

As an adult, I know our country was imperfect then, as it is now — that the Declaration of Independence, which spoke so forcefully of individual liberty, was leaving out people who were enslaved.

But I also know that our Constitution got many things right, especially checks and balances to keep each our three branches of government from getting too powerful, and the Bill of Rights, which guarantees the protection of the basic rights average citizens like me continue to enjoy.

Freedom of speech allows me to write this column and criticize my government when I think it is overstepping its bounds (hello, \$32 trillion in recklessly borrowed funds).

It’s for all of these reasons that I especially enjoy celebrating the Fourth of July.

According to History.com, in 1776 some Americans — fully displaying the raucous American sense of humor — “celebrated the birth of independence by holding mock funerals for King George III.”

But the first official Fourth of July celebration occurred in Philadelphia in 1777 when Americans fired a cannon 13 times in honor of the original 13 colonies, and also set off 13 fireworks, reports USA Today.

“The Pennsylvania Evening Post reported: ‘at night there was a grand exhibition of fireworks (which began and concluded with thirteen rockets) on the Commons, and the city was beautifully illuminated,’” reports History.com.

In Boston, on the very same night, the Sons of Liberty also set off fireworks, so fireworks have been a central part of our July 4th celebrations ever since.

To me, though, the biggest element of the July 4th celebration is how we have so often come together to overcome our greatest challenges.

The 13 colonies had many differences and disagreements as their delegates worked together to establish the Declaration of Independence.

According to USA Today, Barbara Clark Smith, a curator of political history at the National Museum of American History, notes how extraordinary it was for colonists to find common ground.

“They did find a way to put differences aside and join together to work for a common goal,” she added. “While declaring independence, they also declared interdependence.”

And that is why on July 4, 1776, the Second Continental Congress unanimously approved and adopted the Declaration of Independence.

In that collaborative spirit, I offer an idea.

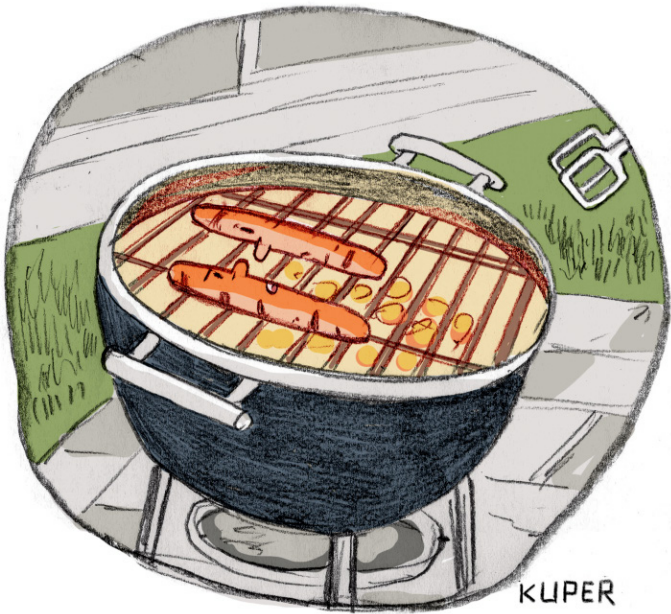
In addition to the hot dogs, burgers and our family’s uniquely delicious potato salad, on this July 4th why don’t we engage in a civil discussion with friends and family members with whom we may disagree?

Why don’t we try a special exercise in which we identify some of the basic things we agree on?

I’m betting that as we clarify our thinking in a civil manner, we’ll discover we agree far more than we disagree.

Follow this approach and the only fireworks that will go off during your July 4th gathering will be the ones that illuminate the night sky!

*Purcell, creator of the infotainment site [ThurbersTail.com](#), which features pet advice he’s learning from his beloved Labrador, Thurber, is a Pittsburgh Tribune-Review humor columnist. Email him at [Tom@TomPurcell.com](mailto:Tom@TomPurcell.com).*



“ ‘It’ll be fun! We’ll meet new *people!*’, you said.”

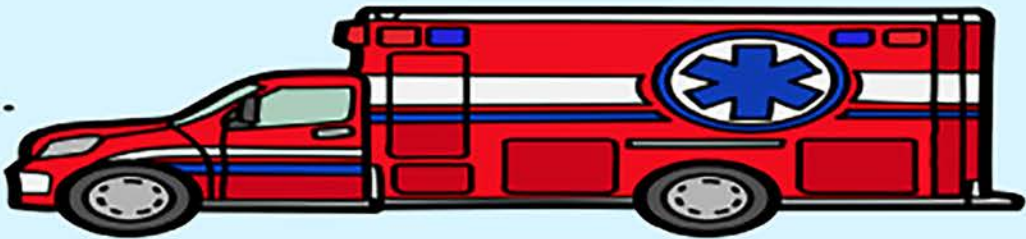


# NEWLY ENHANCED PARAMEDIC SUBSCRIPTION PROGRAM

**for Individuals, Households, Businesses** and Modest-Income Families

The City of Sierra Madre is proud to introduce the **newly enhanced** Paramedic Subscription Program, a cost-effective solution to help residents, households, businesses, and families with financial challenges manage the expense of emergency medical responses.

For additional information, please contact the Fire Dept. at 626-355-3611, email [subscription@sierramadrecalifornia.gov](mailto:subscription@sierramadrecalifornia.gov), or visit City Hall during regular business hours



\*This subscription service is only available to Sierra Madre residents and businesses.

## PASADENA POLICE SUMMARY



The document is a report from the Pasadena Police Department detailing calls for service during the period from June 20 to June 26, 2025. *Partial Listing*

- Total Incidents: A total of 56 incidents were recorded during the specified period, reflecting a busy week for service calls.

### Community Concerns and Safety Issues

The variety of calls reflects community concerns regarding safety and disturbances. The data indicates a proactive approach by residents in reporting issues.

- Transient Reports: Several calls regarding transients suggest ongoing community issues related to homelessness.
- Suspicious Activity: Reports of suspicious persons and vehicles indicate heightened vigilance among residents.
- Health and Safety: Multiple health and safety calls highlight community awareness and concern for public well-being.

