



Mountain Views-Observer

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

Special Edition Saturday, October 13, 2007 Volume 1, No. 10

Stonehouse Developers May Agree To Downsize Project

Representatives Meet With Community To Discuss Settlement Options

By Susan Henderson

As instructed by the Sierra Madre City Council earlier this year, City Attorney Sandra Levin has begun settlement discussions with Dorn Platz, developers of the controversial Stonehouse Project. One of the first steps in the process was to meet with residents within 300 feet of the proposed project to discuss their concerns. On Monday, October 1st, those residents sat down with Dorn Platz representative Kathy Teagarden and their attorney, along with the Sierra Madre City Attorney and City Manager Elaine Aguilar to talk.

Some of the specific concerns expressed were how the project would impact the privacy of existing homes; the placement of the homes on the hillside slopes; the impact of the project on existing open space and wildlife and the project's overall density.

Currently the development calls for 35 luxury homes. As a result of the meeting last week, that number could be reduced

to 22 homes.

Developers and city staff visited homes on Lilliana, one of the streets bordering the project to see what the concerns were. At last week's meeting, a decision was made to go to every home surrounding the project in order to get a better understanding of residents concerns.

It was also agreed that the development would not destroy the historic Heflin home located on the property.

Stonehouse Homes, LLC, owns 135 acres of land of the old Heflin estate and planned to build on 25 of those acres. When the city of Sierra Madre denied the developers application based upon conflicts with the Hillside Management Zone, Stonehouse filed suit. To date, there have been a total of 7 lawsuits filed on this project.

At issue is whether or not the city properly notified Stonehouse LLC of the public hearings held on the HMZ and whether or not the project is exempt from the ordinance.

A Year To Celebrate



Soon to be Mayor For A Day, Huell Howser (center), along with Sierra Madre Residents Ron, and Jane Wood display a copy of the MountainViews-Observer at a recent Pasadena event. MountainViews-Observer Publisher and Editor Susan Henderson and staff celebrate one year of continued publication in Sierra Madre this issue. Get complete details on Huell's visit on page 3.

Corporal Esther Doyle Receives Meritorious Commendation For Work On Elder Abuse Case

Police Chief Marilyn Diaz' Presentation Before the Sierra Madre City Council

"In January of 2005 a blind and disabled senior resident of Sierra Madre's CLIMB facility reported that his caretaker had stolen money from him by forging the resident's checks. The investigation led to the discovery of three more blind and disabled elderly victims, all CLIMB residents. The same caretaker had forged more than \$25,000 from the checking accounts of the four disabled victims, each of whom had been at the suspect's mercy. The investigation took over two and a half years; many officers did follow up work.

When Deputy District Attorney Mario Haidar was preparing the case for trial earlier this summer, he asked Cpl. Esther Doyle to assist him by looking for missing evidence. According to DDA Haidar,

Cpl. Doyle was highly responsive and tenacious in pursuing the case. She repeatedly spoke on the victims' behalf by insisting that DDA Haidar try the case as a felony.

Cpl. Doyle not only found missing evidence that helped establish the elements of fraud, she painstakingly created a thick notebook of evidence in only one week, including copying each of the victims' forged checks. DDA Haidar felt that many investigators would have forgotten about a case this old, or would not have taken so much time to compile evidence. When DDA Haidar handed the notebook to the defense attorney, even he reacted with surprise at the thorough documentation of his client's theft. As a result, the defendant pled

guilty to all felony counts, will serve 90 days in the County Jail, be put on 5 years felony probation, and has been ordered to fully reimburse the victims a total of \$25,471, or face prison time. All of the victims are on limited incomes, so the money will be of great assistance to them.

Both DDA Haidar and I are convinced that this outcome would not have occurred but for Cpl. Doyle's commitment to go above and beyond the call of duty by being a passionate victims' advocate, and spending countless hours gathering and preparing evidence. Cpl. Doyle's performance surpassed what most investigators in other departments would have done. Cpl. Doyle, I commend and thank you for providing superior service to the Sierra Madre community."



