



# Mountain Views-Observer

WHERE YOUR COMMUNITY NEWS COMES FIRST - Sierra Madre Arcadia Pasadena Altadena and Monrovia

Saturday, September 1-7, 2007 Volume 1, No. 5

## What's Essential? A Tough Call

"If your life is threatened and you are in danger, who are you going to call, the fire/paramedics or the library for help?" A Sierra Madre resident's question in response to what constitutes essential city services.

By Dean Lee

The City's Ad-Hoc Finance Committee did more listening Thursday night than anything else as new city manager Elaine Aguilar gave an overview of an Impartial Analysis of the Police Officer Association's Ballot Initiative, but not before the city's fire and police departments explained why the funds for their departments were necessary.

Aguilar quickly went over the three basic components of the analysis, the cost of implementing it, and the impact on city operations. She also reviewed the legal analysis prepared by the city

attorney. "Once staff looked at the initiative and sat down to do the calculations, there were a number of ways it could be interpreted," Aguilar said. "We wanted to do the best job possible." The range, she said, was from a low of \$759,000 to \$1.2 million in additional funds needed should the measure pass.

The initiative would set police salaries to be no less than the lowest paid department out of 10 "survey cities" in the area. Currently South Pasadena is the lowest at \$4,947 a month compared to \$4,371 for Sierra Madre.

Aguilar said the initiative would require a survey every year so the lowest could change.

The measure also sets minimum staffing levels for the police back to 2004-2005 levels of 20 officers. Further, the City will be restricted from contracting out police services without voter approval.

Police Chief, Marilyn Diaz outlined what staffing is needed including a Sergeant, an officer, a community services officer and an administrative assistant. The total cost, inclusive of equipment would be \$352,053.

For years officers have been severely underpaid (cont. pg.3)

## DNA, Faith & Joncee Troy Lenker



By Deanne Davis

Recessive genes, dominant genes, DNA tracking...it all sounds like exactly what we see on CSI! The beautiful technician steps up to the suspected bad guy, or gal, swabs the inside of their cheek and, one quick test later, they're nailed!

That's one of the most popular shows on TV. But what if recessive genes, dominant genes and DNA all work together to create a bad guy named Retinoblastoma. And what if that bad guy has taken up residence in your brand new baby boy?

This bad guy, Retinoblastoma, invaded the lives of Keegan and Jayme Lenker, he's the Junior and Senior High School Pastor at Pasadena First Church of the Nazarene, she's his assistant, and also a terrific piano player; when their little son, Joncee Troy was born July 29, 2006.

We all studied recessive and dominant genes when we took high school Biology but that pretty much meant who'd have blue eyes, who'd have brown, who'd have curly hair, who'd be musical and who wouldn't. For Joncee Troy, a recessive gene from his father's family, that bad guy, Retinoblastoma, has become the dominant factor in his life.

Retinoblastoma is a cancer usually restricted to infants and if the genetic link mutation is present, there's a 50/50 chance of getting it....or avoiding it.

Jayme and Keegan met at Northwest Nazarene University when they were both in a musical PR group, traveling around the northwest in a 15-passenger van. They quickly realized they could make more beautiful music as a couple and were married June 1, 2002. Keegan was called to Gateway Nazarene Church (continued on page 6)



## Weather Helps Contain Small Brushfire Above Pasadena

Fire officials said Wednesday that although a small brush fire-dubbed The Lowe Fire-north of Lake Avenue and Loma Alta Drive, was fully contained at 8:00 pm Sunday, the full threat of the fire was not gone until Monday morning as fire teams watched for flare ups and wind. Many homeowners in the area also stayed on watch.

Stanton Florea, a spokesperson for the U.S. Forest Service, said the fire was still under investigation but did not rule out arson by humans as a cause, with the fire having forced evacuations of Millard Campground, six

recreational cabins in Millard Canyon, two access roads and the popular Sam Merrill Trail campgrounds. He also said unusual weather helped stop the fire from spreading to other nearby homes.

Echo Mountain Picnic Area was also evacuated, he reported. In all, 60 to 70 people were forced to leave the area.

"Low wind and the high humidity from the tail end of Hurricane Dean really helped," Florea said. "This has been a change from the hot weather we have been having. Fire danger is at 'five' of 'six,' which is extreme. Six is critical."

Several engine crews, as well as hand crews, hiked into the fire area to construct a fire line, according to fire officials. One U.S. Forest Service firefighter suffered (cont. pg. 5)

## SAFETY IS THE KEY FOR HOLIDAY FUN

By Vivianne Parker

The Labor Day weekend is the time for people to get one last hoorah in for the summer. Parties and picnics are favorite gatherings for friends and families. Whatever the public's choice of entertainment is, citizens are reminded that safety is the key to a truly memorable holiday. Unfortunately, we do not always conduct in such a manner. There are three areas in particular plaguing the nation every day and especially during holidays: Driving Under the Influence, Speeding, and Wearing a Seat Belt, oftentimes, with deadly consequences.

It's a reminder that "all law enforcement have been preaching," commented Samuel Estrada, Deputy Generalist with the Altadena Sheriff's station. Estrada has been with the Sheriff's station (cont. page 5)

## A Good N' Lemony Thing To Do



Miss Hibner in Kertsting Court last Saturday

At the young age of 7, Sierra Madre resident Julia Hibner found out what it takes to create a winning start-up business: a box of lemons, sugar, cold water and ice cubes. Mix that all up pour it into a cup at 75 cents and you can't go wrong.

Julia's father Mark Hibner said they were looking for something creative to do over the summer and stumbled on Sunkist Grower's "Take a Stand" on the website [gocitykids.com](http://gocitykids.com). He said it was their first step in becoming active in the community.

Julia, a student at Sierra Madre School, was not shy about learning the business model, total income - total expenses = total profit. All of the profit was going to charity she said. They hoped to make \$500 working both Friday and Saturday of last week in Kersting Court.

Vice president of Sunkist, Robert Verloop, who made a visit to Julia's stand on Friday, said 10,000 lemonade stands this summer were pledged throughout the country in an effort to get kids involved with charities.

Kids 7 to 12 years old write a 100 word essay about giving to charity, Julia's essay was so compelling that Sunkist came out to support her stand. "This is good lemonade," said Verloop sipping of the fresh squeezed juice. Julia's charity was Los Angeles' Midnight Missions. They chose it because it is a local charity and we think homelessness is not so recognizable and local to our communities," Mark Hibner said. "If you go down to the skid row area it's quite large, almost a city within a city." Before putting up the lemonade stand they toured the shelter he said.

Sunkist only supplied the stands, and in this case the Hibner's decided to buy their lemons from Dogwoods Market in Monrovia. All the produce there comes from local growers something the Hibner's said was important to them. Verloop also said they match all funds given to what ever charity the kids choose.

More information can be found at [www.sunkist.com/takeastand](http://www.sunkist.com/takeastand).

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# Weather Wise

**5-Day Forecast for Sierra Madre, Ca.**  
Longitude W118.0, Latitude N34.2

Friday:	Sunny	Hi 100s	Lows 70s
Saturday:	Sunny	Hi 100s	Lows 70s
Sunday:	Sunny	Hi 100s	Lows 70s
Monday:	Sunny	Hi 100s	Lows 70s
Tuesday:	Sunny	Hi 100s	Lows 70s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service



**City of Sierra Madre August Events**

20 - Healthy Family Fun 5 Park Environmental Challenge - 9:00 AM - Sierra Vista Park  
21 - Cleanup at the Park: Nature and Puppies @ 9:30 PM - Memorial Park Bandshell  
27 - City Flag Order Forms Due to Community & Personnel Services Office  
28 - Summer Fun in the Park: Creative Arts Group - 9:30 AM - Memorial Park Bandshell  
31 - City Seal Event

## Save The Date

**Thursday, September 6, 2007**

The Wisteria Thrift Shop, run by the Sierra Madre Women's Club will have their grand re-opening. 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The shop is located at the rear of "Essick House" their historic clubhouse at 550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. in Sierra Madre.

The shop has been closed during the summer for a major renovation and enlarging to double its size. A bright, roomy facility will now greet thrifty shoppers.

The club is celebrating its Centennial, has operated the shop for over 50 years. For more information call the shop at 626-355-7739

**Please sign up!**  
The Fire Safe Council needs volunteers for the Red Flag Patrol.  
Call 355-0741, 355-7135 or 355-9530  
or email:  
smfiresafecouncil@hotmail.com



## Sierra Madre City Flag Sales

The Community Arts Commission has Sierra Madre flags available for sale. The flags are nylon 2 ft by 3 ft, with grommets or pole sleeves. They are appropriate for indoor or outdoor use. Flags are \$40 and can be ordered by pre-sale only. You can order a flag at the Sunday evening Concerts in Memorial Park or at the Community and Personnel Services Department, 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Deadline to order: August 27, 2007. (626) 355-5278

## AUTHOR MICHELE ZACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY SPOKEER

From Phyllis Chapman

Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society invites you to their program meeting featuring Author Michele Zach, Friday, September 14, 2007 at the Sierra Madre Public Library, 440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Her talk is entitled "Temperance and Townhood in Early Sierra Madre."

Zach is presently researching and writing a history of Sierra Madre, to be published by the Society. She has been a journalist and writer for 25 years. In the 1990's she lived in Thailand and wrote widely about Southeast Asia and worked as a speech for more than one Thai Prime Minister.

In 2004, she wrote her prize winning book, "Altadena: Between Wilderness and City." She is presently a resident of Altadena and was recently re-elected to their Town Council.

Refreshments will be served.



## MountainViews-Observer

### THIS WEEK

- 1** Meet the Lenkers Targeting Bicycles Elvis Was Here
- 2** Weekly Highlights Community Notices
- 3** Rich Johnson Pet Peeves Part 2
- 4** OBSERVER PASADENA: Police Blotter Fire Safe Council Tips SMEAC Did You Know?
- 5** Arts & Architecture The Saga Motor Hotel
- 6** PUSD & Surplus Space Trish's Truth
- 7** OPINION: Susan Henderson Sir Eric and Steve Tobia
- 8** Legal Notices
- 9** TechKnowledge PCC Gets Creative Tech Daddy
- 10** Bob Eklund: Looking Up Wild, Wild West The Clymer in Utah
- 11** Peter Dills: Table For Two Vince Piroli on Wine
- 12** Jeff's Pics Pat Birdsall Pat Ostyale
- 13** Chris Bertrand: One Of A Kind
- 14** Pros To Know
- 15** Common Sense & Decency
- 16**

BARGAIN BOOKS TABLE AT SIERRA MADRE LIBRARY "Fall Into" A Good Book

Sponsored By The Friends of the SM Library August 20-25

Fiction, Mysteries, Children's Books, Biographies, and Large Print All in good condition.

All books \$1.00

440 West Sierra Madre Boulevard M-W Noon to 9 p.m.;

Th and Fr Noon to 6 p.m., and

Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. please visit the Library's web site at [www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us](http://www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us) or call (626) 355-7186

## WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

### Pasadena Farmer's Market

Every Saturday to 12:30 p.m. B-B-Berries. Lili's herbs, honey, menudo & tamale stand. Bring the kiddies. PHS parking lot 2925 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.

### Café 322

Sunday Nights Let's Sing Opera & Broadway Pianist Danny Guerrero & Friends 322 Sierra Madre Blvd. Sierra Madre (626) 836-5414

### Beantown

45 N. Baldwin Time for Ice Cream (626) 355-1596

### Lucky Baldwin's

21 Kersting Court (626) 355-1140

### Mary's Market

561 Woodland Drive (626) 355-4534

### The Harvey Hyde Show

Every Sunday 6 p.m. - 7 p.m. Hard-hitting, high impact sports talk radio KSHS Las Vegas - 1400 AM Live! from BURGER CONTINENTAL 535 South Lake Avenue Pasadena

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**SIERRA MADRE - \$1,698,000**  
Possibilities abound! #1: Owner Occupied with income: live in the front home which features 3 bedrooms, 3 baths and a family room with a 5'22" of w-and rent the 2 units in the back. The unit downstairs is 1 bedroom, 1 3/4 bath with 1,156 sq ft and the unit upstairs is 1 bedroom, 3/4 bath with 1,000 sq ft. There is a 2-car detached older garage, two 2-car carports, a 3-story barn with parking for 2 cars and a workshop, a station and guest quarters upstairs with a 3/4 bath. #2: Income Property: purchaser as income property & rent all three of the units. #3: Develop - There is a possibility of splitting the lot into three parcels - buyer to verify with the City.  
Reni Rose 626-355-8400



**SIERRA MADRE - \$1,999,888**  
Known as part of "The Jamerson Legacies" this 1996 custom built Victorian Farmhouse will delight the most discerning buyer. Offering the highest quality amenities and appointments, this home exemplifies luxury with features such as: 9 foot ceilings, custom milled moldings, wainscoting and marble, formal entry and dining room with columns, 3 fireplaces, new kitchen w/ all 2002 wets, walk-in pantry, Viking stove, double ovens, warming drawer, convection oven, microwave, Sub-zero refrigerator, trash compactor, Bosch dishwasher and a wine refrigerator; solid wood interior doors, 13,775 sq. ft. lot with romantic, custom built gables and 3 car garage. Reni Rose 626-355-8400



**ALTADENA - \$1,298,000**  
Graceful 1919 Colonial with impressive detailing throughout and situated on a quiet street just 1 1/2 blocks from the Altadena Country Club. This well maintained home offers a spacious FDR, Den, 5 bedrooms, 2 7/8 baths, a 2,395 sq ft home and a 15,747 sq ft lot. The kitchen has been updated with granite counters, new appliances and new flooring. There is a sports court as well as a spa in the back yard. Other amenities include: French doors and windows, new garage door, large attic storage, circular drive in front and back of home, lemon trees and new exterior paint.  
Reni Rose 626-355-8400



**SOUTH PASADENA \$1,124,000**  
This 2,681 sq ft, charming traditional home features a spacious step-down LR w/ fireplace, large bay window, crown molding, recessed lighting and dining area. There is a delightful, new kitchen w/ granite counters, new stainless steel appliances. The gracious master suite offers a fireplace, hot and cold closets. French doors that open to a large tiled patio with Jacuzzi spa and a mountain view. Other features include: orn off the kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 4 baths, 3 fireplaces, hardwood flooring downstairs, newer carpeting in bonus upstairs and 1 bedroom downstairs, dual CA & heat, updated windows, ceiling fans, new paint, resurfaced patio/staircase. Easy commute to USC Medical Center. Reni Rose 626-355-8400



**SIERRA MADRE \$699,000**  
Centrally located just blocks from downtown Sierra Madre, this home is situated on a large corner lot of 9,000 sq. ft. Home is 1962 sq. ft. with three bedrooms and 2 1/2 baths. There is a screened in porch entry featuring a rock hardscape waterfall pond. The grand living room offers a Tudor inspired exposed-beam, vaulted ceiling and is open to the kitchen. There is a sauna with a spa and a wood stove and shower. Bonus room off garage has a half bath. Washer, dryer, refrigerator and stove, all included. 217 W. Monte Vista Ave. Reni Rose 626-355-8400



**SIERRA MADRE \$749,000**  
Lovely traditional home with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths in move-in condition. The newer kitchen offers double ovens, built-in microwave, decorative sink, terrazzo flooring and white tile counters. Other features include: new bamboo floors, crown molding, baths have been beautifully updated, central air and heat, updated electrical panel. All bedrooms have large closets with wardrobes, and bedroom (currently being used as a den) features French doors that open to the rear yard and the sparkling pool. Reni Rose 626-355-8400



**PASADENA - \$2,750**  
This charming Spanish home is in great condition and offers spacious rooms, covered ceiling in the living room and the formal dining room; the living room offers a fireplace and access to a large covered porch; there are beautiful wood floors in the hallway and bedrooms; French doors and windows; an updated kitchen with granite counter-tops and tile flooring; a charming breakfast room with built-in hutch; both bathrooms are new; a separate laundry room; central air and heat; manual sprinklers in the front yard; a detached 2-car garage and a basement. Landlord kindly requests at least a 1 year lease, no pets and a non-smoker. Ideally located just across the street from Pasadena City College and just blocks from Cal Tech. Reni Rose 626-355-8400





## Pet Peeves, The Sequel

By Rich Johnson

Your intrepid columnist has learned this week that more than a couple of people harbor pet peeves. Who would have ever guessed? The paper has heard from several citizens. So let's give the community a chance to speak.