- 12 medical transports were recorded, with multiple incidents occurring at the 200 block of N Garfield Ave.

- Several traffic collisions were reported, including non-injury and injury traffic collisions.

### Suspicious Activities and Person Reports

Numerous reports of suspicious persons and activities were logged throughout the week.

- A total of 15 incidents involving suspicious persons or vehicles were reported, with locations including the 300 block of W Colorado Blvd and the 500 block of Woodland Rd.

Traffic-related incidents were a significant portion of the calls for service.

- 20 traffic stops were conducted, with various violations reported.
- Multiple traffic hazards were reported, including hit-and-run incidents and non-injury collisions.

### Theft and Burglary Incidents

- 10 petty thefts were reported, with locations including the 300 block of E Colorado Blvd and the 700 block of E Colorado Blvd.
- Several burglary alarms were triggered, indicating potential break-ins at various locations.

### Transient and Welfare Checks

- 15 incidents involving transients were reported, with locations such as the 700 block of N Lake Ave and the 300 block of E Colorado Blvd.

- Multiple welfare checks were conducted, ensuring the safety of individuals in various neighborhoods.

### Community Engagement and Extra Services

- 25 extra service calls were logged, indicating proactive community engagement.
- Block walks and community advisements were

conducted to enhance public safety and awareness.

### Pasadena Police Department Incident Reports

The Pasadena Police Department documented various incidents and calls for service from June 20, 2025, to June 26, 2025. The reports include a range of incidents such as traffic stops, disturbances, and arrests.

- Total Incidents Recorded: Numerous incidents were reported, including traffic stops, disturbances, and suspicious activities.
- Types of Incidents: Categories include 415 (disturbance), traffic stops, suspicious persons/vehicles, and various alarms.
- Notable Incidents: Included warrant arrests, ID theft, and burglary alarms.
- Timeframe: The incidents were logged over a single day, June 20, 2025, with timestamps indicating the time of each occurrence.

### Types of Disturbances and Calls

The reports highlight various types of disturbances and calls for service that the police responded to during the specified period.

- 415 Disturbances: Multiple incidents categorized as 415 (disturbance) were reported, indicating community disturbances.
- Traffic Stops: A significant number of traffic stops were conducted, reflecting ongoing traffic enforcement.
- Suspicious Activities: Numerous reports of suspicious persons and vehicles were logged, indicating community vigilance.
- Alarms: Several burglary alarms were triggered, prompting police response.

### Arrests and Criminal Activities

The reports detail various arrests and criminal activities that occurred during the reporting period.

- Warrant Arrests: Multiple warrant arrests were made, indicating ongoing law enforcement efforts to apprehend individuals with outstanding warrants.
- Theft and Burglary: Incidents of petty theft, grand theft auto, and burglary were reported, highlighting property crime concerns.
- Public Safety Concerns: Reports of public intoxication, driving violations, and suspicious person activities were noted, indicating a focus on public safety.
- Community Engagement: The police engaged in community checks and services, reflecting a proactive approach to community policing.



## ARCADIA

Overview: The document reports on the Arcadia Police Department's weekly activity, detailing calls for service and notable incidents.

### Calls for Service

- From June 15 to June 21, the department responded to 864 calls for service.
- Year-to-date total for 2025 is 23,906 calls.

### Formal Investigations

- During the same period, 105 incidents required formal investigations.

•Year-to-date total for formal investigations in 2025 is 2,440.

### Notable Incidents

- June 15: Petty theft at Albertson's; suspect fled in a black Nissan Altima.
- June 16: Vehicle burglary at 24 Hour Fitness; wallet stolen and used for fraudulent purchases.
- June 17: Commercial burglary at Hair Etc. ; front door smashed, business ransacked.
- June 18: Residential burglary in the 500 block of West Palm Drive; two male suspects identified.
- June 19: Commercial burglary at Dynamic Active; watches, electronics, and cash stolen.
- June 20: Burglary in the 200 block of West Las Flores Avenue; no loss reported, but bedrooms ransacked.
- June 21: Mail theft incident; community mailbox pried open and mail stolen.

## MONROVIA POLICE BLOTTER



Overview: The document details police activities and incidents in Monrovia from June 18 to June 25, 2025.

### Police Activity Overview

- 497 service events handled by the Police Department.
- 93 investigations initiated during the reporting period.
- Crime mapping available at <http://www.crimemapping.com/map/ca/monrovia>.

### Drug-Related Incidents

- Multiple arrests for drug offenses, including possession of controlled substances and drug paraphernalia.
- Notable incidents include a suspect arrested for drug possession on June 18 and another on June 20.

### Domestic Violence Cases

- Several domestic violence incidents reported, with victims requiring medical attention.
- One suspect arrested on June 21 for battering a female subject.

### Theft and Vandalism

- Various theft incidents reported, including grand theft auto and petty theft.
- Ongoing investigations into thefts of equipment and packages.
- Traffic Incidents
  - Multiple traffic collisions reported, including a severe injury collision involving a bicyclist on June 20.
  - Several arrests made for driving under the influence.
- Warrant Arrests
  - Numerous individuals arrested for outstanding warrants throughout the week.
  - Arrests occurred during traffic stops and welfare checks.
- Community Engagement
  - Information on Monrovia's Safe Schools Anti-Violence Reward and Stop Graffiti Bounty programs.
  - Contact information for police and community services provided.



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Mission Statement

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

STUART TOLCHIN



PUT THE LIGHTS ON

CAN WE LEARN FROM TREES?

On Monday while driving up the hill on the way to my house I noticed for the first time something very unique about one of the houses. The house had a patio extending from an upper story and a hole had been cut in the floor of the patio. Growing through the hole was a cedar tree covered with bark as trees usually are. As the tree extended upward through the hole, I could see that the outer bark of the tree had been removed and what was visible now was an intricate web of what looked like tubing or hoses. These hoses, often intersecting with one another were visible all the way to the top of the area where the leaves of the cedar tree extended up into the sky.