Cpl. Esther Doyle
Photo Courtesy SMPD

Town Hall Meeting Seeks Input on Public Financing



Concerned residents come to the Youth Activity Center to discuss Sierra Madre's financial condition with the Ad Hoc Committee and City Attorney Elaine Aguilar

By Dean Lee

With two city council members sitting on Sierra Madre's seven member ad-hoc Finance Committee, the public had the opportunity to voice their ideas and opinions regarding city finances at a Town Hall meeting last Saturday. The two council members, Kurt Zimmerman and John Buchanan dominated the

dialogue as other committee members remained noticeably quiet throughout the 2.5 hour meeting. Both council members were also clearly opposed to the Police Initiative that, according to critics, if passed will further exacerbate the city's finances.

Councilman Zimmerman said although

(continued on page 3)

Planning Commission and Council Meet

Chairman Bob Spears says goal of commission is, "to make sure we are very transparent in how we decide things."

Story Page 3

"Search 'n Social"

The Sierra Madre Search and Rescue team put on their "Search 'n Social" event last week, complete with mock rescues, so residents could learn first hand how various rescue operations are conducted, all while eating ice cream complete with chocolate fudge on top.

The team demonstrated what to do and what not to do, if you're lost hiking. There was also a mock base station set up showing how searches are coordinated. Kids learned the "Hug-A-Tree and Survive" program on how not to get lost, how to stay comfortable if they do get lost, and how to be spotted and found. They were also shown how a car can be pulled up a hill if stuck; some even got to try it out themselves completing the task in only minutes.

The Sierra Madre Search and Rescue Team is a 24 hour-per-day, 365 day-per-year, non-profit, all volunteer organization founded in 1951 to save lives through mountain rescue and outdoor safety education. Each team member goes through a rigorous 18 month training which includes getting to know all of local hiking trails as well as winter safety, mountain safety, and wilderness survival. Team members must also become fluent in reading topographic maps before graduating.

For more information call (626) 355-3411. To report a missing hiker call the Sierra Madre Police and the rescue team will be dispatched.

D.Lee/MVO



Search and Rescue volunteers get a little help

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

Saturday:	Sunny	Hi 70-80s	Lows 60s
Sunday:	Sunny	Hi 70-80s	Lows 60s
Monday:	Sunny	Hi 70-80s	Lows 60s
Tuesday:	Sunny	Hi 70-80s	Lows 60s
Wednesday:	Sunny	Hi 70-80s	Lows 60s



City of Sierra Madre October Events

- 8 - Columbus Day Holiday - City Hall Closed
- 9 - Regular City Council Meeting - 6:30 pm - Council Chambers
- 11 - Community Arts Commission - 6:30 pm - Community Recreation Center
- 11 - Ad-hoc Finance Committee Meeting - 7:00 pm - Council Chambers
- 11 - Chamber of Commerce Chili Cookoff
- 12 - Travelers & Collectors
- 12 - City Hall Closed
- 13 - Pioneer Days: with a special "Hike into History"
- 13 - City Commissioner Brown Act Training - 9:00 am - Council Chambers
- 14 - Silent Movie "The Iron Horse" at the Masonic Temple
- 13 - Fire Prevention Festival
- 15 - Community Services Commission - 6:30 pm - Council Chambers
- 17 - Tree Advisory Commission - 7:00 pm - Council Chambers
- 19 - Art Show in City Hall Opening - 6:00 pm - City Hall
- 20 - Historic Sierra Madre Centennial Fun Walk
- 20 - Pioneer Days: Sierra Madre's Treasures at Memorial Park
- 21 - Centennial All-America Day Community Picnic
- 22 - Community Arts Commission Author's Night - Sierra Madre Books
- 23 - Regular City Council Meeting - 6:30 pm - Council Chambers
- 24 - Library Board of Trustees Meeting - 7:00 pm - Conference Room
- 25 - Ad-hoc Finance Committee Meeting - 7:00 pm - Council Chambers
- 26 - City Hall Closed
- 26 - 27 - Halloween Window Painting
- 27 - HFF Fitness Assessment & Challenge - 9:00 am - Kersting Court
- 31 - Halloween Happenings - 3:30 pm - Kersting Court

For more information on these and other City programs, call 355-7135 or visit www.cityofsierramadre.com.

Sunday Silent Movie Series

The Iron Horse

Sunday, October 14, 2007

Sponsored by The Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society

Sierra Madre Masonic Temple
33 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Sierra Madre, CA
6:30 p.m.

This is the fifth in an occasional series of silent films.