Who should the paper hear from first but the Cumquat Kid, aka Jim Snider. He actually got mad because he wanted to do an article on pet peeves but I beat him to it. (As if anybody reads his blog) "Move on," I said and he shared a pet peeve that keeps him up nights. Apparently Jim hates watching people fold a slice of pizza into a taco-like shape when they're eating it. "It's not a sandwich, people!" He encourages us to "Eat it like they ate pizza in Bible times: Hold the crust in one hand, support the weight of the triangle from underneath with the other hand, and blah, blah, blah, blah, blah."

Okay, those of you in the back, WAKE UP! Jim is gone.

How about hearing from teacher Debbie? Debbie is really bugged by those lazy bums who leave the shopping cart in the parking space, especially when the cart rack is a space away. Oh yeah, and people who talk on their cell phones during the transaction with the cashier. You better hope Debbie is not behind you. She may have a ruler.

Columnist Jeff and I have similar pet peeves: One is barking dogs. The fact is, my neighbor has perfected a technique to get his dog to bark incessantly. He puts the dog outside at sunrise. Jeff and I are also bothered by dog walkers who don't pick up after their dogs. Stop and smell the roses, dog owners! Jeff is also bothered by loud neighbors. Gee, I didn't know he lived that close. Sorry Jeff. (Can I still wear the Hawaiian shirts?)

I do think Jeff is out of line in one of his pet peeves. Can you imagine? It really bothers him when greedy politicians care more for their own pockets than the welfare of the people? Get real Jeff...that never happens.

Vicki Poole, brilliant court reporter, mother, and a woman who gave up a Porsche Boxster for love, has a pet peeve that she has turned into a quest to better all of humanity. The pet peeve? Getting us to stop using the word "its" (with the unnecessary apostrophe). And she is starting by telling the grammar police at this publication. Vicki, unquestionably, will usher in a whole new era of peace and tranquility...and proper grammar. Thank you Vicki.

Oh, and then there is my son's major pet peeve: Having his father tell him to do something he already knows he has to do. I, of course, have a corresponding pet peeve: Having a son who knows what he is supposed to do, has been told, and still hasn't done it. Has that ever happened to you?

## Monrovia Police Now Handling City's Animal Control

By Teresa Baxter

The City of Monrovia ended a 26-year contract with the San Gabriel Valley Humane Society today and will initiate a new system that will put the responsibility of animal control services and pet licensing on the shoulders of their local police department.

"We feel we will be able to offer a better service than what was previously contracted out," said Monrovia Police Department Captain of Services, Rick Miglia.

It is now recommended that any concerns regarding a missing pet, or other animal related issues, should be dealt with by directly calling the Monrovia Police Department. In the past, lost pets would have been immediately dispatched to the SGVHS for reclamation.

"We had not raised our animal control contracting rates in ten years," said SGVHS Director, John Coleman. "This year we had to, and apparently the City of Monrovia felt they could get a better deal."

The new system involves the placement of kennels on police department property, where strays will be held for a reasonable amount of time, while attempts are made to locate the owner. If the pets cannot be properly placed, they will then be transported to the Inland Valley Humane Society, located in Pomona. Both Coleman and Miglia urge that all calls regarding a lost pet first go to the Monrovia Police Department. This will more quickly help locate and expedite a pet's safe return.

Miglia is quick to point out that the animal calls will not take away from the police force, due to the fact that they have brought in state certified Humane Officers trained to focus entirely on animal control. Miglia also acknowledges that wildlife such as bears and deer, indigenous to the foothills of Monrovia, are under the jurisdiction of California Fish and Game. "But many times the police department is the first to respond and monitor the situation until Fish and Game arrives."

Animal related calls should be directed to the Monrovia Police Department at (626) 256-8000, anytime, day or night.

## Sierra Madre Business Urges Buyers To Be Fair

*Anti-Body works with a co-op in Togo, Africa, creating a life of dignity and a fair living wage for over 60 women*

By Teresa Baxter

In this current time of social awareness and the need to create a better understanding regarding global issues such as poverty and ecological concerns, three Sierra Madre residents have done their part to make the world a better place by forming a company, Anti-Body, that produces beauty products based on fair trade principles.

Anti-Body was formed on the premise of being anti-poverty while providing a beautiful "body" through the use of their products. Prior to their endeavor, founders Steven and Shelby Moser, and Shelby's twin sister Tamara Johnston, were well along on the fast track to corporate success. Steven was a NASA engineer, Shelby was earning her MA in Art History and Johnston was gainfully employed at DreamWorks Films. Ironically achieving the proverbial American dream led them to decide there was more that could be done globally with their skills.

"I found myself asking where time was going, working for other people for things I didn't deeply believe were worthwhile," said Steven. "Getting involved with fair trade gave me the opportunity to feel like my work was making a lasting impact on people that need the most help."

The concept of fair trade has often been confused with free trade practices of corporate conglomerates. Fair trade is based on a socially responsible system of trade that prioritizes the needs of human beings and the environment over the drive for profits. In contrast, free trade often leaves farmers and artisans living in extreme poverty. Free trade also creates conditions that have led, in some cases, to the use of illegal child labor.

## A Centennial Celebration for Sierra Madre

The Sierra Madre United Methodist Church extends a warm welcome to the community to come celebrate with us as we honor the city's Centennial.

We will be hosting an ice cream social in the Sierra Madre War Memorial Park on Sierra Madre Boulevard on Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup>.

The celebration starts at 3:30 with ice cream, old fashioned games and activities. Live entertainment will be provided by the San Gabriel Valley Ole Tyme Banjo Band. Song sheets will be provided to encourage everyone to sing along. Antique cars will also be on display. Come take a stroll down memory lane.

Please mark your calendars and drop by the pavilion in the park to celebrate with us and enjoy the fun, fellowship and frozen treats.



## Kiwanis Pancakes Build Local Park

The Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club will host its annual Pancake Breakfast fundraiser on Saturday, September 15 in Memorial Park. Breakfast will be served under the pergola, beginning at 7am, with service until 11am.

There will be plenty of pancakes hot off the griddle, plus sausages, coffee, and orange juice served to hungry Sierra Madreans. The cost is only \$5 per breakfast.

The Pancake Breakfast is a major fundraiser for the Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club. Monies raised from this year's breakfast will help pay for the new "pocket park" on Sunnyside Avenue, which will begin construction soon. Past Kiwanis projects have included computers for the library, improvements to Sierra Vista Park, tables and chairs for the Senior Center, the summer reading program at our local library, and other worthy causes in Sierra Madre.

Tickets are available at Webb-Martin Realtors on Baldwin Ave, from any Kiwanis Club member, or by calling Kiwanis Club President Hank Landsberg at 355-3656.

## ESSENTIAL (cont. from page 1)

and they deserve to be paid on par with their duties, their responsibilities." Diaz said passionately.

She also said that we cannot attract and retain qualified police officer candidates if they are not paid adequately. Currently the city does not have any sergeants needed for 24 hour coverage by police. Corporals now hold what should be a sergeant. Diaz noted that they don't have the full training needed or expertise.

"The Danger of this is, lacking that full training; this can expose the city to liability," Diaz said. "One bad decision by an officer could bankrupt the city."

Diaz also said that police, unlike other departments, have court imposed mandates such as having a suspect in custody, and only 48 hours to process them. She said it was important for them to be consistent with the industry standard.

Police Officer Association representative and attorney Dieter Dammeier said the initiative was a longtime coming for them.

"We thought long and hard as to what to put in this. If I had it my way we would be asking for the average not the lowest."

Dammeier added that years of negotiations with city staff didn't get very far. Later that night he said their pay reflects falling behind from the year 1998. If the city is to catch up they would have to give them 18 percent to 26 percent more money he said.

According to Dammeier they were fully willing to make this initiative work even if it meant putting

some of it off for a year. He said as long as the city was in negotiation with them they would work with whatever issues were to arise. Councilmember John Buchanan stopped him there saying he would like to see him come back when the council decides what to do at their next meeting.

Fire Chief Steve Heydorff accused the city of backing out of agreements with the fire department in 2001 before saying anything about what his department needed today. He said he saw a future of mixed paid and volunteer staff for his department. Heydorff added that they needed \$390,000 for paramedics, almost twice what the committee said they saw as a cost to keep the program permanently. The original estimate given to staff was \$200,000.

Heydorff went on to point out that the sale of their unused fire station would only pay for paramedics for two years.

At Aguilar's request, head library staff gave a quick presentation outlining why they cannot run the library on its own finances. Staff said the library stimulates intellect and freedom of information. Young people and the schools were the segment of the population using the library most.

Community Services, and Public Works Departments also addressed the committee about their concerns.

City staff said money from program cuts, funded with government grants, would have to be given back totaling over \$2 million.

The next ad hoc committee meeting is scheduled for September 13, 2007.

"Starting Anti-Body allows me to do work that I feel is valuable and leaves an impact on the world," said Steven. "The ideas of fair trade allow us to leverage economics for good instead of greed."

Anti-Body works with a co-op in Togo, Africa, creating a life of dignity and a fair living wage for over 60 women. According to a U.N. statistic, more than 1 billion people in the world today, the great majority of whom are women, live in unacceptable conditions of poverty, mostly in the developing countries. Johnston has personally visited the Togo co-op and has witnessed their company's impact.

"We are creating jobs for others' sustainability while making the most natural and wonderful skincare products," said Johnston. "I am going to stay the course, no matter what obstacles arise in this mission."

Being based in Sierra Madre is an added benefit to their pursuits. Steven was born and raised in Sierra Madre and feels "it has all of the community and connection that comes with a small town." Johnston adds, "It's always nice to come home to a place that only a small town like Sierra Madre can provide."

Retail outlets in the area that sell Anti-Body products include Ten Thousand Villages and the Majestic Roof in Pasadena, as well as The Center for Wellbeing in Sierra Madre. For additional information visit them on the web at [www.anti-body.com](http://www.anti-body.com).





# MountainViews-Observer

# PASADENA

## Gov. Schwarzenegger Issues Statement on Death of Pasadena Marine: Lance Cpl. Rogelio A. Ramirez

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today released the following statement regarding the death of Lance Cpl. Rogelio A. Ramirez, of Pasadena, CA:

"Lance Corporal Rogelio Ramirez committed himself to protecting the United States and the freedoms our country was founded on. Maria

and I are deeply saddened by the loss of this brave Marine and we will keep his family and friends in our thoughts and prayers during this painful time. We are greatly indebted to Rogelio for his unwavering commitment to our nation; his service will not be forgotten."

Ramirez, 21, died Aug. 26 while conducting

combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. Ramirez was assigned to 1st Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, United States Marine Corps, Camp Pendleton, CA.

In honor of Lance Cpl. Ramirez, Capitol flags will be flown at half-staff.

## Foothill Transit Offers L.A. County Fair Fare

By Teresa Baxter

Foothill Transit has your ticket to ride to "Loopy Fun", exhibits, and food that's deep-fried. The L.A. County Fair this year runs from Sept. 7 through 30, and promises an exciting exit to summer; offering music, dancing and over 250 unique food and beverage vendors.

The Foothill Transit's Line 197 will be adding a few extra trips to its schedule to accommodate fair goers on Wednesdays through Sundays. Line 197 runs from Montclair to Pomona and makes a convenient stop right in front of the Fairplex. Parking at the fair will cost between \$10 and \$15 per vehicle. Taking Line 197 will only set you back \$1.

"You can't get a gallon of gas for one dollar," said Foothill Transit Spokesperson, Felicia Friesema. "Why not beat the heat in our air-conditioned buses and let someone else do the driving?"

And, the money you save on parking will allow you to indulge in those ever popular deep-fried treats found only at the fair. The fried Twinkies will face fierce competition this year with the introduction of macaroni and cheese on a stick, and deep-fried Oreos added to the menu.

"Loopy Fun: The Fair is Where" is the theme and more information can be found by visiting [www.lacountyfair.com](http://www.lacountyfair.com).

## Celebrating 50 Years As Friends



The Pasadena Sister Cities Committee celebrated their 50 year anniversary Thursday with Japanese food and dance at the Boys and Girls Club. Sister Cities first began its exchange program with Mishima, Japan. The city has four other sister cities in Germany, Finland, Armenia and China.

## MINI-GRANTS AWARDED FOR ARTNIGHT PASADENA

To make it possible for individual artists, smaller arts and cultural organizations and those without venues to participate in the next ArtNight Pasadena, the Cultural Affairs Division of the Pasadena Planning and Development Department has awarded 10 mini-grants of \$500 each.