Immediately the thought hit me that this intricate web was probably like what exists within our human body's invisible to us beneath the skin covering. Perhaps information and messages were constantly being communicated between trees as they interacted with the external environment. I had been reading a book entitled Wild Mind, subtitled A Field Guide To The Human Psyche authored by psychologist Bill Plotkin.

The book describes the relationship between the human psyche and the rest of nature—a task akin to painting a detailed portrait in a stiff wind. Plotkin invites the reader into a conscious and embodied relationship with the non-human world. In my articles of the last few weeks, I have discussed possible sources to our current problems. The recent detentions of vulnerable lawabiding individuals doing nothing wrong has demonstrated that there is something very wrong. Something must be done—but what can we as individuals do?

We've known about the unfairness, dangers. and inequality within our society for a long time and although there has been a lot of talk things haven't changed. The point of Plotkin's book is that Americans and modern societies have traditionally limited their choices. He implores humans to feel and honor our kinship with all species and habitats “and to shape ourselves into visionaries with the artistry to revitalize our endangered world”.

For me this is where thinking about the trees comes in. I used my iPhone to look up what was going on beneath the bark of the trees. I read that there actually exists something man had labelled the “Wood wide web”. This term describes a complex underground network of bacteria, fungi, and roots that connects trees and plants to one another. Just like an MRI scan of the brain helps us to understand how the brain works, the map of the fungi beneath the soil helps us to understand how global ecosystems work. The trees assist each other in coping and adjusting to environmental conditions. They send out distress signals about drought or disease or an insect infestation

No, no one is saying that trees talk directly to us but remember that trees and humans share similar physical characteristics. Like the cedar tree we stand upright, have a crown on top and mobile limbs stemming from a central trunk. We can receive information from them which we can use to protect ourselves. The point of the Plotkin book is that in order to survive we must reclaim our original wholeness by not merely suppressing psychological symptoms, recover from addictions and trauma, manage stress, or refurbish dysfunctional relationships. Psychology has focused only on what is wrong with people and has neglected a larger story honoring what is right with us and utilizing our kinship with all species to save ourselves.

Look I know all the above probably sounds crazy. What also is crazy is that I listen to the news every day and hear no solutions to the problems overcoming the world. The climate crisis continues, air and water impurities face us. Wars continue and the continued presence of drugs and guns and alcohol threaten everyone's safety. People have become frightened to have conversations with one another. Something else must be done or human extinctions becomes a real possibility. Where can we find answers? If there is a possibility of gaining information from the non-human world then by all means let's follow that up and see what the trees can tell us. After all, the non-human world has been around for a lot longer than we have and that world has survived.



HOWARD Hays As I See It

*“The word of the president of the United States is good enough for me.” – French President Charles de Gaulle to JFK's envoy Dean Acheson, explaining why he didn't need to see CIA evidence of Soviet missiles in Cuba, 1962*

I became more of a Dodger fan last week - and more inclined to doubt this administration can do anything without lying about it. The L.A. Times reported ICE had gathered outside the gates of Dodger Stadium but Dodger personnel wouldn't let them in. ICE responded that the story was “false”; they were “never there”. After the pics came out, their story changed to - yeah, maybe they were there, but it was “unrelated to any operation or enforcement”.

Whatever, it wasn't long before protestors showed up, followed by LAPD – to make sure all stayed outside the gates so fans could simply come and enjoy the game against the Padres. A protestor posted on Bluesky that when asked what the LAPD's approach towards ICE would be, an officer replied, “put it this way. The Dodgers don't want them coming in.” Another observed about ICE, “Just can't get over how much they look like images of cartel out of Sinaloa or Juarez.”

That deployment of ICE and National Guard to Los Angeles isn't making the headlines much anymore. The “big, beautiful” budget bill is stalled in the Senate. We're nearing the end of that “90 deals in 90 days” period for promised tariff agreements – with only a couple of “frameworks” to show for it. So now the president is desperate for something to again make himself the center of attention.

The NY Times reports that according to Pentagon and White House officials, on a Saturday morning President Trump was watching Fox News and couldn't get over the wall-to-wall coverage of Israel's attack on Iran. He couldn't accept that it was Bibi Netanyahu, rather than himself, now at the center of the world's attention - so decided he had to “get in on the action”.

While days earlier Trump assured that we “had nothing to do with the attack on Iran”, now it was all “we” and “us”. It was “we” having “complete and total control of the skies”. It was Trump calling for Tehran to be evacuated “immediately” (a city of 9 million), and Trump demanding “UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER” – while it remained solely between Israel and Iran.

After we did join the conflict with our own bombing mission, it wasn't enough for Trump to simply mark it successful with thanks for the safe return of all personnel involved – he had to declare targets being “completely and totally obliterated”. Then CNN reported an initial Defense Intelligence Agency assessment that the stockpiles of enriched uranium might have been moved beforehand, damage to the facilities themselves was uncertain, with the overall result that it might have set back Iran's nuclear efforts by “a few months”.

The story then was no longer the Middle East conflict we were now a part of, but about how, according to Trump, “FAKE NEWS CNN, TOGETHER WITH THE FAILING NEW YORK TIMES, HAVE TEAMED UP IN AN ATTEMPT TO DEMEAN ONE OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL MILITARY STRIKES IN HISTORY. THE NUCLEAR SITES IN IRAN ARE COMPLETELY DESTROYED!” This came as Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Dan Caine was saying it was simply “way too early” to make any finding one way or the other.

This action came after Trump rejected the assessment from Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard, and basically our entire intelligence community, that Iran was not actively developing a nuclear weapon. Accepting that assessment would've meant that whatever the threat was, it was not all that “imminent” – making it harder to justify the attack. So, Trump simply labeled the assessment from Director Gabbard and our intelligence community as “wrong”, while expecting everyone in his administration to follow suit.

When asked on CBS Face the Nation about intelligence showing Iran was not making a nuclear weapon, Secretary of State Marco Rubio dismissed that as “irrelevant” – telling host Margaret Brennan to just “forget about intelligence”.