Contact and ticket reservations:
(626) 355-3905
Tickets: \$20 and tax deductible.



World renowned organist Bob Mitchell will play for his hometown during the movie. Bob was born in Los Angeles in 1912. With his mother, father and half-brother, he moved to Sierra Madre in 1916 where the family resided until 1926. Piano lessons began at age 4. Organ lessons began at age 10 at The Church of the Ascension in Sierra Madre.

21st Annual Fire Prevention Festival & Open House





The 21st Annual Fire Prevention Festival and Open House presented by the Sierra Madre Fire Department will be held Saturday, October 13, 2007 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Fire Station #41 located at 242 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., in Sierra Madre.

There will be a variety of exhibits and displays at the festival to include; emergency medical and fire fighting equipment, Home fire safety information, along with the Sierra Madre Police Department, as well as the U.S. Forest Service with "Smokey Bear".

There will also be representatives from Southern California Edison, The Gas Company, Sierra Madre Fire Safe Council and Post Alarm, to answer any safety questions you might have.

There will be free hot dogs, popcorn, balloons, coloring books and badges for all of the children who attend. There will also be a coloring contest with prizes and a bounce house. We will also have free smoke detectors for seniors. Your Sierra Madre Fire Firefighters look forward to seeing you there!



The Sierra Madre Playhouse
Presents an Actors Etc. Production

The Good Doctor

October 5 - November 10

Performances:
Fridays:
10/12, 10/19, 10/26, 11/2, 11/9
at 8:00pm
Saturdays:
10/13, 10/20, 10/27, 11/3, 11/10
at 8:00pm
Sundays:
10/14, 10/21, 10/28, 11/4
at 2:30pm

Adults: \$20
Seniors, Students: \$17
Children (12 and under): \$12

Adopt "Elmo" Today



Elmo, a gorgeous, three-year-old, cameo tabby, has a handsome lion-like face with a loving personality. He loves attention and snuggling up on your lap. Elmo is used to living with other cats and would love to be adopted today!

The regular cat adoption fee is \$65 which includes the spay or neuter surgery, microchip, vaccinations, and a free follow-up health check at your vet. You can also adopt a 2nd cat or kitten for just \$10 more!

Please call 626-792-7151 and ask for A220508 or come to the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA, 361 S. Raymond Ave., Pasadena CA, 91105. Our adoption hours are 11-3 Sunday, 9-4 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, and 9-3 Saturday. Directions and photos of all pets updated hourly may be found at www.phsspc.org

MountainViews-Observer

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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

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So, what's new at the...

Nano Cafe One



Kid's Menu
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Come meet the new owners, Patty and Oscar Cabral

Weekly Special
3 delicious entrees new each week to choose from, only \$7.95
Available Daily 11am to 3pm

Hours Sunday-Thursday 6am to 3pm
Friday - Saturday 6am to 9pm

New Extended Hours Coming Soon!!

Now, what's still the same...

Weekend BBQ
"The absolutely best BBQ in the San Gabriel Valley"
Columnist Rich Johnson

Breakfast Specials
5 delicious choices available mornings from 6:00 am to 11:00 am



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Celebrity Family Useless Information

By Rich Johnson

Before I begin with the useless celebrity information I wanted to shamelessly plug my favorite morning hangout. The Nano Café is in the Albertson’s shopping center on the Northwest corner of the Michillinda-Sierra Madre Blvd intersection. Nano’s changed ownership in the last couple of months. The new owners are Oscar and Patty. The food is as good as ever. I am a big fan of BBQ and theirs on Friday and Saturday night is the best I’ve had. They have a beautiful patio and loads of parking. Oh, and two doors down from Nano’s is Peter Anthony’s Hair Salon which explains why my hair always looks so stunning. It’s all because I have my hair coiffed regularly by Barbara at the salon (I guess once you’ve made one shameless plug they can start to spill out). Try them both and tell them Rich sent you. On second thought tell them you came despite my recommendation.

Anyway, back to the business at hand. I have begun a quest to discover how to harness the mutant power of trivial information. I think we can achieve world peace if we dumb ourselves down with mind numbing deluges of trivia. So, lets commence mining for useless facts in the world of celebrity families. Over here. We can start digging in the celebrities with a boatload of children section. Numero uno celebrity dad would have to go to the Reverend Sun Myung Moon who has 13 little rugrats running around. Wow! Our height challenged friend Mickey Rooney comes in second with 11.