The 18th ArtNight Pasadena will be on Friday, Oct. 12, from 6 to 10 p.m. at 13 local arts and culture venues. The program is an ongoing partnership among many cultural institutions that open their doors for free to offer the public a rich sampling of art, artifacts and music. It receives support from the city of Pasadena and is sponsored by Pasadena Arts & Culture Commission.

Mini-Grant recipients are:

- \* COFAC-Border Council of Arts and Culture's Tijuana musical group, La Ballena de Jonas, jazz pianist David Cutter, and cross-over classical vocalist Valencia Vas performing highlights of international music, all presented at One Colorado.
- \* Crown City Chamber Players and El

Centro de Acción Social with Tierra Blanca Arts Dance Center, both presented at Pasadena Central Library.

- \* Lineage Dance, exploring Skin, the theme for Pasadena's 2007 Art & Ideas Festival, presented at Pasadena Museum of California Art.

- \* Intimate Opera Company performing various opera selections and photographer Kirelyn Barber investigating the geometry of built spaces in Pasadena, both presented at Armory Center for the Arts.

- \* Newtown's Skinplant, a demonstration and performance presented at Armory Northwest.

- \* Erika Flores and April Colin displaying artifacts from the Cawston Ostrich Farm that closed in the 1920s, presented at Pasadena Museum of History.

For more information about ArtNight Pasadena visit [www.artnightpasadena.org](http://www.artnightpasadena.org) or call (626) 744-7887.



## OPERA - THE BEAT GOES ON

Catch the exhilaration of Verdi & Puccini fever and discover what it is about opera that sends your normally reserved friends into states of musical abandon. Art Logullo returns to San Marino High School with a new armload of Italian operas to be enjoyed by everyone.

This musical appreciation course is an easy-to-understand indoctrination into the wonderful world of opera.

There will be lots of listening and viewing of high quality opera productions featuring Luciano Pavarotti, Plácido Domingo and Maria Callas.

The focus is on Italian Opera: LA TRAVIATA, MADAMA BUTTERFLY, GIRL OF THE GOLDEN WEST and PAGLIACCI.

Lectures will help you understand what is happening, both on stage and in the orchestra pit. The course includes a mini-Italian language pronunciation lesson and getting up-to-date information on the best discounts at the LA Music Center Opera. The instructor, Art Logullo, a former L.A. Opera employee, has been teaching this course for 22 years and is an expert at explaining operatic characters as real human beings with whom everyone can identify.

The course will be held on Tuesdays, Sep 11, 2007 to Oct 2, 2007, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at San Marino High School; the fee is \$85.00. For further information or to enroll, visit [PCClearn.org](http://PCClearn.org) or call (626) 585 7608.

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### Sierra Madre Fire Safe Council TIP OF THE WEEK

From Caroline Brown

The City of Los Angeles enacted a Red Flag Day towing policy for cars parked in neighborhoods with congested canyon roads. This applies to illegally parked vehicles only.

In Sierra Madre, cars are also being ticketed for being illegally parked on our canyon roads. The main concern is blocked access to fire hydrants and the essential passing space and turning radius required by our emergency vehicles, whether they be fire engines or paramedics. Be sure to park your car safely with these concerns in mind. The canyon roads themselves are posted "No Parking."

One safety measure that you need to remember in the event of a day when there is the possibility of an expected fire evacuation is to park your car facing out of your garage or parking area. If you do park in a garage with an automatic door opener, leave the door open. You may lose electricity before you're told to leave. Park your car in this manner before you begin to load it with items you want to save. Start packing early. You never know how much time you have.

The next Fire Safe Council meeting will be Monday, September 10, 2007, 7 P.M. in the City Council Chambers. For more information contact the Sierra Madre Fire Safe Council at 355-0741 or 355-9350.

E-mail: [smfiresafecouncil@hotmail.com](mailto:smfiresafecouncil@hotmail.com)

#### HOLIDAY (continued from page 1)

since 1992 and he's seen the difficult life changing moments facing many people. One day, his family saw a speeding driver and it was a situation for Estrada to illustrate a lesson on speeding to his kids. Because speeding can fuel rage. "The driver gets too impatient, gets caught by the light, and then road rage sets in" and, in today's world, road rage is another issue of concern for drivers. "Their haste didn't get them anywhere," Estrada adds, saying that the driver only cuts seconds off their quick dash to get somewhere.

Understanding the seriousness of the issue would bring instant change to many if they had to visit a coroner or view a body at a horrific accident site, believes Estrada. Again, he reminds us "it's basic common sense. Driving is a privilege and not a right," something first taught and drilled to him by his driver Education teacher.

#### Alcohol Awareness is Still a Concern

Besides speeding, alcohol awareness places great concern for the public and law enforcement. Latest statistics pulled from California Office of Traffic Safety website shows a report from the National Statistics NHTSA's Center for Statistics and Analysis (Alcohol Traffic Safety Facts - 2005). It shows that nationally (2005), there were one alcohol related fatality every 31 minutes. For that year, there were 16,885 alcohol-related fatalities, representing 39 percent of the total fatalities.

An old statistic for a new problem happening daily in our communities. Lately, Driving Under the influence (DUI) incidents effect all walks of life. And the experts say it is 100% preventable. If a person is charged with a DUI, it could present a difficult moment in their lives. The typical DUI case runs between \$10,000 and \$13,500 for first time offenders, according to DMV handbooks and reports.

It is something to consider as citizens drive through the communities of Altadena and other places through Southern California. Law enforcement will utilize extra enforcement throughout the holiday weekend to ensure public safety. And the first steps should start with ourselves.

The message sounds like a simple one, but Estrada gives us some simple truths we tend to forget. The safety tips are:

- Have respect for one another as you drive. It could save your life and others.
- Watch out for kids chasing balls, skateboards, and pedestrians walking around.
- On pedestrians challenging cars to hit them as they cross the street. Don't do it. Remember the Laws of Physics. Who's going to win?
- The best way to walk around the Rose Bowl is facing traffic. Then the cars can see you. The City of Pasadena has even painted directional arrows showing people the way to walk. Look for them.
- Wear seat belts. (Deputy Estrada gave an example of a suspect who had stolen a car, got in a pursuit, caused an accident, flipped over three times and got ejected from the car because he wasn't wearing a seat belt.) Again, his mission was to steal a car and he ended up dead. Today is not promised. California Highway Patrol has written many citations for driving without a seat belt this past summer.
- Focus on driving not talking on cell phones, issues of life that overcome you to the point of losing your concentration from the wheel. If frustrations get to you that much or telephone conversations are too important, pull over.
- On shopping safety, don't leave items on the car seat. Put them in the trunk. And then move the car.

## SIERRA MADRE POLICE BLOTTER

During the week of Sunday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, to Saturday August 25<sup>th</sup>, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 299 calls for service.

#### Sunday, August 19<sup>th</sup>

6:00 PM - Theft from auto, 100 block South Lima Ave. A resident reported a Motion M1400 lap top computer and a digital thermometer missing from the trunk of his unlocked car. The property was last seen Wednesday, 8/01 and discovered missing Sunday, 8/19. No loss estimate was available.

10:16 PM - Vandalism/graffiti, Santa Anita Canyon Road. An officer closing Chantry Road gate saw "DASF" "SERVE DAS" in red and black spray paint on a concrete road barrier. No loss estimate was available.

#### Monday, August 20<sup>th</sup>

8:26 PM - DUI arrest, 100 block West Sierra Madre Blvd. An off duty police department employee reported an intoxicated man trying to get in a car. Officers were dispatched and arrived as the man was backing from a parking stall. The officers stopped the car and arrested the driver for DUI. He was transported to the Pasadena Jail for remand.

#### Tuesday, August 21<sup>st</sup>

9:07 PM - Arrest, 1 Kersting Court. Officers were dispatched to the down town business district regarding a man urinating in public. Upon arrival the man was located and arrested for public intoxication. He was transported to the Pasadena Jail for remand.

#### Wednesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>

11:54 PM - Battery, 600 block Skyland Drive. A woman called the station to report an argument and fight with her son. Officers were dispatched and conducted an investigation which resulted in the arrest of the son. He was transported to the Pasadena jail, booked and transferred to County Jail for remand.

#### Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup>

6:33 PM - DUI arrest, 345 West Sierra Madre Blvd. A police volunteer reported seeing a man stagger from the Buccaneer Bar, 70 West Sierra Madre Blvd, get into a car and drive away. Officers were dispatched and found the car and driver in the parking lot of KFC. The driver was arrested for DUI and transported to the Pasadena Jail for remand.

## F.A.S.T. Helicopter Assists SM Police In Pursuit of Suspected Car Thieves

Shortly after 1:30 am on Friday, August 31st, Sierra Madre police noticed two suspicious Honda Accords speeding in the vicinity of Orange Grove and Hermosa. The suspects abandoned the vehicles, which were both stolen, and fled on foot. Sierra Madre police took off in pursuit of the suspects and were assisted by the Foothills Air Support Team (FAST) helicopter.

In another incident later that morning, Arcadia police asked for assistance from SMPD in the capture of two other burglars, one of whom was caught asleep.



### Environmentally Speaking, "Did You Know?" The Paper Chase

Americans recycled 42 million tons of paper last year-50% of what they used-but still pulverized the rest. Paper **does** grow on trees: 900 million of them every year become pulp and paper. We can reduce that number by buying more recycled paper. It uses 60% less energy than virgin paper. Each ton purchased saves 4,000 kW-h of energy, 7,000 gallons of water and 17 trees.\*

Paper towels can be made from recycled materials but cannot be recycled. Paper mills must cleanse the pulp with chemicals. A single treatment is capable of polluting 20,000 gallons of water. A typical fast food restaurant uses 25 to 35 cases of 4,000 multi-fold paper towels annually. This translates into-9 fully grown trees being cut down and 1,000 pounds of landfill waste being generated.

At home, try using cloth towels for hand drying and rags for cleaning. In public facilities, warm air hand dryers are more hygienic and reduce costs by 90%, not to mention saving natural resources.

\*A tree has the capacity to filter up to 60 pounds of pollutants from the air.

*Time/about.com*

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Your thoughts and comments are welcome..

#### FIRE (continued from page 1)

moderate burns to one hand, they said. No other injuries, due to the fire, were reported.

Approximately 220 firefighters from the Angeles National Forest and Los Angeles County Fire Department knocked out the blaze. Four helicopters, including one from Los Angeles City Fire, and two air tankers, conducted numerous water and fire retardant drops on the fire. California Highway Patrol and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department were also there.

Altadena Mountain Rescue also contributed vital assistance, according to Florea.

"Altadena Mountain Rescue, they're all volunteers, and I can't say enough of what a help they are," Florea confirmed. "They not only helped evacuate. We had people coming up there with dogs, even after seeing the smoke and knowing there is a fire, and they kept these people out."

Earlier reports said lightning may have been the cause of the 12 acre fire, something Florea said was not likely, and uncommon. "I didn't see any lightning that day, but the investigators are still out there looking at where it

originated. We won't know until their investigation is done."

He added that 91 percent of forest fires are caused by people, leaving the small remainder from other natural causes.

Florea also said that reports on Sunday listing the upper Angeles Forest Highway as closed due to the Lowe Fire were incorrect. The Highway was closed periodically throughout the day for unrelated causes, including the discovery of a body, a stolen / dumped vehicle and 4 motorcycle accidents.

Two people were killed in separate motorcycle accidents on the highway, one Saturday and another on Sunday, he reported.

Because of extreme fire danger, forest-wide restrictions exist on all wood and charcoal fires. Smoking is limited to vehicles or enclosed buildings. According to reports, a variety of factors determine fire danger level, including the moisture in vegetation, weather conditions and firefighting equipment needs due to state and national fire activity.

Photos and Story by Dean Lee



## Arts & Architecture

By Virginia Olive Hoge

### The Saga Motor Motel

Est. 1957

Location: Across from PCC on Colorado Boulevard

How many "Sagas" have been played out between the walls of this classic Pasadena landmark, the Saga Motor Motel? SAGA, what a great name for a motel! How many people began their own personal Pasadena "sagas" right there - whether they played out for days, weeks, years, or for a lifetime long? You can know that they stood and looked up from the same parking lot (beautifully designed to wrap around the motel on three sides) and caught a perfect Pasadena view: our beautiful San Gabriel mountains with the white tips of two of Mount Wilson Observatory's solar telescopes clearly in view.

Thanks to great luck (and location), this remnant of the 1950s has been saved from the wrecking ball and is still standing, and what a good thing that is. Luck, too, accounts for the fact that the motel has not been too successful over the years. If it were, some over (or under) ambitious decorator would have messed it up a long time ago. As things are, blessedly few of the original details have been tampered with, and we get to see it close to its original 1957 design.

The color, for instance, is (gratefully) almost the same as the original - a brownish peach with darker peach accents. The Saga has a low, cool, modernist design (with an Arabic theme no less), which is very well done. The use of hollowed-out, molded concrete blocks for walls and fences was common for the day, but not often done this well. The blocks are fantastic forms, and several different forms are repeated throughout the building - forms which also mimic Arabian screens. The front wall of the motel, built in an age of greater civility when no one would dream of putting bedrooms right next to the street (as they do today) uses concrete blocks, interspersed with patterned ones and plants. The overgrown palm-garden pool area in the center of the motel (which is reminiscent of circa 1950's Beverly Hills' "posh") is lush to the point of tropical and adds to the other-worldly feel of the courtyard. Are you really across from PCC on our busiest thoroughfare? No way, this feels more like landing deep into a Moroccan oasis, the peachy color fueling the Arabic tone. Classic 1950's motels wanted you to be transported, inside and outside the motel, a seemingly lost art.

An Arabic tone is also apparent in the beautiful logo, to which my entire column



could be devoted. This logo was done in the great age of hand-lettering. The "hands" developed by some of these master brush calligraphers (now mostly anonymous) were incredible and we have one of the masters here. Look closely at how much character each letter has!

Gardens play a big part in the design of this building. There is a long strip of garden right along the sidewalk (in a beautiful nod to the neighborhood) with three original tile art murals incorporated into the garden's wall. The muralist has a very interesting sense of geometric design and uses great originality, touching lightly on the Arabic relief tradition but making them completely contemporary works of art as well. A lush garden with old-growth trees sits across from the main lobby, and the pool (as already mentioned) is surrounded by them. The maintenance of all these gardens surely has been considerable, and thanks to all the generations of managers and gardeners who have maintained and not covered them over. Notable too is the fact that palm trees were so integral to the design of the building that a part of the west roof was designed with a hole in it just for the trees to go through (see photo).

I urge you to visit and to help preserve this local treasure.