As for Trump's evidence-free claim of Iranian nuclear facilities being “obliterated”, retired Army Brigadier General Steve Anderson said on CNN that “The assessment is what we expected but what scares me about the whole incident is the politicization of our national intelligence. It's so sad to see Secretary (of Defense Pete) Hegseth and (White House Press Secretary) Karoline Leavitt and others try to align our national security apparatus and intelligence apparatus with what the president said earlier. If that's not true, we need to know it.” The point is that it's important to know what the truth is – regardless of whether it aligns with whatever the president's preferred ego-boosting narrative.

For Defense Secretary Hegseth, Trump's plan “was bold, and it was brilliant”. And President Trump tells NBC that between Israel and Iran there's now a ceasefire that's “going to go forever”, and he's “very happy to have been able to get the job done”. Apparently, there was a ceasefire announced on Trump's Truth Social media platform, with no explanation as to how he came to speak for whatever the Iranian position might be.

We're far removed from the time anyone would take “the word of the president of the United States”, or anyone in his administration, for that matter, as “good enough” for anything. Go Dodgers.

RICH JOHNSON



JULY 4th LOOK AT PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

Just for starters, in case you are having trouble remembering why the actual date, July 4th is significant, I'll tell you. July 4, 1776 is the day the Declaration of Independence was ratified by the Second Continental Congress. That ratification established what we call the United States of America.

Digging deep into the weeds of our birth, the actual legal separation from Great Britain occurred two days earlier on July 2, when that same Second Continental Congress voted to approve a resolution of independence. The resolution was submitted by Richard Henry Lee of Virginia and heretofore became known as the Lee Resolution.

In 1777 Philadelphia set the standard for Independence Day activities. An official dinner for the Continental Congress, toasts, 13-gun salutes, speeches, prayers, music, parades, troop reviews and fireworks. (Can we do that in Sierra Madre this year?) In 1778, from his headquarters, General George Washington marked July 4 offering a generous double ration of rum for his soldiers.

Memorable event in 1886. France gave our country a birthday present. It was a statue of a woman. A rather hefty woman who was 151 feet tall and weighed 225 tons. You may know her as the Statue of Liberty. The lovely lady of liberty was disassembled and a little more than two years later was completely reassembled where it stands to this day (who's gonna move it lol?). Dedicated in a ceremony presided over by President Grover Cleveland.

No surprise the United State Military Academy, known as West Point, opened its doors July 4, 1802. It was established by Thomas Jefferson. Mr. Jefferson avoided a lot of red tape in opening West Point by being President at the time. I guess who you know really helps, especially if it's yourself.

Precisely one year later on July 4, 1803 President Jefferson doubled the size of the United States for a mere \$15 million dollars. How did he do that you ask. He bought a piece of property from the French. A little piece of land around 828,000 square miles which came to be known as the Louisiana Purchase. I think he put up condos but I'm not sure.

Anyway looking at our present situation where our current political landscape is converging with our technical ability to broadcast news 24/7, I'm reminded of an old time radio and television series which aired for a short while on NBC radio.

The program was titled The Bickersons, which gave us a daily slice of a married couple who spend all their awake time in a relentless verbal war. John and Blanche Bickerson were at each other's throats while radio audiences around the world howled with laughter, possibly because it was a little too close to home. By way of comparison, we later had Leave It to Beaver on television and I'm here to tell you with certainty there would be no entertainment value watching a half hour slice in the day in the life of June and Ward Cleaver.

Again, Churchill borrowing a quote said “...Democracy is the worst form of Government except for all those other forms that have been tried...” Democracy is generally considered the best form of government followed by constitutional monarchy.

Forty-four years ago two Irishmen came together in Washington D.C. Both politicians, one a Republican, the other a Democrat. The Republican, a former actor named Reagan reached out to the Democrat O'Neill, a career politician. Reagan was the new President and O'Neill the Speaker of the House. Arguably the two most powerful men in American politics. Their collaboration and compromises worked later in repairing social security. Then successfully on another compromise effort...the 1986 tax reform bill.

When President Reagan was shot in 1981 Tip O'Neill visited him in the hospital. Aides tell us the two men recited the 23rd Psalm together.

As Republicans square off against Democrats (and vice versa) we all need to know conflict isn't necessarily bad. And peace isn't the only opposite of conflict. Resolution and boredom can also be the opposite of conflict. Every time we watch a baseball game we enter the world of conflict. We want our team to win. But the games would become boring if the opposing team didn't have the ability to ever beat our team. We would soon lose interest. Thirty-three years ago a fellow with the last name of King called a press conference in Los Angeles in the hope he could calm an angry city down. His first name was Rodney and his words were: “I just want to say, you know, can we all get along? Can we get along? Can we stop making it horrible for the older people and the kids?”

Let's take a tip from Tip O'Neill and Ronnie Reagan: Spend the day jousting rhetorically over the yays and nays of each other's political and philosophical whims and priorities. Then, end the day at the local pub, bowling alley or coffee bar. Let the worst activity of your day be the overconsumption of calories.

CHRISTINE FLOWERS



DURING PATRIOTIC SEASON,  
SEARCHING FOR THE RIGHT AMERICA

There are four holidays that occur in quick succession and symbolize our love of country: Memorial Day, D-Day, Flag Day

allies is an obligation.

Those we remember in Memorial Day did not die on these shores. They made the ultimate sacrifice in foreign lands, far from their mothers' embrace and their fathers' proud gaze. They did it to preserve our greatest export: democracy.

and July Fourth.

The first and the last are the most important, because they commemorate those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country, and those who created this beloved nation at great risk to themselves. That's why it's always demoralizing to see how they've been reduced, in large part, to beach and barbecue holidays with a sprinkling of testimonials to the true spirit of the moment.

Of the other two, D-Day is the least acknowledged, except among that tiny and ever dwindling group of people who hear the phrase “Omaha Beach,” and understand. My mother's cousin, Adolph Pace, parachuted onto the beaches of Normandy, and his bride turned that parachute into her wedding dress when he came home.

And Flag Day? It's not much of a stretch to wear something red, white and blue on the day, and it's nice to reflect on its symbolism, and yes Betsy Ross appreciates a visit if you happen to be in Philly, but of the four it's the least important.