Marlon Brando, Glen Campbell and Michael Landon had 27 between them. Frankie Avalon and Mia Farrow had 8 each. Dean Martin and Harry Reasoner had 7 (Harry Reasoner? That’s news) Muhammad Ali, Charles Bronson, Jerry Lewis, Paul Newman and Sidney Poitier each had 6. A lot more had 5 but that’s hardly newsworthy. And did you know that John Elway was a twin? So is Kiefer Sutherland, Mario Andretti, Jose Canseco and Alanis Morissette. Justin Timberlake, Ed Sullivan, Liberace AND Elvis had twins but their twins didn’t survive infancy.

I know you have always wanted to know which celebrities were part native American. Famous part Cherokee celebs include Johnny Cash, Chuck Norris, Val Kilmer, Cher, Kim Basinger, Kevin Costner, Johnny Depp, Jimi Hendrix, Burt Reynolds, James Garner and Sandy Duncan (Sandy Duncan?) Farrah Fawcett, Billy Bob Thornton and Roy Rogers are part Choctaw, Pearl Bailey is part Creek and Red Foxx was part Seminole. Believe it or not I am part Lakota on my father’s side. I grew up calling it Chippewa. Lakota sounds more masculine. Finally, I hope someday the balance sheet will read paid in full between our native Americans and the Europeans.

Mayor Howser (For A Day)

Huell Howser Will Preside Over Sierra Madre’s Closing Centennial Community Picnic

For over 15 years Huell Howser has made a career of covering stories that “reveal the wonders of the human spirit and the richness of life in California, including its history, people, culture and natural wonders.” On Sunday, October 21 he should discover a treasure trove of California Gold when he presides as Mayor of the Day at Sierra Madre’s closing celebration. Citizens of Sierra Madre and neighboring communities are invited to celebrate the community’s 100 year birthday at a grand, old fashioned picnic, from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the *Mater Dolorosa Passionist Retreat Center* at 700 N. Sunnyside in Sierra Madre.

Huell Howser, acclaimed television personality and host of the popular series California Gold, will arrive in *Memorial Park at 2 p.m.* where he will be sworn in by Mayor Enid Joffe. With his cameras rolling Howser will begin his tour of Sierra Madre with stops at the *Veteran’s Wall and the Weeping Wall*. He will then take a driving tour of historic Sierra Madre, including: *Kersting Court; Church of the Ascension, built in 1888; Mary’s Market in the historic Sierra Madre Canyon; Sierra Madre School, built in 1930; and the Pinney House, built in 1887.*

Howser will ride in a vintage car driven by a member of the Road Kings antique car club. About a dozen other club members, many from Sierra Madre, will accompany Mr. Howser along the tour route. “We are tickled to participate,” said Bob Johnson, a club member from Hastings Ranch. Howser will arrive at the community picnic at 4 p.m. where he will preside over a variety of activities including musical entertainment provided by *bluegrass band Wreck’n’Sow*, the *Southern California Lyric Theater*, and classic rock band *Aluminum Marshmallow*. There will be also be a showing of the MGM classic movie “*The Wizard of Oz*” sponsored by Time Warner Cable. Costumed characters from the movie will make appearances at the picnic.

Admission to all activities is free. Several civic groups will be selling food and beverages for a small fee. Since seating is on the green, participants are encouraged to bring blankets and their own chairs. The Sierra Madre Picnic and Centennial Closing Ceremony is sponsored by the Sierra Madre Centennial Committee, Rotary Club of Sierra Madre, Mater Dolorosa Retreat Center, City of Sierra Madre, Sierra Madre Community Foundation, Colantuono & Levin, Time Warner Cable, Wreck ‘N’ Sow, Southern California Lyric Theater, Aluminum Marshmallow, Gwen Gordon (graphics), Neil Vance Photography, and Road Kings Car Club. You may donate to this event through the Sierra Madre Community Foundation for the Sierra Madre Centennial Committee. For further information, call Toni Buckner at (626) 355-9632.

3 Square Miles Of...Tidbits

Disappearing Act.....Did you miss Rich Johnson last week? Somehow he just walked right off the page. Or maybe it was that disappearing ink. Whatever the case, this week you will get a special treat. In addition to his regular column, look on the Arts Page (6) and we have a surprise for you!