## Saturday in the Park: Altadena Concert Series Goes Gaelic

By Teresa Baxter



The Sheriff's Support Group of Altadena will bring an evening of Irish fun and festivities Saturday, September 1 as their Summer Concerts in the Park Series continues.

Altadena natives and hometown favorites, Those Manning Boys, will headline, blending Irish ballads and pub songs to everyone's delight and bringing out a little Irish in everyone. Also set to take the stage are the

Aniar Irish Academy of Dance, the St. Elizabeth Choir, and young Irish fiddle and mandolin virtuoso, Liam Lewis.

Those Manning Boys, brothers Mike and Sean, were inspired to learn Irish style music as a tribute to their father. They have been performing together for six years, and their big break came two years ago when they were invited to perform at the SSGA concert series. They now take their act on the road, performing at other Irish events.

Sean was quick to dispel any myths about traditional Irish music, "Not all Irish songs are depressing and slow," he said. "It's more about the words and the historical

feelings that the music invokes." In fact, both brothers were influenced by the electric, acoustic, folk style of the 1960s and have even incorporated a few Beatles' tunes, Celtic style, into their repertoire.

The Manning brothers discovered 15-year-old Liam Lewis while he was performing at Pasadena's Victory Park Farmers Market. Blown away by his talent, the brothers knew this young man needed to be heard. Liam has a classical music background and has been passionate about performing since he was a toddler. His two favorite Irish pieces to play are "Tim Maloney" and "Bunch O' Keys".

The Aniar Irish Dancers are based in Laguna Niguel, with located in Duarte and Santa Fe Springs. If you're a fan of "Riverdance" you'll love the step dance styles of this enthusiastic mixture of young men and women varying in ages from 3 to 18-years-old.

Also, select vocalists from the St. Elizabeth Catholic Church choir of Altadena will perform with Those Manning Boys. The brothers said they had been long-term friends with the church choir, know, for their Irish roots.

"The evening at the park promises a breathtaking view of the San Gabriel mountains while enjoying the variety of talent," said Altadena Sheriff Lt. Scott Young. "It's an absolutely delightful setting, with beautiful sunsets."

Begun 11 years ago by Altadena Deputy Sheriff Sam Estrada and local jazz musician John Tirabasso, the series is meant to bring quality professional and free entertainment to the public, while providing crime prevention and public safety information to those who attend.

The 7 pm concert is at the Farnsworth Park Amphitheater, 568 E. Mount Curve Ave., Altadena. Admission is free; you are encouraged to bring a picnic dinner.

For more information, call (626) 296-2103.

## JONCEE TROY (cont. from page 1)

in Murrieta to be the youth guy, beginning his ministry June 22<sup>nd</sup>. They left both their families behind in Idaho and Montana and headed for California to begin a new marriage and a new career.

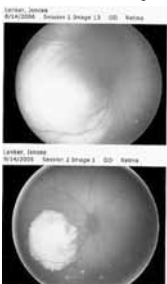
Keegan and Jayme fit easily with Junior and Senior High kids, taking calls, with, "Dude! How's it goin'!" to homesick campers calling for a little TLC.

God first called Keegan to full-time ministry when he was just 13, in response to a message given by Pasadena First Church Senior Pastor, Scott Daniels. Of course, at that time, he thought his life was destined to be spent as a missionary in Africa, little realizing God had other plans. Joncee Troy, who looks like he has a great future as a linebacker for USC, exhibited the first signs of Retinoblastoma when he was 13 days old. Knowing the genetic link was there within Joncee, doctors at Kaiser Medical Center in Riverside quickly noticed a tumor in Joncee's eye and immediately referred him to Children's Hospital in Los Angeles. World-renowned specialist on Retinoblastoma, A. Linn Murphree examined Joncee and saw the sizeable tumor which had already detached the retina from his eye. Chemotherapy began on Joncee's 21<sup>st</sup> day of life.

Unfortunately, at the six month mark after chemotherapy, Joncee's eye was once again overcome with cancer cells and preparations were underway to remove the eye. If left in place, the cancer infected eye can attack the optic nerve and spread to the brain. Joncee developed an infection before this procedure could be accomplished, however, during the course of which it was discovered that he has now developed AML-Acute Myeloid Leukemia. Another five cycles of chemotherapy are ahead for Joncee Troy and if that's not successful, a bone marrow transplant is the next course of action.

Sounds pretty bleak, doesn't it! However, when you meet Jayme and Keegan, you will be swept away by their sheer optimism and faith in God. Keegan has for some time now, been journaling in CarePages, an on-line support group where family and friends can be constantly updated, leave messages and correspond on the progress of a beloved family member or friend. Until recently, Keegan's messages have been what you would expect from a young father who could at any moment lose his son; moments of despair, moments of triumph, moments of exhaustion, moments of sheer terror.

However, Jayme and Keegan made the decision to have Pastor Daniels come to Joncee's room at Children's Hospital and truly dedicate him to the Lord. Of course Keegan and Jayme had been handing Joncee over to God on a daily basis, trusting that He would do what was



Original Tumor After 1st Chemo

best, but this formal dedication service was a crossroads moment for this young couple. Yes, they live in the reality that they could lose Joncee any time, but they consider him a gift from God, entrusted to them for however long he may be with them.

Joncee is a true one year old on his good days, just itching to walk and seconds from getting the hang of it...which will, incidentally, play havoc with IV poles and tubing. He laughs, he hugs, he kisses and he plays the same great games all our one year old babies play. Jayme and Keegan are blessed in that his mom, Jan, has been able to come down from Idaho to stay with Joncee when Keegan and Jayme are at work at Pasadena First Church. Unlike many of the children on Joncee's floor at Children's Hospital, Joncee Troy is never alone, never without family.

After Keegan and Jayme made their public acceptance of God's will in little Joncee's life...whatever that may be...their emphasis shifted to the many other children all around them who are so desperately ill and now their prayer requests are for children none of us will ever know or see. This is God, changing hearts, changing focus, changing direction, but never letting go of His children.

What's ahead for Joncee? The eye surgery to remove his cancerous eye is planned for August 30<sup>th</sup>, if his counts come up. Joncee still won't be out of the woods with Retinoblastoma, even after the eye removal, as there is still a chance that cancer could ravage the other eye. What else? Five years of treatment but that lovely word, that beautiful rainbow word, "Remission!" is always just over the horizon, along with that other wonderful word, "Healing!" The God that Keegan and Jayme serve is a God of wonderful surprises and miracles still do happen, even in this time and age.

Like to read more about Joncee Troy's journey? Go on-line to [www.carepages.com](http://www.carepages.com) and register for Joncee Troy. You'll see pictures of this beautiful little boy and be able to read Keegan Lenker's thoughts and Joncee's treatment and progress through the hardest journey any parent will ever take. Amazingly, you'll find your spirits lifted and your heart touched.

Jayme and Keegan live their lives around the concept that Love Wins!

1 Corinthians 13:8

states: "Love never fails." Keegan says, "I try to live around this concept because in EVERY situation, the truth of that can be found. We have the opportunity to show that every day to the people we come in contact with. It's not always easy, but it's totally worth it!"

A bone marrow drive will be held at Pasadena First Church of the Nazarene on August 30<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 to 7:30 p.m. Also, a fund

has been established at Pasadena First Church for anyone interested in helping this young couple meet what are already overwhelming expenses. For more information, call Pasadena First Church of the Nazarene at (626) 351-9631.



Joncee Troy 3 weeks after 1st treatment.



# Ed

Alverno, Arroyo Pacific Academy, La Salle, Maranatha, Pasadena High School, St. Francis, Sierra Mesa Middle School, The Barnhart School, The Gooden School, Field Elementary, Sierra Madre Elementary School, Bethany Christian, St. Rita's, Wilson Middle School, Odyssey Charter School, Norma Coombs Alternative School, Weizmann Day School and the PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

## TRISH's TRUTH

### The First Day

By Trisha Collins

The first day of school... and yes, it's approaching rapidly. It's always tough, whether you're familiar with your school, or you're not. Although, it may be tougher if it's your first time at the school and you don't know anyone. I know what that is like, but it always gets better as the week goes on. People begin to stop calling you "the new kid" and start calling you by your name. You make new friends and get to know your teachers. But if you've been going to your school for years, your first day is still going to be a little rough. Getting used to your life-of-luxury-summer being over does take a little adjustment.

Every teenager prepares for this "First Day". The night before, they make sure their backpack is by the door, ready to be snatched and on the back of an excited student (well, maybe not "excited"...but you know what I mean). The clothes are ironed and set out neatly by the bed and all accessories are placed on top. The new shoes are taken out of the box, and placed next to the outfit, now it's time to sleep. And the next thing you know, that dreaded alarm goes off, and "The First Day, begins. Based on the answers of many teenagers, here's how it might be for you:

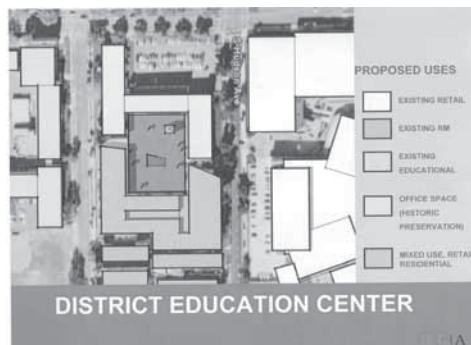
When you first get to school, it's chaotic. Everyone is split up into their groups of friends, gossiping about others and catching up. It's always great to see how much everyone has changed over the summer. See who's still together, who broke up, why they painted the school, what teacher retired, who's taking their place, and how many classes you have with your friends and so on. Basically, the morning before school starts, everyone is talking and before you know it, the bell rings.

While you're walking to class, you begin to think, "Wow, summer's over and another year has just begun." You start not to feel so bad about summer's abrupt ending, and feel good that today is the day for a fresh start. A new beginning, and a time for change for the better. The First Day for me is always a little shaky, but I keep in mind that this is an opportunity to do better and achieve more than years before. As your First Day comes, I advise you to think positive, you'll feel better in the long run. After all, it's only the first day... you've got over 200 more days left, so don't let the first one get you down!

## PUSD Getting Rid of Surplus Space - Including District Education Center

By Dean Lee

The last meeting of the PUSD Board of Education, Tuesday night before school starts Sept. 6, took a sudden twist as Paul Bunton, president of BCA Architects, gave a PUSD site assessment update which included surplus property evaluations, with recommendations to lease a number of properties for commercial/retail use.



Bunton's list included the very building in which the meeting was being held, to the surprise of many in the audience. At one point Board president, Steve Lizardo, stopped Bunton, saying he wanted to make clear that the Board had made no decisions regarding surplus district property.

Public speakers flew off the handle, accusing the Board of lying about space availability. Allegations were made that the Board had space when they voted last month to co-locate a number of Charter Schools, including Rhythms of the Village, a school which has been bounced around from proposed site to site because of a "lack of space," according to the Board. In May,

Rhythms threatened to sue the district over its legal commitment to students and surplus space.

Education Code Section 47614 allows "a school district to lease/rent its facilities only allow a school district to do so if the facilities are 'surplus' (i.e., the facilities are not needed to house

and educate in-district students)." Some accused the district of trying to get rid of all surplus facilities to stop a flood of proposed Charter Schools.

The district is legally bound to accept new charter school applications, according to Board member Ed Honowitz at a meeting in May, after International Charter School of Pasadena's founder, Dale Goodman, said that he was hoping to open his school on the former Linda Vista Elementary School site, the exact location denied to Rhythms of the Village. At the time, the school was surplus. The Board later turned down Goodman's application for unrelated reasons.

The surplus property evaluation was part of identifying proposed funding

options for the District Master Plan, set to be completed in June 2008. The assessments look at all district-owned property. Bunton said 24 of 37 school sites had already been looked at to identify high priority projects.

The level of assessment included architectural room-by-room assessments, mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, structural review and roof inspections, and reporting.

Code, health and safety all have the highest priority on a scale from 1 to 4, with miscellaneous modernizations being the lowest. Priority 2 is infrastructure and priority 3 could be anything from classroom renovations to technology. There were a number of priority 1 concerns but only PHS had high priorities due to their security systems.

The report also looks at possible areas of joint use, including athletic fields, gymnasiums, performing arts centers, libraries, aquatics centers, child-care and teacher education facilities.

## ALL STAR BAND COFFEE CONTEST BEGINS!

Support your local high school to victory! No, not a football game, not a basketball game, but something different. The Pasadena Unified All Star Band has launched a local high schools' coffee competition to raise scholarship money to allow local music students to participate in the January 1, 2008 London New Year's Day Parade and Festival.

The Pasadena Unified All Star Band is the only band from California, and one of only 12 bands from the United States, that have been invited to participate in this prestigious festival. When band directors are asked which events they most want their student musicians to experience, the London New Year's Day Parade and Festival is one of the world's top three events, accompanied by our own local Rose Parade and, of course, the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade.

David Miller, the band's music director, believes opportunities of this type can be life-changing events for young people, especially the approximately 40 musicians who will be able to attend only with some scholarship assistance. As Mr. Miller says: "Many of these students have never left the San Gabriel Valley. An event of this magnitude that includes concert opportunities, as well as the parade, and provides our students with the chance to visit historic sites such as Warwick Castle, Big Ben and the magnificent West End Theaters of London is a once-

in-a-lifetime opportunity!"

To help raise funds to send the almost 100 musicians to London the All Star Band has launched a coffee competition pitting John Muir (winner of the last 12 Turkey Tussle football matches) against traditional rival Pasadena High School, while local upstarts, the John Marshall Eagles and Blair Vikings, hope to up-end their larger rivals with a massive coffee drinking effort of their own.

The "We Care" Coffee Company is supporting the band's effort by providing a \$5 scholarship contribution for each bag of coffee sold.

So, please help support your local musicians in their goal of reaching London before New Year's Day by buying coffee in one of your four favorite blends: Pasadena Bulldog Blend, John Muir Mustang Blend, Marshall Fundamental Screamin' Eagle Blend or Blair Viking Blend. The 12 oz. bags come in ground and whole bean varieties. For information and to purchase the coffees of your choice, please contact Joyce Wedsetoft at (626) 577-6829 or by e-mail at [pusedcoffee@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pusedcoffee@sbcglobal.net).

The Band Boosters are also avidly seeking scholarship contributions! Checks can be made out to the "Pasadena Education Foundation- All Star's London" at 351 S. Hudson Ave. Pasadena, CA 91108!