But I truly do love this month-and-a-half long stretch where we remember, celebrate and protect our identity as Americans. Because other countries are bound by blood, language, culture and in many cases DNA. All we have is aspiration.

We aspire to be what Reagan called a “Shining City on a Hill.” That didn't used to be considered hokey, naive or offensive. That described us perfectly, people who wanted to be on top of the human mountain.

Sadly, both progressives and conservatives have lost sight of the message.

As a registered Republican who embraced the GOP after decades of grappling with my moral compass as a Democrat, I used to have the zeal of a convert. I was so proud to belong to the party that oversaw, along with a pope and an Iron Lady, the destruction of communism. I was so happy to be a member of a party where — with very few exceptions — men and women believed in the sanctity of unborn human life.

But I don't exactly recognize that party today. The tone deaf sound of “America First” has replaced the rich anthem of American exceptionalism where not only is legal immigration a virtue and a gift, but using our own blood and treasure to protect our

And immigrants? They were always “us,” our grandparents and great grandparents, many of whom came legally, some of whom did not.

Now, they are “them,” unless they are South African farmers who made a deal with the White House. It's an oversimplification to say all immigrants are good, because there are in fact many multitudes who are mediocre. That's human nature.

But shifting our default position from “welcome, make our country better” to “find another destination, we don't want you” is tragic. In fact, those exact words were used by President Donald Trump last week.

But at least I can have conversations with conservatives. Progressives are convinced that the country is lost.

So many are rushing to obtain new passports from other countries in the same way a Kardashian buys a new handbag.

It's acquisition for the sake of looking better than geopolitical virtue signaling. It's not about loving the ancestral home, in so many of these cases. It's about hating on the one in which they were born.

I'm embarrassed and angry by some of the MAGA excesses, including what I believe to be cruel acts spring from the toxic cesspool of Stephen Miller's mind. But I'm not embarrassed by my country. I'd never leave it for greener pastures, because quite frankly there are none.

I have no real home these days. Politically I am much more comfortable on the right, but it's far from a perfect fit.

There is a jingoism I see and hear in former comrades that shocks me. And when they try and say it's all about “America First,” I turn them off.