Where’s My Paper? For those of you who do not get a paper delivered to your door, you can now find the MountainViews-Observer all over town. But, in case the racks are empty you can call our office at 626-836-5100.

WWW.....The website for The MountainViews-Observer has been undergoing a facelift. By the time you read this notice, the online version should be back. Despite its’ new look the address will remain the same, **www.mvobserver.com**. **You can also view the paper at www.mvobserver.net.**

We Now Have Control Of Your Television.....Remember Rod Sterling’s warning that your television set was under the control of ‘The Twilight Zone’ for the next 60 minutes? Well, it seems we need a similar warning for those tuning in to Sierra Madre’s Channel 3. For two of the last three public meetings, the video version has been either garbled or non-existent. In our household you can hear the words, but the screen is blank. At the last meeting one resident drove from home to the meeting in order to find out what was wrong. Hope we get it fixed soon. We can’t tell who said what!

And Just When We Were About To Go To Bed..... (Slang for going to press)

BURGER CONTINENTAL SUFFERS FIRE DAMAGE - Early Friday Morning, one of Pasadena’s signature restaurants, Burger Continental was damaged by fire. Early reports indicated that the fire started in the ventilation system. Estimated damage at press time was \$150,000. HOWEVER, the restaurant, which is spacious, will remain open say early news reports. -S. Henderson/MVO

TOWN HALL (cont. from page 1) he agreed that police in the city were severely underpaid, he also thought passing an initiative that forced the city to pay for something they could not afford would have devastating effects. “What I want to see is a mechanism in place with the initiative that will fund it.”

Zimmerman also said he was thankful for a number of suggestions from the public including the use of volunteers, contributions, and the potential of revenue from the sale of city owned property. He added “At this point we are not borrowing from Bill Gates or someone else who is a billionaire signing a blank check.” Said Zimmerman, the city should not look to outside revenue to solve financial problems.

Buchanan indicated that any sale of property was going to be a one time gain echoing Zimmerman’s comments. Both agreed that every little bit counts but also acknowledged that such sales were not going to get the city \$2 million. Two million dollars is believed to be the budget deficit if you added in paramedics.

A number of people in the audience said they did not understand the issue and repeatedly asked if in April, “they were voting on a tax?” “If it were to pass, in a very very gross summary, it would require the city of Sierra Madre to increase police officers compensation.” Buchanan explained. “That’s what you are voting on.” He then encouraged everyone to go to the city’s website and read it. “It doesn’t include a method for the funding.”

Buchanan also pointed out that by requiring the Sierra Madre to base salaries on what other cities do would make it very difficult to budget. The initiative would require a survey done of the 10 closest surrounding cities and force them to pay equal to the lowest one.

Very few people talked about the two most discussed solutions to come out of the Finance Committee: 1) to double the Utility User Tax or 2) to create assessments districts. The assessment districts would raise property taxes throughout the city either by parcel or by square footage. City staff suggested that doubling the Utility User Tax from six percent to twelve percent would raise the exact amount needed for the initiative.

Others warned that any assessment districts set up such as Mello-Roos Districts are secured by a lien against the property meaning many fixed income families could loose their homes if they can’t afford it. City Manager Elaine Aguilar said although a number of cities have similar laws regarding police salaries, none also required the city to match a benefits package, something the Sierra Madre initiative will do. Buchanan also expressed a dislike for the plan. “I don’t think the police initiative is the right way, but I think it has set us on a path to find a common way that we can do it with additional revenue and some sense of proportion to where we are now as a city.” Buchanan said. “So no, I do not think it’s a good idea to wait until January and survey all the other departments to see what

we can budget to give the police.” He also said that if the city did not act they will not have a police department.

Some residents said trying to use volunteers to do the city’s work was a slap in the face and exacerbates the issue even more. Administrative Services Director, Karin Schneider said volunteers could not be used in many situations where sensitive records were used or when special training was required. Aguilar indicated earlier in the week that the city should be thankful for the work now being done by volunteers and not look for more. She said volunteers probably save the city somewhere around \$2.5 to \$3 million something she said she had never seen before in a city.