Order Form on page 15

## Congratulations To Trish Our Teen Columnist!

Trish has been accepted to Harbor Teacher Preparation Academy. Harbor Teacher Preparation Academy, located on the Harbor College Campus, is a middle college high school. Students of this exemplary academy will graduate with both a high school diploma and an Associate of Arts degree. Trish, (her pen name), is a 14 year old sophomore.

## SCHOOL DIRECTORY

Arroyo Pacific Academy  
41 W. Santa Clara St.  
Arcadia  
(626) 294-0661

Alverno High School  
200 N. Michillinda  
(626) 355-3463

Bethany Christian School  
93 N. Baldwin Ave.  
(626) 355-3527

The Gooden School  
192 N. Baldwin Ave.  
(626) 355-2410  
[www.goodenschool.org](http://www.goodenschool.org)

LaSalle High School  
3880 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.  
Pasadena  
(626) 351-8951

Odyssey Charter School  
725 W. Altadena Dr.  
Altadena, CA  
(626) 229-0993  
[www.odysseycharterschool.com](http://www.odysseycharterschool.com)

Pasadena High School  
2925 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Pasadena  
(626) 798-8901

Sierra Madre Elementary School  
141 W. Highland Ave.  
(626) 355-1428

Sierra Madre Middle School  
160 N. Canon  
(626) 836-2947

St. Rita's Catholic School  
322 N. Baldwin Ave.  
(626) 355-9028

Weizmann Day School  
1434 N. Altadena Drive  
Pasadena, CA 91107  
626-797-0204  
Lisa Feldman Head of School

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## Sierra Madre Congregational Church

170 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. • (626) 355-3566  
[www.smcnet.org](http://www.smcnet.org)  
Rev. Richard J. Anderson, Senior Pastor

Easter Service • 6 am Sunrise

Family Worship Service • 7 am • 8:15 • 9:45 • 11:15

Free All Church Brunch • Pritchard Hall 8:15 am - 11 am

Child Care Available

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# MountainViews-Observer

## OPINION

### MountainViews-Observer

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### Mountain Views-Observer Mission Statement

We honor the traditions of the community newspaper and place our readers above all other concerns. We deliver local, state and national news every week. 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.



### Around The Town With Sir Eric Maundry

*"Myths that are believed in tend to become true."*  
- George Orwell

I recently received a particularly pungent comment regarding the column I wrote on the new ownership of the properties at One Carter. Noting that this new ownership is indeed a holding straight out of the United Arab Emirates (the rather controversial Emirate of Dubai to be precise), the reader goes on to ask, "Do you think that certain members of our City Council are now dancing Sheik to Sheik?"

Well, since somebody managed to get the concessions for One Carter without having to execute a lawsuit, I'd say that perhaps the dance has been going on for longer than we know. I wonder if their taxes will be going up? ...

In a June 13 Pasadena Star News piece ("Sierra Madre City Council Adopts 'Tough' Two Year Budget"), John Buchanan states the following: "The constraints on a small town are greater because of a limited ability to expand a commercial base. The people of this town are going to have to decide how much they love the things they say they love. The small-town charm comes at a price."

While I'm certain that John hopes to be perceived as engaging in some tough love with this bombast, perhaps we should take a peek behind the veil and see what Mr. Wizard is really up to. And honestly, aren't you getting just a little worn out with all the threats?

... Here, in my opinion, is the current 3 Step Tango for jamming over-development down the collective throat of Sierra Madre:

- 1) Hold repeated televised hearings designed to panic this town into believing that we are on the verge of bankruptcy, and that there is only one thing that can save us now.
- 2) More taxes! Yes, life here in bucolic Sierra Madre is a luxury that you are not worthy of because you are not paying the amounts necessary to float our ever increasing city budgets. Never mind that our elected officials can't balance a checkbook, or that they find ways to spend more money year after year. The fault is all yours.
- 3) But wait! There is one way that we can get around our problems. Allow the vast One Carter, Skilled Nursing Center

and Howie's projects to be built. The new taxes raised will pay for everything! ... Like we haven't heard that one before ...

You know, maybe it isn't the people of Sierra Madre that need to make sacrifices here. Maybe it's time for our City Council to step out from behind their "Ad Hoc Committees" and the costly consultancies they seem to employ at a frightening clip and just tell us what it is they want. Is it more taxes that you feel you need?

Are you attempting to make the case that vast new development is the only thing that can save us? Then just have the decency to say it. Get rid of the televised public spectacles, the ridiculously expensive lawyers and experts, show some guts and lay it out for all to see. What is it that you are afraid of? It's not like you have a political future at stake ...

I see that our City Attorney Sandra Levin has been a constant presence at the Ad Hoc Committee hearings. Nice lady and all, but are you aware of what exactly we pay for her legal wisdom? City Warrants (think: city checkbooks) are becoming very popular reading in this town as the case is being made that our City Leaders spend lots of money. I, too, have been caught up in the trend, and will be reporting on my findings from time to time. But let me tell you here and now, we pay Sandra's law firm a TON of money. Here's a few examples:

12/13/05 Colantuono & Levin - \$66,009.75  
03/28/06 Colantuono & Levin - \$18,720.77  
05/09/06 Colantuono & Levin - \$14,050.11  
06/13/06 Colantuono & Levin - \$26,848.21  
11/28/06 Colantuono & Levin - \$40,319.04

From these 5 Warrants alone, picked at random out of a foot high stack of paper, the total comes to \$165,947.88. You can only wonder what a full year of legal services costs us. Couldn't we just employ a full-time lawyer and bank the savings? ...

So does anybody really think that these "Ad Hoc Committee" hearings aren't going to cost us a lot of money in legal fees alone? Think of the irony, our city government is spending considerable sums of money so that they can tell us we're going broke, and that we need to either raise taxes or allow big time development in order to fix the problem. All without having to put their names to it, of course. Now I really need a drink, and I don't care what time it is ... *eric.maundry@yahoo.com*



### Four Way Stop Sign

By Susan Henderson

**stop (v):** to give up or change a course of action;  
**sign (n):** an outward indication of an internal change

It is an understatement to say that Sierra Madre is a very special place. That is one thing that almost everyone in town agrees upon. The ambience of this city is truly unique - I can't think of another city that even comes close. We really have a little utopia of sorts and we value every piece of it. There are things in this town however, that those who do not live here would deem useless, yet residents here find them a necessity. An example, our stop signs.

The very fact that we are able to exist in the middle of complex Los Angeles County with simple stop signs to direct us is amazing. It may sound simplistic, however the other day I was at the corner of Baldwin and Sierra Madre Blvd. and I noticed how courteously and orderly we navigate that intersection. We arrive. We take note of our surroundings. We yield to the appropriate parties. We move on. Nice and orderly, without confusion, with the utmost courtesy. It reminds you of what a nice, orderly town this really is - despite our differences.

I guess this analogy came to mind after thinking about how we are going to handle our current financial crisis. It is unfortunate that after such a bitter battle of Measure V, we are now confronted with the very difficult decision of how to keep the things that we value, such as our public safety officers, our library, our community services - all of the things that make this city special. The decision is difficult not only because we are limited as to where we can go for funding, but also because we do not all have the same priorities. It has the potential to be just as divisive as Measure V - that is, if we don't change our ways.

There really is no reason for this town to be torn apart about what we must do. We just have to maturely sit down and come up with the best solution for everyone. Not the best in any one group's mind, but the best as decided

by representatives of everyone. We have to approach the resolution to our dilemma the same way we approach the intersection in the middle of town. We have to stop, access the situation, yield when appropriate and then move on. It's that simple.

I certainly hope that we have learned from our past experiences. We all have a right to our opinion. We all have a right to disagree, but the bottom line, we all have a responsibility to work together, to respect each other and come up with what is best for everyone.

It is time for us to change our traditional course of action. I have met people in this town still not speaking to their neighbors over Maranatha, Measure E, Measure V, etc. Probably there are some old-timers who are still mad that we incorporated. (Yes, if you read our history you will find the town was divided over that, too.) However, this time I hope that we can do better. Stop pointing fingers about who did what, or who is responsible for our problems, or who shot John. It doesn't matter what happened in the past, we have to deal with now and the future.

Every resident needs to make a commitment to approach our city's problems in the same manner that we do our traffic signals. We stop, seriously assess the situation, yield when appropriate and then move on. Sometimes we don't want to stop, sometimes we don't want to yield, but we have to.

So here's to all of us working together to find a solution that is best for the city without the shedding of any blood! Here's to us being respectful of each other's rights and priorities and differences. Here's to us doing our part, not just sitting back and complaining. And here's to us accepting what the final outcome is.

And by the way, if you want to know what I want? I want enough money to come from somewhere to fund our police, firefighters, paramedics, community service department, public works department, library, historical society, and everything else that we are currently doing. It's all important.

### In My Opinion



### Life in the Foothills...A Metamorphosis

By Steve Tobia

Change. This is the one word that best describes what is happening throughout the Pasadena and Foothills Region. Just over 100 years ago, only a few large ranches comprised the vast majority of our Region. After World War II, this Region, like most of Southern California, was transformed into a string of bedroom communities with independent cities, unlike the San Fernando Valley or Orange County.

Within the past decade, this Region has matured into a worldwide destination of intellectual pursuit, entrepreneurial endeavors, and beautiful matured neighborhoods. People want to move and live here, unlike many other parts of Greater Los Angeles. Each of these three broader global, national and Regional forces are intertwined, and we have seen one of the most striking demographic shifts in one region as compared to any other region in the United States or California.

#### Immigration

Clearly, the most significant visible change has been the ethnic make-up of communities throughout the Foothills. Due to the economic and social uncertainties in various Asian countries, many educated and affluent families have immigrated here to the United States. As with previous European immigrants, these Asian families have flocked to communities where other immigrants located. According to several experts, families coming from Taiwan are directed to the San Gabriel Valley and then specifically, based upon economics, to San Marino, Arcadia and Diamond Bar. Korean families are directed to La Cañada and La Crescenta.

The demographics of the school districts in these communities reflect this trend. For example, according to the California Department of Education, 62% of Arcadia students are classified as Asian (Taiwanese), while only 22% are classified as white (European). In La Cañada, 23% of the student population is classified as Asian (Korean). In Los Angeles County, only 11.9% of the population is (cont. pg. 14)



# LEGAL NOTICES

## City of Sierra Madre

### COURTESY NOTICE

**To:** Property Owners within a 300-foot radius  
**From:** The City of Sierra Madre  
**Subject:** **CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT 07-07 (375 DEODAR CIRCLE)**  
**Applicant:** Jimmy Chiu  
 375 Deodar Circle  
 Sierra Madre, CA 91024

The City of Sierra Madre gives notice, pursuant to State of California law, that the Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing to construct a second floor addition at 365 Deodar Circle. The existing residence measures approximately 3,510 square feet and the second floor addition will measure approximately 1,008 square feet, for a total of 4,518 square feet. Pursuant to Section 17.20.135.A of the Sierra Municipal Code, new construction and additions onto existing structures where the gross floor area of all structures is greater than four thousand square feet, approval of a Conditional Use Permit by the Planning Commission shall be required.

#### DATE AND TIME OF MEETING

City of Sierra Madre  
 Planning Commission meeting  
 Thursday, **September 6th, 2007**  
 (meeting begins at 7:00 p.m.)

#### PLACE OF MEETING

City of Sierra Madre  
 City Council Chambers  
 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.  
 Sierra Madre, CA 91024

All interested persons may attend this meeting and the Planning Commission will hear them with respect thereto.

**PROJECT LOCATION:** 375 Deodar Circle is in the City of Sierra Madre, County of Los Angeles, State of California.

**APPEAL:** The decision of the Planning Commission is subject to a 10-day appeal period to the City Council. If in the future anyone wishes to challenge the decision of the Planning Commission in court, one may be limited to raising issues that were raised or presented in written correspondence delivered to the Planning Commission at, or before, the scheduled public hearing. For further information on this subject, please contact the Development Services Department at (626) 355-7135.

By Order of the Planning Commission,  
 Anne McIntosh  
 Interim Director of Development Services

## City of Sierra Madre

### COURTESY NOTICE

**To:** Property Owners within a 300 foot radius  
**From:** The City of Sierra Madre  
**Subject:** **Tentative Parcel Map 07-02 (115 & 125 Lowell Avenue)**  
**Applicant:** James Coane  
 30 N Raymond Ave, #611  
 Pasadena, CA 91103

*The City of Sierra Madre gives notice, pursuant to State of California law, that the Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing to consider a request for Parcel Map 07-02 at 115 & 125 Lowell Avenue. The proposed Parcel Map would create a total of three lots (measuring approximately 8700, 8845, and 10,092 square feet) from two existing lots (measuring approximately 13,335 and 14,284 square feet).*

#### DATE AND TIME OF MEETING

City of Sierra Madre  
 Planning Commission meeting  
 Thursday, **September 6, 2007**  
 (Meeting begins at 7:00 p.m.)

#### PLACE OF MEETING

City of Sierra Madre  
 City Council Chambers  
 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.  
 Sierra Madre, CA 91024

All interested persons may attend this meeting and the Planning Commission will hear them with respect thereto.

**PROJECT LOCATION:** 115 & 125 Lowell Avenue Avenue; in the City of Sierra Madre, County of Los Angeles, State of California.

**ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:** The project qualifies for a Class 15 Categorical Exemption, pursuant to Section 15315 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

**APPEAL:** The decision of the Planning Commission is subject to a 14-day appeal period to the City Council. If in the future anyone wishes to challenge the decision of the Planning Commission in court, one may be limited to raising issues that were raised or presented in written correspondence delivered to the Planning Commission at, or before, the scheduled public hearing. For further information on this subject, please contact the Development Services Department at (626) 355-7135.

By Order of the Planning Commission

Anne Browning McIntosh, AICP  
 Interim Director of Development Services

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Parental Involvement - a new perspective

The problem with Mr. Tobia's equation (parental involvement = better students) is that it is sometimes too simplistic, and, sometimes not even accurate. In my 12 years of having children in school, I have seen my fair share of parents and I can tell you that uninvolved parents are not always the worst thing that can happen to a child. Parents can be too over-involved in their children's life (a common contemporary phenomena) for the health of the child, whose initiative is crushed simply by the weight of the parent's expectations.

I have seen many instances where a child takes their own initiative, inspired often by a teacher, and begins to excel. Self-motivation is a powerful (and desirable) skill. This applies to academics and to sports -- one of the best runners I have ever seen in my life attended my son's elementary school (Field). She was motivated, not by her parents, but by a good coach from the after-school program. One straight-A student my son met at Wilson middle school was inspired by a teacher at Jackson elementary, and that kid is "going places".