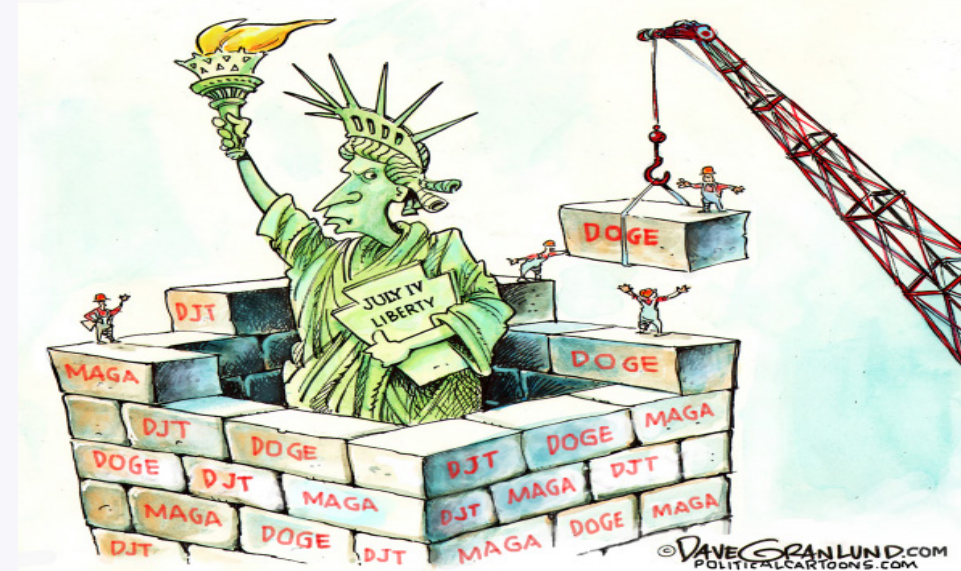
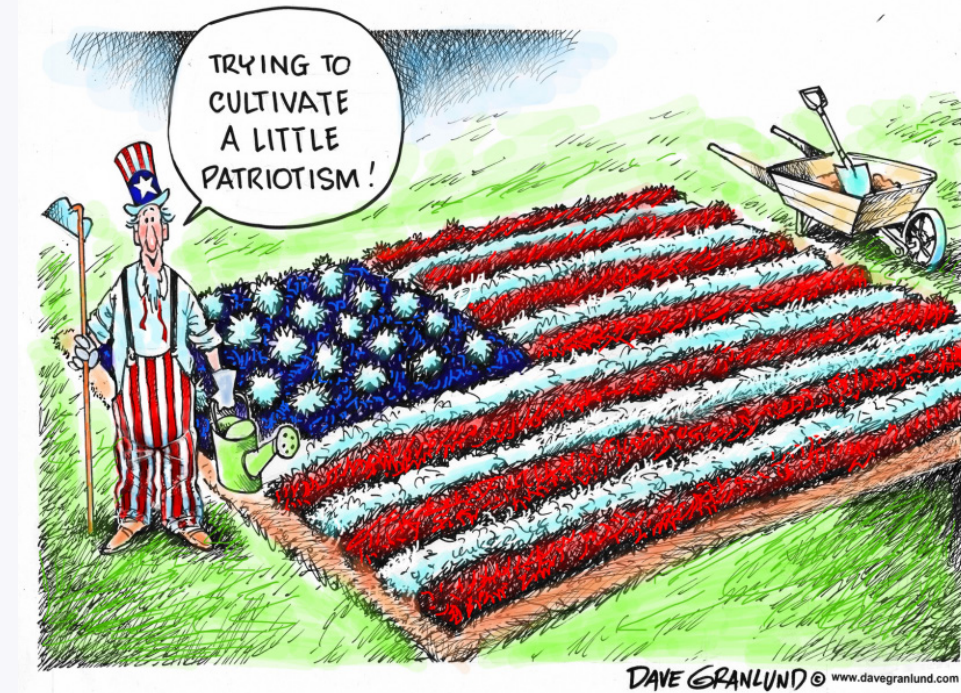
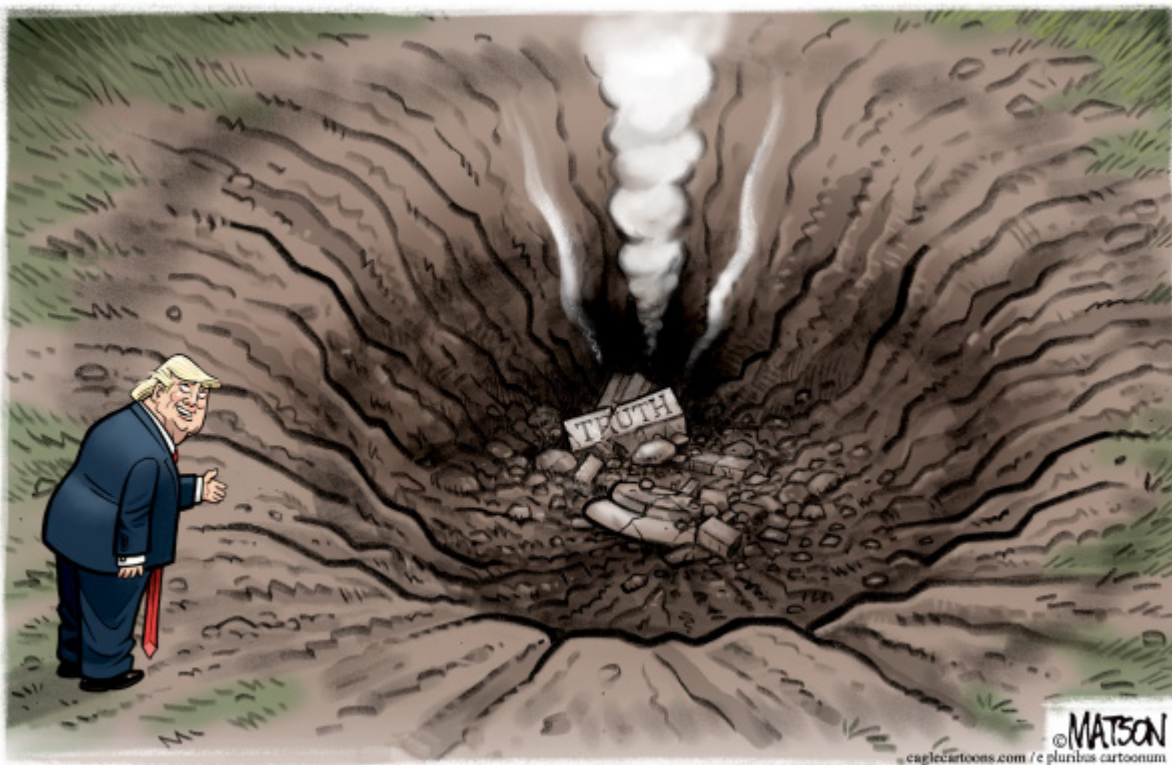
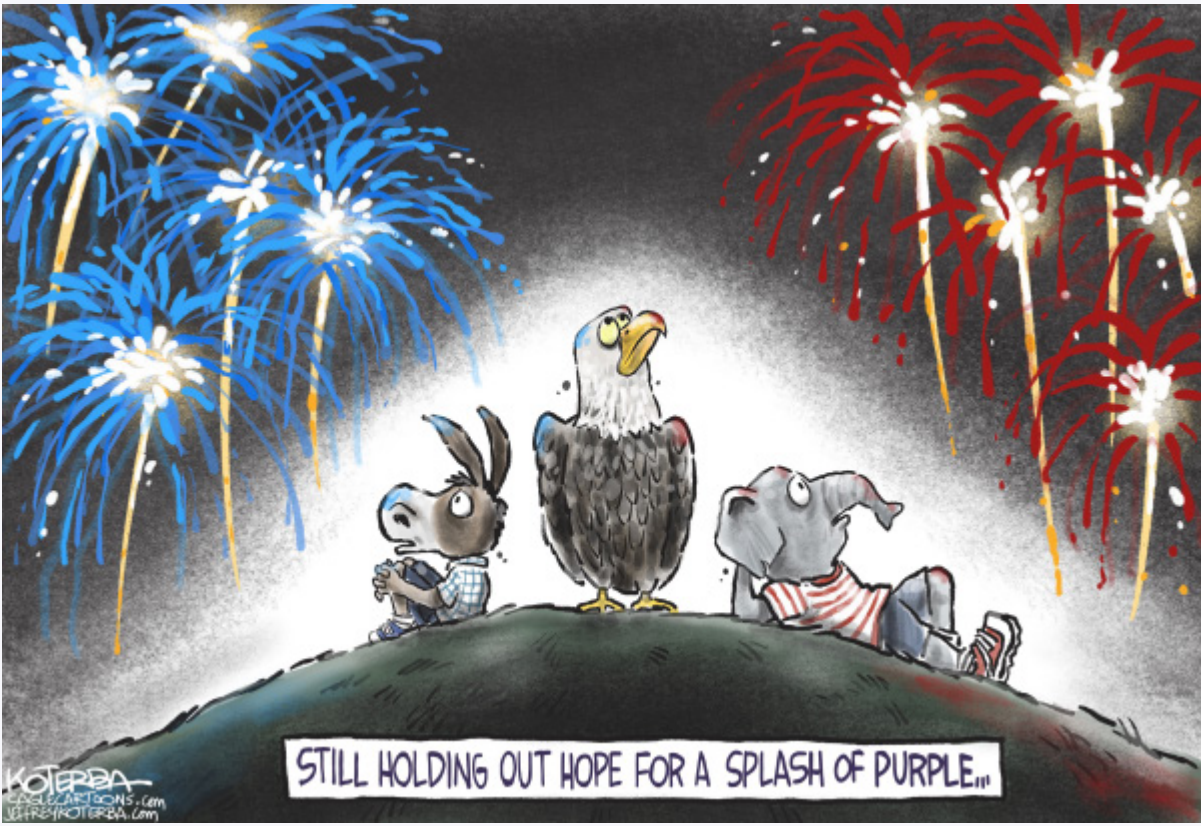
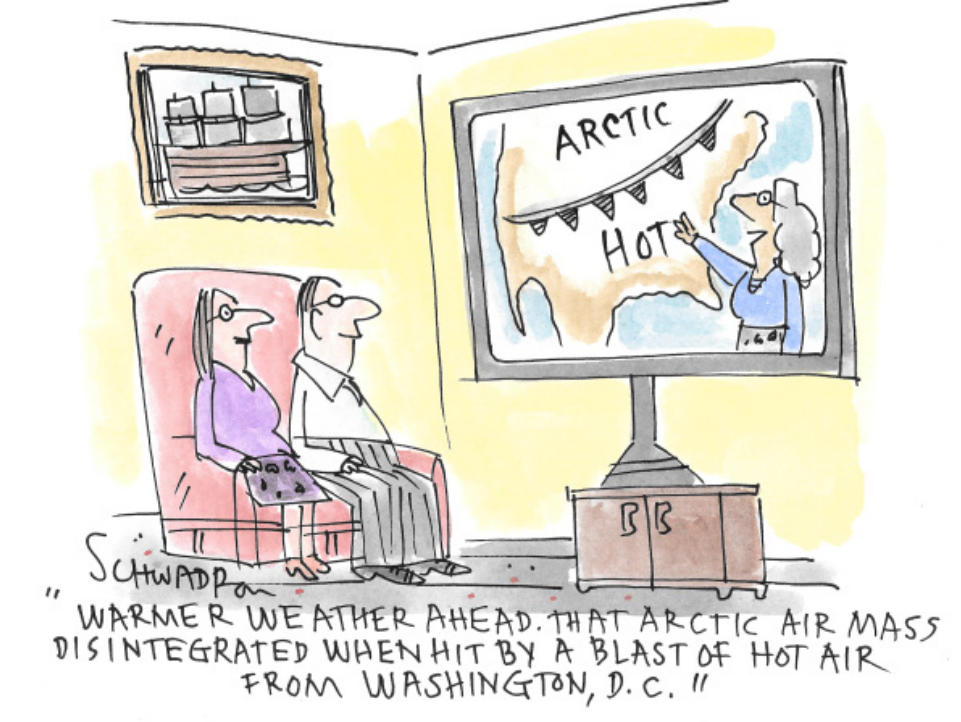
So here I am, honoring the fallen who sacrificed for a country they would not recognize.