Several members of the audience asked what would happen if the initiative did not pass? “Would there be a ‘blue flu?’” suggesting the union might pull them off the job. Zimmerman lightheartedly deferred the question to Buchanan who said, “We would probably go back to the negotiating table. I don’t even know that public safety people are ever allowed to walk out. We would renegotiate... we can talk with them we just don’t have enough money this year.” Police Chief Marilyn Diaz spent 20 minutes going over the idea of contracting out police services and what that would do for the city. A number of suggestions including partly contracting with Arcadia at night, were all tossed out as many said they wanted to keep the police department the way it is now.



Saturday, October 13th
Sierra Madre Centennial Hike into History with John Robinson
Coordinated by: Bill White
Time: 7 a.m. to 2p.m. Location: Chantry Flat

Fire Prevention Centennial Festival
Sponsored by: Fire & Police Departments & the Forest Service
Time: 11 a.m.

Sunday, October 14th
The Iron Horse (1924) Silent Movie
Sponsored by: Sierra Madre Historic Preservation Society
Time: 6:30 p.m. Location: Masonic Temple

Saturday, October 20th
Sierra Madre Historic Walk
Sponsored by: Sierra Madre Civic Club
Time: 7:30 a.m. staggered start at 8 a.m.
Location: Memorial Park

Pioneer Days: Sierra Madre’s Treasures
Coordinated by: John Grijalva
Time: 11 a.m. Location: Memorial Park

Canon Dedication
Sponsored by: Sierra Madre Community Foundation
Time: 2 p.m. Location: Memorial Park

Pioneer Days at E. Waldo Ward’s
Coordinated by: Jeff Ward
Time: Noon-5pm
Location: E. Waldo Ward & Son, 273 E. Highland Ave.

Sunday, October 21st
Sierra Madre’s Treasures (2nd day)
Coordinated by: John Grijalva
Time: 11 a.m. Location: Memorial Park

Proclamation to Frances Hart (tentative)
Time: 1:30 p.m. Location: Memorial Park

Huell Howser Honorary Mayor for the Day
Sponsored by: Centennial Committee
Time: 2 p.m. Location: Memorial Park

Centennial Picnic Sponsored by:
Centennial Committee, Rotary Club
Time: 3-7 p.m.
Location: Mater Dolorosa Retreat Center, 700 N. Sunnyside Ave.

Planning Commission and City Council Work On Improved Communications

By Susan Henderson

Despite an agenda that lead some to believe otherwise, improved communications between the Sierra Madre City Council and Planning Commission was to have been the sole topic of discussion at last Thursday’s special study session. Councilman Kurt Zimmerman was adamant that the discussions stay focused on communications between the two bodies and not on matters such as the Downtown Specific Plan (DSP) and other development issues. Zimmerman’s primary concern was centered around the fact that there had not been sufficient time for public review of those matters to address them during that meeting.

City Manager Elaine Aguilar apologized for any misunderstandings that may have occurred as a result of staff’s attempt to list topics where communications had been an issue. Planning Commission Chair Bob Spears also acknowledged that the purpose of the meeting was to work on improved communications.

Each member of the council and planning commission had the opportunity to publicly identify issues they felt would help the two bodies work together more effectively. A feeling among some planning commission members was that too often the City Council had overturned Commission recommendations without the benefit of knowing the basis for the commission’s actions. “The Planning Commission must make their decisions based upon the law and the City Council has to consider politics, I get that”, said Spears. In response, Zimmerman noted that the council had only overturned two decisions in the last 18 months.

It was clearly stated that neither the council nor the planning commission desired to ‘rubber stamp’ the other bodies actions. The planning commission, however, expressed a desire to have a representative present when the council voted on their recommendations in order to explain how the decision was reached based upon existing codes and regulations.

Councilman Don Watts, who is officially the liaison between the commission and the council expressed his frustration with the prior administration. Watts felt they had hampered his ability to act out of their concerns of a alleged conflicts of interest.

The planning commission has had a difficult time with the application of existing codes for a variety of reasons. In some instances, our municipal code and zoning ordinances have become outdated due to changes in State and Federal Laws. In other instances, it was noted, the language is just ambiguous. There are also problems with what Spears describes as “clerical errors, overlaps, and gaps.”

The commission has agreed to use one of their monthly meetings each month to identify such instances. To start they will, “Identify things that we can find grounds to fix easily”, and send those recommendations to the council. Spears said the goal of the planning commission was to, “make sure we are very transparent.”