Over-involved parents also are not always a good thing for their schools either. Some PTAs, for instance, intending to better the school, have become fighting grounds for over-ambitious parents who think only of their own child's needs. This can spell disaster for a school district, which has to think of the needs of every child.

Another huge problem with the issue of parental involvement is that children of color are almost always unfairly tagged to have less of it, due to single-parent homes and hard working families. This is not the case of what I have seen on a first-hand basis!! Single mothers can and do often make excellent "parents". Poor families often forge a closeness between themselves that offers their children great emotional security (what matters most to a child). Immigrants are legendary, now and in our country's history, for their emphasis on giving their children a "better" life and good values.

Virginia Olive Hoge

## City of Sierra Madre

### COURTESY NOTICE

**To:** City-wide  
**From:** The City of Sierra Madre  
**Subject:** **Congestion Management Program (CMP)**  
**Applicant:** City of Sierra Madre

*The City of Sierra Madre gives notice, pursuant to State of California law, that the City Council will conduct a public hearing to review the City's compliance with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority's Congestion Management Program (CMP) pursuant to California Government Code Section 65089.*

#### DATE AND TIME OF MEETING

City of Sierra Madre  
 City Council Meeting  
 Tuesday, **September 11, 2007**  
 (meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.)

#### PLACE OF MEETING

City of Sierra Madre  
 City Council Chambers  
 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.  
 Sierra Madre, CA 91024

All interested persons may attend this meeting and the City Council will hear them with respect thereto.

**PROJECT LOCATION:** City-wide

**APPEAL:** If in the future anyone wishes to challenge the decision of the City Council in court, one may be limited to raising the issues that were raised or presented in written correspondence delivered to the City Council at, or before, the scheduled public hearing. For further information on this subject, please contact the Development Services Department at (626) 355-7135.

By Order of the City Council

Donna Butler, Interim Director of Development Services

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: JOHN J. NORRIS CASE NO. BP106180**  
 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of JOHN J. NORRIS:  
 A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by SAMUEL R. NORRIS in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.  
 THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that SAMUEL R. NORRIS be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.  
 THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important

actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.)  
 The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.  
 A HEARING on the petition will be held on 09/17/07 at 8:30AM in Dept. 9 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012  
 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing.  
 Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.  
 IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy

to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.  
**YOU MAY EXAMINE** the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code Section 1290. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.  
 Attorney for Petitioner: MICHAEL R. AUGUSTINE AUGUSTINE & SEYMOUR 741 S. GARFIELD AVE. ALHAMBRA, CA 91801 8/30, 9/6, 9/13/07 CNS-11861678

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: JAIN COLOUHOON CASE NO. GP013198**  
 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of JAIN COLOUHOON:  
 A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by DOUGLAS J. FARRELL in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.  
 THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that DOUGLAS J. FARRELL be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.  
 THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.  
 THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of

Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.)  
 The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.  
 A HEARING on the petition will be held on 09/21/07 at 10:00AM in Dept. A located at 300 E. WALNUT ST., PASADENA, CA 91101  
 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing.  
 Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.  
 IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the

deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.  
**YOU MAY EXAMINE** the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code Section 1290. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.  
 Attorney for Petitioner: DOUGLAS J. FARRELL P.O. BOX 183 37 W. SIERRA MADRE BLVD. SIERRA MADRE, CA 91025 9/1, 9/8, 9/15/07 CNS-11917498

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# TechKnowledge

Technology Science Business

## New PCC Environmental Studies Program Focuses on Pasadena's 'Green City' Plan

By Dean Lee

With a brand new school semester starting last week, one group of students is breaking the stuffy classroom mold and taking their learning objectives outdoors. They are using the city's existing open space to learn first hand what it means to be a 'green' city.

"The plan is to develop a curriculum that matches the United Nations Environmental Urban Accords, which is exactly what the Pasadena City Green Plan is," said Pasadena City College Biology professor, Russ Di Fiori. "There are seven different items on the U.N. plan, with 21 actions and we will match the curriculum to that."

The first four weeks of the class, Biology 37 Environmental Science, will be taught at PCC, Di Fiori said, gathering background and identifying the basic information needed. The rest of the 20-week class will be taught at the Hahamonga Watershed Park near JPL, part of Pasadena's Arroyo open space area. The school has secured a one-year tentative lease with the city for an old forestry services site. Di Fiori said the area will be used for both an organic garden and the field studies.

Di Fiori said that the school was supportive of the idea, but allocated no money. The program however, has received a \$65,000 grant from a local corporation that will be used for technology at the site such as water treatment kits.

Most students in the program are freshmen, Di Fiori said, also explaining that the idea was to get them used to college. "We want to get them to come here to PCC, get used to that idea, then take them out into the field." In spring, Di Fiori hopes the students will continue in the sciences. When the new program reaches its full potential, he expects to have 750 students at various stages of learning.

The class is also paired with a college English course, to help students meet a number of requirements necessary for transferring to a four year college, according to Dave Douglas, the school's Natural Sciences Division Dean.

Although Douglas had said last week that he was worried because enrollment was low, the first class meeting was full. Di Fiori attributed that to word of mouth spreading quickly.

English 1A will be taught as part of this class by Professor Krista Walter. On the school's website, Walter indicates that all of her classes this fall will have a special emphasis on environmental studies. "We will be taking numerous field trips and working outside the traditional classroom," she said.

The Arroyo is the largest open area in Pasadena, according to Di Fiori, implying that everyone not only knows of it, but can easily get to it. He also said a lot of places in the Arroyo have been degraded in some way, either through discarded trash, pollution from different sources, urban runoff or by non-native plants taking over certain areas.

"They are going to do one sort of project where they survey the water quality in the Arroyo, followed by an overall environmental quality study in the Arroyo. The second part is to fix something. That's it. They will need to find some environmental problem they can tackle."

Di Fiori said that during the semester each of his students will be asked to attend at least one meeting of the city's Environmental Advisory Commission. The Commission meets on the third Tuesday of the month at the city's permit center.

The city council voted unanimously in September last year to form an environmental commission, in response to the need to expand Pasadena's 20-year old Utility Advisory Commission.

The environmental commission met held its first in March, at which time the city's Planning and Development Department's Project Manager, Alice Sterling, outlined the seven general improvement areas included as part of the city's green plan, including: energy, waste, urban design, urban nature, transportation, health and water. (continued on page 14)

# Tech Daddy

## Email 101

By Ken Gruberman, the Tech Daddy™

While waiting for your questions to arrive in my in-box - [ken@thetechdaddy.com](mailto:ken@thetechdaddy.com) - I thought it would be a good idea to talk about email.

Email has penetrated the fabric of our lives in an amazingly short time. Most of us never even heard of email before the 90s, although it has been in use since 1965. Email has been adopted by people around the world at a rate far greater than the adoption of the telephone many years ago, and in a much shorter time.

I personally prefer email over the phone because I am in control of it: I decide when, where and how often I check for email. The phone, on the other hand, is an intrusive medium: when it rings, I have to stop what I am doing and answer it. This often derails my train of thought, which can sometimes lead to disastrous consequences. Even if I decide to not answer the phone, just hearing it ring is often times enough of a distraction to ruin the moment. Email frees me from these distractions: I can be as connected or disconnected as I want to be.

Email is also the Great Leveler. Like handwritten letters before it, email messages are universal. You can't see the person who sent it nor hear their voice, so you don't know anything about them. The person could be young or old, black or white, male or female, and so on, but none of it matters... only the words matter.

Because people now judge you by the email you send, and email is now such a ubiquitous part of our lives, I have created the Five Precepts of Email, which we'll be exploring in this and future columns.

Precept #1: Email messages, like diamonds, are forever



Do you think your email is private? Think again. The Wikipedia, the Web's biggest and best user-maintained encyclopedia, puts it this way:

The Internet is an expansive network of computers, much of which is unprotected. From the time it's composed to when it's read, email travels along this unprotected Internet, perpetually exposed to electronic dangers.

Here are a few simple, common sense rules to follow regarding email privacy:

1. Never put anything in an email you would not say in person.
2. Never put confidential or damaging information in an email unless you are absolutely sure of the veracity of the recipient.
3. If you must deal with sensitive or otherwise confidential information via email, configure your email program to require an electronic receipt from the recipient (most programs have this feature), and also use boilerplate text at the bottom of your emails - these are called "signatures" - explaining that your emails are confidential and cannot be passed on to others for any reason.

If you have questions about personal technology, please email them to me at [ken@thetechdaddy.com](mailto:ken@thetechdaddy.com) and be sure to put "Tech Question" (without the quotes) in the subject line of your email.

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# The Wild West

With Kyle McClure



## A Meerkat's Guide to Successful Birding

Me: "Look at the talons on that puppy. He could rend us limb from cute little limb and strew our entrails all over the patio next to the raised gas fire pit and even over into the bubbling hot tub installed as a part of the extensive backyard makeover conducted by our well-to-do family members."

Wife: "It kind of looks like a pigeon."

Me: "Look how large it is. It is making the power line sag. It could easily fit both of us in its gigantic, yellow, curved beak. Its gizzard is full of boulders."

Wife: "I think it is cooing."

Me: "Notice the distinctive wide gray bands on its tail and the narrow white stripe on the nape of its neck. Plus it has red predator eyes. It wants to eat me."

Wife: "Is it nibbling on an acorn? Or a berry? It is eating a berry."

I snatched the binoculars from my wife, because that is what you do when your life companion/ helpmeet is being so careless and blasé about the imminent dangers of a violent screeching hawk attack. I opened Mr. Kaufman's reference work, slapping rigorously through the pages until I found exactly what I was looking for. On page 195, there was a picture of the vicious monster. It had the correct profile and coloring. It had the same petty little mean look in its eyes. "There!" I squeaked, and I pointed with my four-toed slender paw with non-retractable claws mostly used for excavation, but periodically for climbing trees.

My wife read aloud to me (Don't you love that? Being read aloud to should happen to everyone more often, I believe). She read, "The Band Tailed Pigeon. This big wild pigeon of the west may be common in oak woods, pines and foothills. It has a gray banded tail (big surprise), a white striped neck and a yellow bill." It is not going to eat you. It's a pigeon."

Um. OK. Fine. Relax everybody. That's good news. Now we can all come up aboveground. That's where the Dr. Pepper is.

I made another impressive bird identification the other day. It was at my aunt's and uncle's house, way up in the San Gabriel foothills where we sometimes travel (from down here in the flatlands) to mooch air conditioning, pool water and Dr. Peppers from the garage refrigerator of people who can afford such luxuries. The last few times we visited there had been a certain bird perched on the wire above the backyard. Because I am a very observant and somewhat paranoid individual, I found myself looking up at this avian, thinking "Who are you? Why are you following me?"

This was an impressive looking bird. Large. Intimidating yellow talons and beak. It was an especially bleak color of gray. I thought it must be some kind of falcon or kite or hawk, and I treated it with the respect due a huge bird of prey perched above me on a wire. Namely, I stood alertly outside of our warren with my hands at my sides keeping watch, while my immediate and extended family dug for insects in our vast network of underground tunnels. I stared at the bird. Whenever it moved I let out a warning call and, blip, disappeared beneath the earth.

This was getting old. So, the next time we went to drink my relatives' soda I brought a pair of binoculars and my handy dandy, slightly worn copy of Kenn Kaufman's Field Guide to the Birds of North America. These are wonderful tools if you are a meerkat. I should supply them on the black market. You know, "underground."

Anyway, my wife (we are a monogamous species) and I took turns peering through the eyepieces of my magical up-close-view-makers, describing the prominent features of this wildlife specimen for each other.

## The Mountain Clymer

Photos and Story By Kim Clymer-Kelley

First of all I want to apologize to my editor and to all who happened to read my column, for my absence last week. I had wanted to share with you all the beauty and adventure that I was experiencing on my trip to Southern Utah, but I was unable to find a place to get a wireless connection in time to make deadline. I am going to take time out from my usual subject matter to do so in this week's column instead.

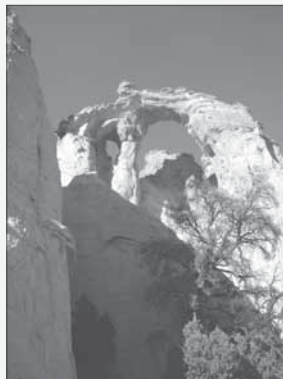
As almost everyone does, whenever I get a chance to get away, I always try to head to a place that I know will revive my spirit and feed my soul. Free time is at such a premium that it is essential to do that when an opportunity arises. For me that means taking off somewhere remote to be close to nature. For a long time, that was part of my daily life, but now, like most southern Californians, that very necessary part of living has been relegated to just a few short weeks a year.

In trying to make the most of this year's freedom, we headed to southern Utah to see an exceptionally beautiful and magnificent area around the Paria River. We went in hopes of obtaining the most coveted and elusive item to adventurers in this area...the permit issued to just 20 visitors a day to visit "the Wave" on the Northern Coyote Butte.



Reflections on the wave

We arrived at the campground Monday evening, set up camp along the river bed, took a short hike down the river, had dinner, watched the sunset, and crawled into our tent to sleep. In the morning we went to the ranger station to take part in the daily lottery for one of 10 permits issued on site (the other 10 are issued online). The permits are issued for the following day (in this case Wednesday) but we were not one of the lucky winners for the day, so instead we took one of the permits available for the Southern Coyote Buttes and spent the day exploring them and other points south of the area. The next morning we repeated the process, but this time we were fortunate enough to get a permit for Thursday. We spent the rest of Wednesday wandering in a northerly direction on the many unpaved roads through the incredible terrain of Escalante Staircase National Monument.



Grovenor's Arch

Thursday we left in the coolness of the early morning and made the 3 plus mile hike across the desert's deep sand and slickrock to see "the Wave". Carved out of red and yellow sandstone and white slickrock, "the Wave" is a remarkable formation that defies description...as does the rest of the beauty we encountered in southern Utah. After exploring the area for a couple hours, we had the arduous task of hiking out of the area in the midday sun and temperatures well over 100 degrees. It was exhausting, but very well worth the effort it took. I would like to share with you some of the amazing sights we encountered on our adventure.



Poverty Flats Ranch

## Looking Up

With Bob Eklund

### A Huge Hole In The Universe



Last week, University of Minnesota astronomers announced that they have found an enormous hole in the Universe, nearly a billion light-years across, empty of both normal matter, such as stars, galaxies and gas, and the mysterious, unseen "dark matter."