Here I am, remembering my cousin and his comrades, who saved the free world with their bodies on the beaches. Here, raising the flag and visiting Betsy.

And then thanking the flawed but godly and magnificent men who created glory out of chaos.

The rest of you can figure it out on your own.





Happy 4th of July!

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2025  
Summer Concerts in the Park  
6PM- 8PM



SUMMER LINEUP

7  
June

Pasadena  
Orchestra



13  
July

Big Foot  
70's Rock  
Classics



8  
June

Sierra Madre  
Music



20  
July

The Skinny Ties  
80's Rock & Roll



15  
June

New Romantics  
Taylor Swift  
Cover Band



27  
July

Mainstreet  
Groovers  
80's Rock, Pop,  
& New Wave Hits



22  
June

Acme Time  
Machine  
1950s and '60s Rock  
'n' Roll Dance Party



3  
August

Elvis  
Elvis Covers  
By  
Harry Shadhoia



29  
June

4 Lads from  
Liverpool  
Beatle Covers



10  
August

Mt Wilson Trail  
Fundraising  
Concert  
TBD



Concert Sponsored by



Memorial Park Bandshell  
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Movie at dusk

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family and friends.



June 26

Cold Duck, 70s/Top 40s  
Dogman, PG  
Environmental Fair

July 17

So Rad, 90s  
Matilda, PG

July 3

Mobility, Military Band  
Inside Out 2, PG

July 24

Raymond Michael, Elvis  
Grease, PG

July 10

Stacey Ann & The Master  
Plan, Country  
Sonic 3, PG

July 31

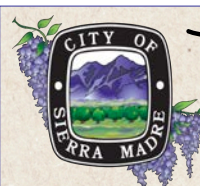
The Answer, Classic Rock  
Moana 2, PG

Tuesday, August 5

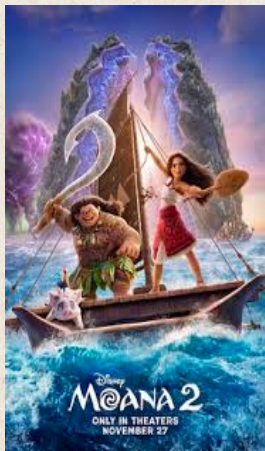
Don't miss out on National Night Out!  
Live Band - Soto Band, Latin Funk  
Activities begin at 6pm scan QR code more information



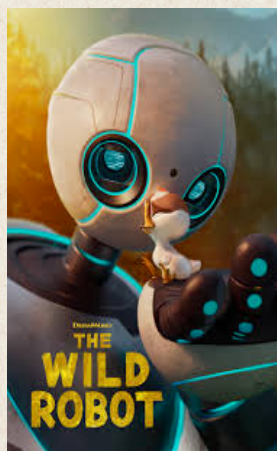
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FRIDAY, JUNE 20



FRIDAY, JULY 18



FRIDAY, AUGUST 1

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25  
JUNE

BUMPTOWN  
Old School

15  
JUNE

Mariachi Bohemio  
Mariachi

1  
JUNE

Queen of Hearts  
Country

22  
JUNE

Blue Breeze Band  
Motown

8  
JUNE

Hit Me 90s  
90s Pop

29  
JUNE

Neon Nation  
80s

Library Park  
Rotary Club Band Shell

321 S. MYRTLE AVE. MONROVIA, CA 91016

6  
JULY

OC Groove  
Funk

27  
JULY

The Todd Stanford  
Country

13  
JULY

Soto Band  
Latin

3  
AUG

Cold Duck  
Old School

20  
JULY

Pop Vision  
Top 40s

10  
AUG

Stone Soul  
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violation of the rights of another individual, State, or common law (See section 10-107, Business and Professions Code)  
 Pub: June 7, 14, 21, 28, 2025



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
SANTA MONICA COURTHOUSE  
1725 MAIN STREET  
SANTA MONICA, CA. 90401

SUMMONS

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT:  
DAVID GAETA, an individual, MICHAEL GAETA, an individual, THE ESTATE OF JOEY GAETA,  
and DOES 1 to 10, inclusive  
YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:

STEVEN GAETA, an individual

CASE NUMBER: 24SMCV05995

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below:

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service, If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site ([www.lawhelpcalifornia.org](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.

¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al de mandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California ([www.sucorte.ca.gov](http://www.sucorte.ca.gov)), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, ([www.lawhelpcalifornia.org](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, ([www.sucorte.ca.gov](http://www.sucorte.ca.gov)) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

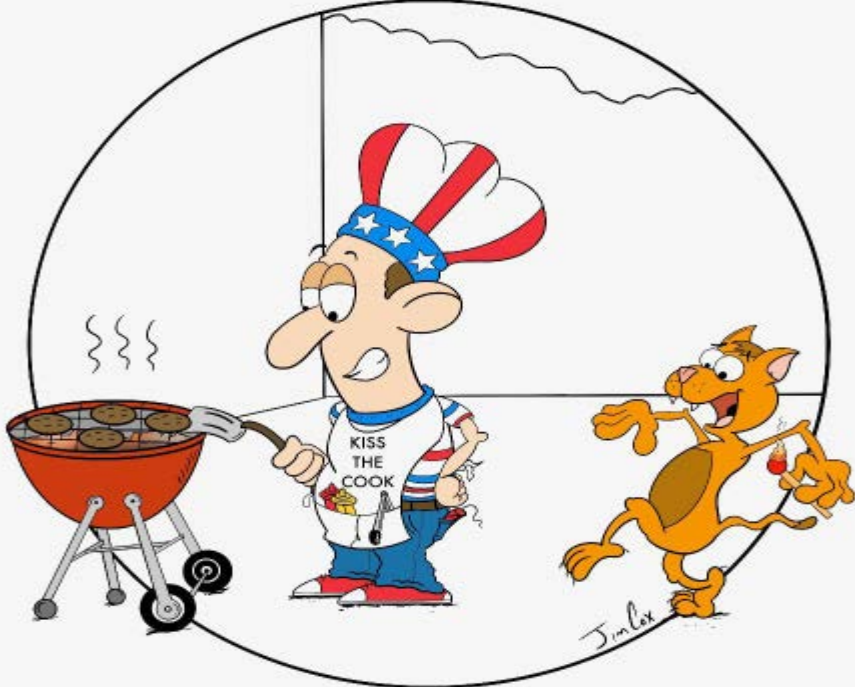
CASE NUMBER:  
(Número del Caso):  
24SMCV05995

The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y dirección de la corte es):  
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA,  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES,  
SANTA MONICA COURTHOUSE  
1725 MAIN STREET  
SANTA MONICA, CA. 90401

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is:  
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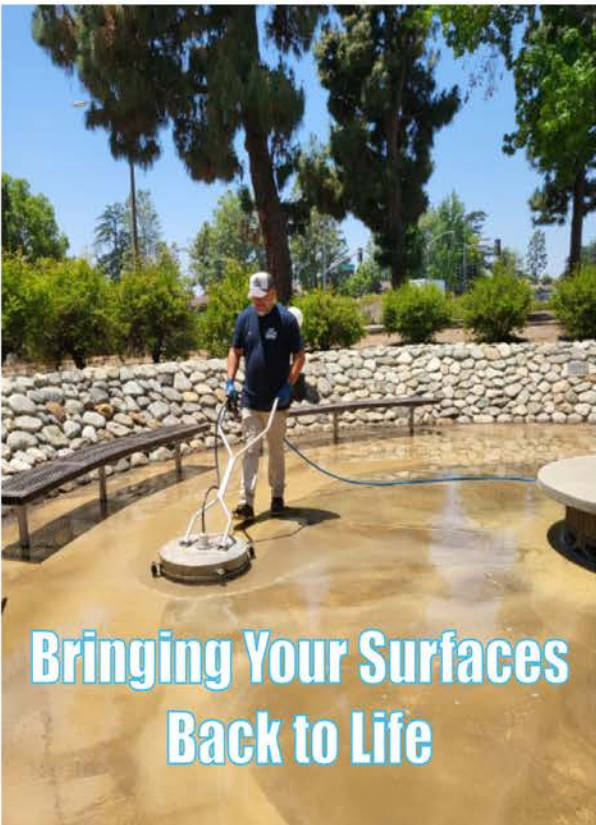
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Summer kicks off with the sparkle and crackle of fireworks accompanied by the smell of food on the grill as it floats over fences to entice our taste buds. Porches are lined with festive decorations and the sounds of laughter echo, because it is the start of the season for family fun. Not to mention cool evening walks through the neighborhood that are met with a friendly wave from the front porch.

It is also time to spruce up and manicure our grass and flower beds to ensure our homes are looking their best. That's where an exterior refresh can go a long way to enhancing the curb appeal of your beautiful front yard.

You might've heard the terms "pressure washing" and "power washing" tossed back and forth like a game of hot potato, but did you know there is a difference. So, which is best for your home's surface?

Both methods use high-pressure water to clean surfaces like driveways, patios, fences, and walls but power washing heats the water. The hot water makes it extra effective at breaking down oil, grease, and grime. Pressure washing sticks to cold water under pressure which is perfect for regular maintenance. There are also differences with the nozzles that are used as well as the force behind the water. For small jobs a personal machine from your local hardware store might just do the trick. However, when you need a heavy-duty machine speak with a trusted professional. Together you can come up with a plan for your home, the surface you need cleaned, and the stains you wish to wash away without harm to the area.

Whether you are getting ready for summer visits, want to boost your curb appeal, or protect the surfaces you've invested in, either method can blast away built-up grime just in time for summer fun in the sun.

Sandra Villafan, PCC, Whales Pressure Washing, Inc.





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