Not only has no one ever found a void this big, we never even expected to find one this size," said Lawrence Rudnick, a University of Minnesota astronomy professor. Rudnick, along with graduate student Shea Brown and associate professor Liliya Williams, also of the University of Minnesota, reported the discovery in a paper accepted for publication in the Astrophysical Journal.

Astronomers have known for years that, on large scales, the Universe has voids largely empty of matter. However, most of these voids are much smaller than the one found by Rudnick and his colleagues.

"What we've found is not normal, based on either observational studies or on computer simulations of the large-scale evolution of the Universe," Williams said.

The astronomers drew their conclusion by studying data from the NRAO VLA Sky Survey (NVSS), a project that imaged the entire sky visible to the Very Large Array (VLA) radio telescope, part of the National Science Foundation's National Radio Astronomy Observatory (NRAO). Their study of the NVSS data showed a remarkable drop in the number of galaxies in a region of sky in the constellation Eridanus, southwest of Orion.



Photo Courtesy of Earth Space Images

"We already knew there was something different about this spot in the sky," Rudnick said. "The region had been dubbed the 'WMAP Cold Spot,' because it stood out in a map of the Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB) radiation made by the Wilkinson Microwave Anisotropy Probe (WMAP) satellite, launched by NASA in 2001. [Anisotropy means having different values when measured in different directions.] The Cosmic Microwave Background radiation, faint radio waves at microwave frequencies that are the remnant radiation from the Big Bang, provides the earliest "baby picture" available of the Universe. Irregularities in the CMB show structures that existed only a few hundred thousand years after the Big Bang.

Astronomers wondered if the cold spot was intrinsic to the CMB, and thus indicated some structure in the very early Universe, or whether it could be caused by something more nearby through which the CMB had to pass on its way to Earth. Finding the dearth of galaxies in that region by studying NVSS data resolved that question.

"Although our surprising results need independent confirmation, the slightly lower temperature of the CMB in this region appears to be caused by a huge hole, devoid of nearly all matter, roughly 6-10 billion light-years from Earth," Rudnick said.

How does a lack of matter cause a lower temperature in the Big Bang's remnant radiation as seen from Earth?

The answer lies in dark energy, which became a dominant force in the Universe very recently, when the Universe was already three-quarters of the size it is today. Dark energy works opposite gravity and is speeding up the expansion of the Universe. Thanks to dark energy, CMB photons that pass through a large void just before arriving at Earth have less energy than those that pass through an area with a normal distribution of matter in the last leg of their journey.

The acceleration of the Universe's expansion, and thus dark energy, was discovered less than a decade ago. The physical properties of dark energy are unknown, though it is by far the most abundant form of energy in the Universe today. Learning its nature is one of the most fundamental current problems in astrophysics.

If you'd like to learn more, contact Bob at [b.eklund@mvsobserver.com](mailto:b.eklund@mvsobserver.com)

# TABLE FOR TWO by PETER DILLS

## Tokyo Wako Arcadia

So it was my birthday and my friend invited me out to dinner to celebrate this festive occasion. We picked ah... well... a 'Festive Restaurant' - Tokyo Wako in Arcadia. It is a Japanese Teppanyaki-Style Restaurant. What is Teppanyaki? Teppan means 'Iron Grill'. If you are a seafood or meat lover, or like chicken, Tokyo Wako pretty much has it all; everything to satisfy all the members of your group.

At Tokyo Wako you are seated around a 'Grill' like a horseshoe, with the chef in the center leading the show. The chefs wear tall hats and cook the food right in front of you with spatulas and knives swirling about. These chefs do more than just flip your food around. Whole onions are swiftly sliced and made into a volcano with steam coming out of the top; then comes a sound of a choo choo train as the chef pushes the volcano along the tracks with flashing lights accompanying the movement. It's almost a dinner theatre, and it's always a fun experience for kids. I recommend bringing a group of friends to join you in the party atmosphere. Two reasons: It makes the experience more delightful and if you're the shy type, you will be with other customers in a setting where making new friends is fun. The menu offers Shrimp (\$21.50), Emperor (New York Steak) \$21.95, Chicken (\$17.25), 8oz.Lobster (\$38.00) and many other combinations including the Wako Samuri with Crab Legs and Steak (\$32.50). The restaurant itself is a little dated. There is a new Tokyo Wako in The Paseo Mall but I opted to avoid the parking crunch. There is a child's menu in the \$10 range.

The lunch menu is a bit more reasonable in price and offers pretty much the same entrees. There is a small but serviceable Sushi Bar and an adjacent seating area for those who want a nice quiet evening. But Why? The action is in the Main Room! The service was top notch and the Mai Tai's were very good.

**Suggestion:** A great place for a party; if it's your birthday, they put a funny hat on you and all the servers sing to you with one clapping on a tambourine. We were



seated immediately, but don't take the chance so call ahead for reservations

Avoid: I found the chicken very dry, but maybe it was just an off night.

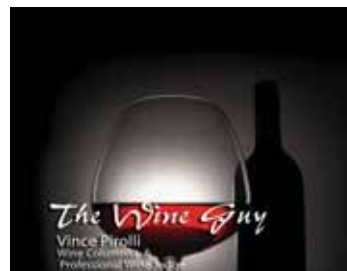
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Log onto [www.tokyo-wako.com](http://www.tokyo-wako.com) for updated menu prices and hours.



Two and Half Stars

**Area News and Notes:** I was really sad to see that the Pacific Theatre has closed... Ranchero is re-opening after summer vacation and painting, as is Domenico's on Washington. Robeks is opening in the Hastings Ranch Shopping Center



## SUNSTONE WINERY SANTA BARBARA COUNTY'S FINEST

The Rice family, Fred, Linda, Bion, Ashley and Brittany, moved to Santa Barbara in 1989, presiding over a peaceful 55 acre Santa Ynez ranch to grow grapes. They had no idea at that time that they would end up happily owning one of the largest organic vineyard estates in the County of Santa Barbara. Today they own 77 acres, all devoted to organic grape growing.

The terraced site overlooking the Santa Ynez River was chosen for its ideal south-sloping exposure, its sandy rocky soil, and a microclimate that has early morning fog, warm, breezy afternoons, and cool evenings. They soon discovered that it was a perfect spot for growing top-notch organic grapes and enjoying a country lifestyle.

The Rice families, along with consulting winemaker Daniel Gears, have become adept at growing organic fruit and producing high-quality estate wines. Before coming to Sunstone, Gehrs created a Syrah for Zaca Mesa Winery that was heralded by Wine Spectator as one of the top ten wines in the world.

As you approach the winery's inviting courtyard and tasting room, the aromas of French lavender and rosemary greet you as you enter one of the most attractive wineries and tasting rooms in all of the Santa Ynez Valley.

Over 5,000 square feet of stone barrel-aging caves are built in the hillside. Winemaker dinners and other special events are held in the tasting room, caves and the courtyard year round. Sunstone's latest release to their wine club members is the 2006 Viognier. This beautiful wine is light straw in color. Fresh citrus and tropical fruit aromas not only fill your glass but also fill the room you are in. This Viognier fills your mouth with flavors of citrus and melon, with subtle flavors of peach and honeysuckle. A refreshing white wine for the very HOT summer days and evenings we have been having. Try this excellent wine with chicken, turkey, white fish, light white pasta sauces, sandwiches, or sipping along with nothing but a smile on your face.

Their second release is a 2004 Estate Cabernet Franc. It is traditionally one of the blending grapes in Bordeaux. Yielding a hearty crop of quality Cabernet Franc in 2004, Sunstone set out to blend this estate wine. Your glass will be filled with the aromas of boysenberry, blackberry, dark fruits and a hint of chocolate. You will find in the nose, vanilla, spices, tobacco and licorice. On the palate, dark fruits, earthiness with subtle tannin and a lingering finish of strawberry and vanilla. Lush flavors to enjoy right now, but will benefit from proper cellaring through 2010. A perfect match with smoked meats and wild game. Cold weather will be here hopefully, sometime; then how about sipping a glass while relaxing in front of a roaring fire in the fireplace.

My suggestion is that you join the Sunstone wine club. Every shipment I have received has been fantastic, and I am more than pleased. Even before I was a club member, Sunstone has been one of my most favorite wineries, always producing the very best, top quality wines. Contact them at [club@sunstonewinery.com](mailto:club@sunstonewinery.com) or by phone at, 1 800 313-9463

Wine quote for the week "Our goal was to create a place where wine and food could be enjoyed in a picturesque atmosphere. Camaraderie and a sense of sharing is so much a part of this lifestyle. All of our interests, from environmental preservation and organic farming, to the celebration of food, family and friends have come together. We have found our home." Linda Rice

To contact Vince - [wyneguy1@aol.com](mailto:wyneguy1@aol.com)

Till next week, Good Health and Peace to all, Salut

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<p><b>Fair Trade Fridays</b></p> <p>Bean Town will be featuring new fair trade coffees from around the world every Friday.</p> <p>Come to Bean Town on Fridays and learn more about organic fair trade coffees and how they support farmers in impoverished countries to have a better way of life. We will be featuring a new coffee from a different part of the world every week.</p>	<p><b>Sandwich Specials</b></p> <p>1/2 Sandwich and Side garden Salad Or Cup of homemade Soup with a fountain drink or iced tea \$7.99</p> <p><b>Sandwiches &amp; Wraps \$7.10</b></p> <p>Turkey, Roast Beef, Ham Italian, Veggie, Tuna Salad, Cashew Chicken Salad, Chicken Caesar</p> <p>Served on: White or Wheat Ciabatta Bread or Spinach, Tomato Basil Tortilla or Lettuce</p>
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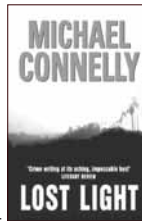


# Jeff's Pics

## The Book Reports

### Lost Light by Michael Connelly

This was the ninth book in former crime reporter Michael Connelly's Edgar winning mystery series featuring saxophone playing L.A. homicide detective Harry Bosch. Fed up with the endless fights with police bureaucracy and hypocrisy, Bosch leaves the department after 28 years. He finds retirement boring so he gets his private eye license and gets back to work. He chooses a case in which he was briefly involved four years before that still haunts him, which involves the unsolved murder of a young production assistant, Angella Benton. Her death is linked to the armed robbery of \$2 million from a film company unwisely using real cash as a prop on a movie set. Bosch follows the bloody trail from Angella's violated body and the Hollywood robbery to the disappearance of an FBI agent and the shooting of two LAPD detectives. This trail leads him to the elite terrorist hunters of the Department of Homeland Security, who are not too happy with his involvement. Following him thru the streets of Los Angeles on an investigation, which has many twists and turns as he seeks to find justice for the young woman, is a good read and an enjoyable ride!



### 2006 National Book Awards:

#### FICTION:

*THE ECHO MAKER* by Richard Powers (Farrar, Straus & Giroux)

#### NONFICTION:

*THE WORST HARD TIME: THE UNTOLD STORY OF THOSE WHO SURVIVED THE GREAT AMERICAN DUST BOWL* by Timothy Egan

#### POETRY:

*SPLAY ANTHEM* by Nathaniel Mackey

#### YOUNG PEOPLE'S LITERATURE:

*THE ASTONISHING LIFE OF OCTAVIAN NOTHING, TRAITOR TO THE NATION, VOL. 1: THE FOX PARTY* by M. T. Anderson

#### Recommended by Joan Schrage

*Snow Flower and the Silk Fan* by Lisa See - Story of friendship in nineteenth-century China. The story tells about two girls' lives that become intertwined in their childhood and lasts through their adult years.



## From the Inside Out

An Ongoing Series of Personal Points of View on Health ...

By Mary Carney

As one who, more than 35 years ago, began discovering for myself that the "poison, cut, and burn" panaceas available for normal personal health care didn't work for me, I have spent much of my time since then in self-education, in study, and in becoming certified in what are now grouped together as "complementary and alternative" sources of health care. Some of them, quite frankly, came with very unusual-sounding names. All, however, have one educational perspective, and one goal.

And what is that? At the root of every source of health care, whether it is from the internet, print media, your doctor, a naturopath, a chiropractor, a nutritionist, a psychologist, an acupuncturist, physical therapist, dentist, or practitioner of any of the wide range of energy "healing" processes available - what is first offered is information. Second is guidance in the use of that information, in selecting the kinds of changes most helpful in your life, with the intent that as soon as possible you will have more energy to live your life fully, the way you choose.

It is the individual cells in your body, under your direction, that do the actual healing. What a novel concept! We call other people "healers," we say "so and so did a fabulous job healing me," but in reality it is your body, your cells and their built-in repair capabilities, and your heart-deep, conscious and unconscious commitment and encouragement to wellness and living vibrantly, that actually do all the work.

After a major accident, the superb skills of medical professionals are essential to set the bones, reconnect muscle and nerve tissues. If (heaven forbid) we have ignored something way too long and resulted in acute situations obstructions and masses ... then it may indeed be necessary to cut out an obstruction, or cut or burn away an offending mass. But once that is done, it is your body that does the healing work afterwards. It is your body that has to find greater than usual amounts of life

force energies, not only to keep basic life processes going, but also to provide your cells the continuous energies they require for healing. Not enough energy? Healing doesn't occur.

What kinds of energies are needed? Well, life force energies are one. Absorbable nutrients are another ... and when you are already feeling weak, fresh foods, our usual sources of nutrients, may just not interest us. But it's essential. Early morning or late afternoon sunshine is another very helpful source ... 15 to 30 minutes only can make a major difference in recovery speeds.

In the interests of increasing your access to information resources, this Labor Day weekend is the Cancer Control Society's 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention on Alternative Therapies. Primarily focused on cancer, but applicable to any set of symptoms (most especially those considered nutritionally complex), each year "those in the know" go to review familiar resources and look at cutting edge information and resources that blow open the boundaries of what we've known.

This year one of the cutting edges will be presented Monday, 9/3, at 9:30 am. Noted international immunologist, Dr. Toru Abo, from Nigata University, Japan, will be speaking on "Stress Reduction Techniques in Cancer Prevention." Backed by decades of immune system research, as well as experience with specific stress reduction methods which rapidly re-balance the immune system, and verifying (with awe) the results, Dr. Abo's presentation will be worth listening to. [www.cancercontrolsociety.com](http://www.cancercontrolsociety.com).

© 2007. Mary Carney is a Certified Practitioner offering holistic "Integrative Development Services," including Polarity, Reiki, Onnetsu Life Force Infrared Energies and more, for stress reduction and energy enhancements that support innate healing capabilities. Appointments in Sierra Madre and Altadena. For more information, 626-355-6225 or [m.carney@mvobserver.com](mailto:m.carney@mvobserver.com).

## BIRD'S EYE VIEW

By Pat Birdsall

### Turning Over A New Leaf

I rarely eat fresh fruit or fresh vegetables, as I'm sure my wan-looking complexion will attest. Occasionally, while at the market, an overwhelming guilt envelopes me and I do pick up some fruit; a banana or two, some vegetables, maybe some radishes, a pre-packaged salad (can't get too adventuresome, you know). I did this yesterday, but realized a bit later that I should do it more often but not for the health benefits, as you will see.

I took the salad and the radishes out of my cloth, environmentally friendly grocery bag, and opened the "crisper" drawer of the refrigerator. I opened it and immediately closed it again. Good God, what's in there??? Whatever it was, crisp wouldn't be the adjective that comes to mind. It was a green gelatinous mass that I truly think would have made Alfred Hitchcock wince. I had to pick it up with a pair of tongs because it was just too gross to touch. I don't think any self-respecting fly would touch it, which would be truly mortifying. I can hear the "jungle drums" now... "Imagine, Pat took something out of her fridge that the flies won't even touch." At arm's length, straight to the garbage can it went...

I had a thought while I was dumping it in the trash bin. I should just cut out the middle-man and just go to the market, pick up the obligatory fruits and veggies, pull in the driveway, take out my environmentally friendly grocery bag, and go directly to the trash can and throw my health-enhancing purchases right in. Better yet, I shouldn't even bother shopping; I should just go straight to the bin and throw some money in! No muss, no fuss...

Feel free to drop me a line sometime at [p.birdsall@mvobserver.com](mailto:p.birdsall@mvobserver.com)

Pat Ostrye on.....

## The Family Canine



With headlines screaming about animal cruelty on the one hand, and a helpless mail carrier writhing in pain from an attack by a pit bull on the other, it is very difficult to strike a happy medium when it comes to choosing the family canine.

During the early days of parenting, we tried having a small dog, a puppy, in fact. He wasn't trained and tore the little kids' clothes while jumping on them. It became an impossible situation, so we passed him on to a family that could train him and give him a good home. It was a relief for all of us.

Many years later, when the youngest was about ten and the middle son was in high school, I heard the older one mournfully tell a friend, "I never had a dog". We figured it was a little late to make a difference, but perhaps it would save trips to a therapist while he was in college, if we "got a dog".

After researching the possibilities, we quickly found out what we didn't want, but one Good Friday morning, we made a return trip to the Pasadena Humane Society and found Sparky, who had been brought in that morning by a family that was supposedly moving out of town. He was black, a Schnauzer mix and "good with children". Our youngest had the leash and led him to the car and straight to the vet's to make sure all was well.

I don't remember if he had an injection that day or not, but I do remember that the

minute we would drive into the parking lot of the animal hospital from that day forward, he refused to budge out of the car. He turned out to be the perfect pet, not once in all the years did we have to clean up after him, although he did have two embarrassing encounters with a skunk; he even lived to be seventeen years old. Avocados were a great favorite of his and we had four trees, so he would come in with his head down, figuring we couldn't see what he had in his mouth. The high school student taught him all the dog tricks, so later, when Sparky would hear his car arrive from college on weekends, he'd start barking and immediately go through all of the tricks. That was the only family member for whom he performed.

He was typical of most dogs, thinking it was his duty to start barking when the mail carrier was half a block away and when my late husband was carving the turkey in the kitchen (not at the table), Sparky would pleadingly sit at attention waiting for his share.

Ultimately, when we realized there was no alternative, the youngest, who had originally led him home on the leash, already graduated from college himself by then, carried him to the car. He and his dad took care of the sad details and stayed with him until it was all over. We were fortunate to have had him with us that many years, such a well-mannered member of the family.

### A Quote worth repeating and A Thought worth remembering

"If someone tells you who they are believe them" Maya Angelou

...even if you think you can see beyond their self assessment to the potential that lies within, understand that this is who they believe they are and this is the standard to which they are convinced they measure. The desire for change can only come from within.

Patricia J.

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## One of a Kind:

*Featuring unique homes & gardens...  
and the people who create them*

Story and Photos By Chris Bertrand

### The Charm And Tradition Of 1906... The Lifestyle Of 2007



On a shady little lane just a few blocks from the village center of Sierra Madre, this home comes with the picket fence and front porch charisma of a home from a century ago. A stone fireplace in the spacious living room sets the tone and personality inside, while beamed ceilings and gleaming hardwood floors provide a traditional framework tying together the living spaces.

In the 90's, a former owner added extensive living space to the home, expanding it to 3716 s.f. (per assessor). The floorplan is woven and engineered so masterfully, it's hard to tell where old ends and new begins. The formal and casual living spaces are flexible and mostly open to one another, through expansive doorways. This keeps the Craftsman style room definition, yet avoids a compartmentalized feeling.

Several configurations are possible on the first floor. Currently a living room, dining room and a study comprise the formal spaces. The study could also become a gorgeous music room, home office or library. Most main floor rooms offer outside access to the porches or yard, for easy indoor to outdoor entertaining and relaxation.

On the casual side of the home, a country kitchen, with comfortable seating for a crowd of hungry teenagers, overlooks a family room wired for plasma television. With a full bath on the main level, another possible configuration creates an oversized main floor bedroom from the step down family room, with a kitchen and family "great room" on the main level. The sleek kitchen features slab granite counters and backsplashes, stainless steel appliances including a Viking six-burner gas cooktop, and Kitchen Aid double ovens plus a walk-in pantry.



The upper level offers three light-filled, generous bedrooms and two full baths. The master suite boasts a large bedroom and a private bath featured in "Better Homes and Gardens" magazine. It offers up-to-date comfort and breathing room for two, with dual sinks, a jetted tub, walk-in shower with two stations, private commode room plus separate vanity seating. A private balcony feels like you've taken up residence in a tree house, as it is partially surrounded by the wisteria arbor.

Frequently, homes of this era cry out for more storage and closet space, particularly in the master bedroom. The 90's remodel created two closets, plus angled and shuttered storage for all the 21<sup>st</sup> century doodads and technology we seem to accumulate. The white and bottle glass green palette is crisp and clean yet soothing. The white painted walls and woodwork, slab stone counters, ceramic tile, frosted glass doors and dividers, and plate glass shower surround are complemented by glass accent tiles.



There's even an honest to goodness basement, with a hobby, craft or play room, plus loads of storage. All that below grade space might even be a perfect location to create a wine cellar!

The crowning glory of this 15,000 square foot homesite is definitely the myriad outdoorspaces. Divided into several different outdoor "rooms" to suit your mood, you can bask in the sun or dawdle in the shade of several porches; take a dip in the pool or separate spa or cultivate the apples and citrus in the small grove. You'd likely find me in the cool, dappled shade of the brick lined wisteria arbor with this month's book club selection!



201 Adams in Sierra Madre will be offered by The Rambo and Lady Bird Group of Century 21 Village at \$1,750,000. This unique home can be shown beginning Sunday, September 9, and will be open that Sunday from 1-4. Contact the listing agents at 626-836-8511, or through their website, [www.RamboAndLadyBird.com](http://www.RamboAndLadyBird.com).

Know of a unique home, garden or person who helps create them, that might be of interest to our readers? Contact Chris Bertrand at [C.Bertrand@MVObserver.com](mailto:C.Bertrand@MVObserver.com).

#### TOBIA (continued from page 8)

classified as Asian. The Foothills have more Koreans living here than any other place outside of South and North Korea, according to Los Angeles County statistics.

As you examine the other cities throughout the Foothills, Asian families do not comprise a significant percentage. For example, in Monrovia, only 2.8% of the students are classified as Asian, while 52% are classified as Hispanic and 26% as white. In Glendora, 70% of the student population is classified as white and 20% as Hispanic.

Pasadena, the largest urban area in San Gabriel Valley, is comprised of mostly of Hispanic students (54%) and African American students (26%).

#### Technology

According to the Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation, two out of every three new technology jobs created in Los Angeles County are created in San Gabriel Valley. Based upon extensive research contained in the 1997 edition of, "6X The Guide to the Tech Coast of Southern California" Caltech and JPL serve as one of the six "intellectual hubs" in Southern California that are driving both the economy and new technology. Last year alone, Caltech students and graduates produced the most number of technology patents when compared with any other institution in the United States. Thus, small entrepreneurial firms develop in the region, jobs are created, imports and exports increase and housing demands increase.

#### Gentrification

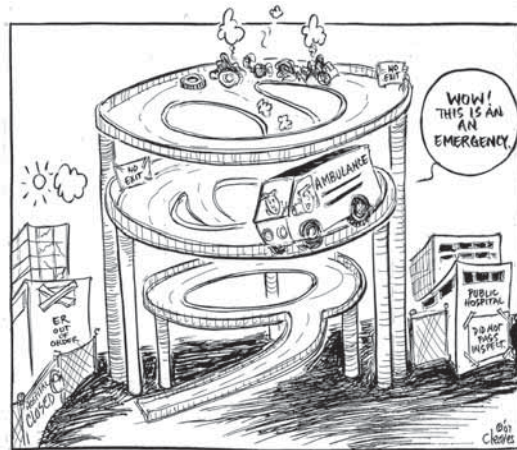
According to US Department of Labor statistics, there are over 70 million Americans now classified as "baby boomers" and the lifestyle changes of this largest and most influential segment are significant. This generation possesses the financial resources to purchase and invest in real estate, unlike any other generation. This generation is selling homes throughout the Foothills and investing in other areas, purchasing new properties and redeveloping older estates in the Foothills, and will continue to impact supply and demand of housing for many years to come.

#### The Questions Before Us

In my opinion, as the cities of Pasadena, Sierra Madre, Arcadia and Monrovia adapt to these broader changes around us, there are four critical guiding principles that need to be followed:

- 1) Preservation of the "character" of each city, with each being unique, and with different elements of "character";
- 2) Progressive thinking and strategic planning to deal with these demographic and social changes;
- 3) Cooperation between each city for better planning of government services that cross each city's boundaries; and
- 4) Economic sustainability of each city.

Head in the sand thinking or reaction, either to open the doors with unchecked development or just saying, "No" to everything before us, should not be the method of choice for residents. Progress is part of humankind...planning is the intellectual process of guiding and growing a community.



#### ENVIRONMENTAL (Cont. from pg. 10)

The plan also includes the 21 possible city actions of the U.N. accords, seven of which she said have been completed, with another 10 likely to be completed by 2010. Sterling said the class at PCC was also a good opportunity for students to become familiar with the job market and find out what the city has to offer. Di Fiori will invite the commission to PCC when his students give their presentations at the semester's end.

After its creation, the commission met face to face for the first time with the City Council in July, making clear their role in Pasadena's implementation of the U.N.s' and U.S. Mayors' Climate Protection Agreements. They discussed possible deferral of consideration of the city's 2007 Integrated Resource Plan, which includes: future energy demand, advances in renewable energy resources, conservation, and forecast changes in regulatory requirements. The commission said it could take 18 months for a study of this scope. Each of the nine-member board serves a three year term.

At their last meeting Aug. 21, presentations were given on everything from city spending by the

Finance Department to integrated pest management and the use of non-chemical pesticides by the city's public health department.

Pasadena will no longer buy bottled water for offices in City Hall, according to Steve Stark, Director of Finance. He said they plan to expand that, prohibiting the bottles in all city facilities. Other products now banned for use by the city include: aerosols, floor wax, standard VOC-emitting paint, chemical paint strippers, VOC-emitting graffiti removers, toxic chemical disinfectants, and toxic pesticides, he said.

Stark also explained the city plans to buy "green," although the commission then erupted into a negative dialogue over labeling and certification programs, saying there was no standard at which they are applied.

The commission also rejected city staff recommendations that the council adopt a solar photo voltaic program to expand residents' eligibility and incentive (rebate program). The commission's stated concern was how the rebates were done. The program is slated to go before the council later this month.



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# SPORTS

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## View From The Couch

By Stanley J. Forrester

## When Common Sense and Decency Take A Hike

Sometimes an organization will allow their rules to overcome common sense and common decency. I was on-line the other day and read a very touching article. It seems that an innocent incoming freshman was shot and killed before school started. The dead student was to play football for the Oklahoma University on a scholarship. A booster of the school decided to help the deceased student's mother with the funeral expense, since the cost was more than she, a single mom, had. However, the booster was told by the NCAA, that if he helped the mother with the funeral expenses, the university would be penalized. The NCAA rule prohibiting financial remuneration to students or their families, would be violated by such an act of kindness. It seemed that one concern of the NCAA was that mom had another son at home, who is a sophomore, and also a high school football player, and therefore giving money to mom to bury the dead son would constitute an improper gift.

Now remember, this gift was not coming from the university, it was coming from the boosters. And, it was not one well-heeled booster writing a check for nine thousand, it was the coming from the boosters having a fundraiser to raise the money.

How would the help in burying the dead son have affected where the younger son wanted to go to school? Would the gesture have been so overwhelming that the younger son would not have been able to consider any other school? Would the funds be acceptable if the university declared that they would not seek to recruit the younger son? Was this gesture one of good will, or an attempt to lock in the younger son?

Because this was something which is being done out in the open, the concerns of the NCAA are without merit.

The giving of gifts, which is an issue that the NCAA should be concerned about, does not encompass this type of situation. This was a humanitarian response to a tragedy, which plays itself out far too often in this country. A young person dying, for no real reason, occurs every day in our cities. This particular young man, because of his athletic abilities, had a chance to break the cycle but was shot down. He was not a participant in the violent life of gangs and thugs. His mother just could not afford to live anywhere else. And now, in her unimaginable grief, the NCAA is imposing rules that will penalize an entire University if other parents want to help her.

The NCAA has missed the boat entirely. Certainly the boosters, most of whom are parents who can relate to this mother's grief and pain, simply wanted to help. Boosters are not a recruiting tool of the schools they support. The decision of the NCAA is ridiculous and indicates that perhaps they don't understand what their role is.

When Tiger Woods was at Stanford, he went up to San Francisco and met golf legend Arnold Palmer for lunch. Arnie treated this upcoming super star much the same as any elder would treat a teen to lunch. This was a violation of the NCAA rules. The money for lunch had to be returned. Ridiculous.

No, you do not want boosters giving money to recruits, but helping to bury the young man when the family does not have the funds seems outside that rule of improper financial remuneration. To the NCAA - get a clue!

What do you think? Drop me a line at  
s.forrester@mvoobserver.com

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