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



MountainViews-Observer PASADENA

City Manager Set To Resign But Not Before New Heritage Square Developer Is Selected

By Dean Lee



Pasadena City Manager, Cynthia Kurtz, announced last week that she planned to step down Jan. 8 after holding the position for over 10 years. Kurtz said she first wants to oversee the embattled Heritage Square developer selection process to its end. According to reports she was the first woman to hold the position in the city's 121 year history.

According to Zack Stromberg of the city's Public Affairs Office, Kurtz began her service to the city in 1987 as the capital projects administrator, later in 1991 she became director of the Public Works Department and was then appointed city manager in 1998. She oversees 11 departments, 2,300 employees with an operating budget of more than \$500 million.

"From the beginning, Cynthia offered strong leadership in Pasadena on the Metro Gold Line, which was a strong factor in our success," said Mayor Bill Bogaard. "She has guided the City Council in important decisions including deregulation of electricity, the NFL controversy and the City Hall retrofit project. I regret to see her go, and the City Council and I are grateful for her willingness to continue her service to the city of Pasadena through the Heritage Square developer selection process."

Revisiting Heritage Square Bid Award

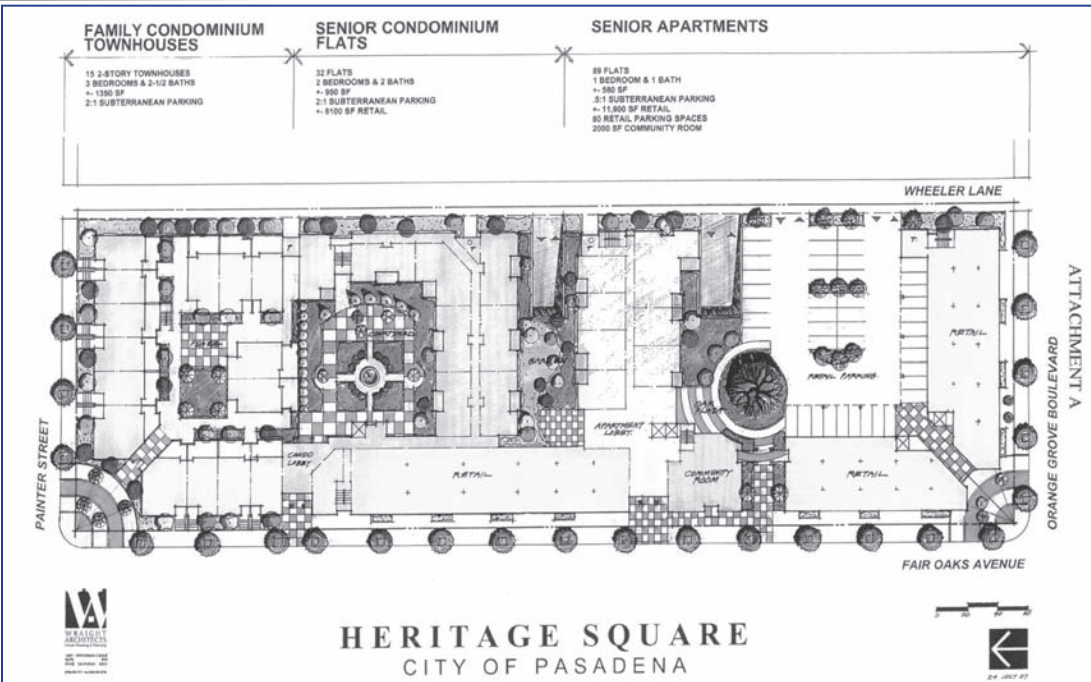
At the same city council meeting Mayor Bill Bogaard apologized for long delays in the Heritage Square development which many say has taken over a "decade" without any signs of construction. Staff reports state the city acquired a large part of the 10 parcels of property at Fair Oaks Avenue and Orange Grove Boulevard in 2004.

"I regret the delay that has taken place, the loss of decorum that occurred in this chamber, the impression that people were disrespected or insulted. To any who had such feelings, I express an apology," he said as part of the short comment.

Prior to apologizing Bogaard had said, "Deliberations on Heritage Square so far have been unusually controversial, and I have friends from the community who tell me they left the Council Chamber on prior occasions with feelings of anger, futility and disrespect, and that others they know had similar feelings."

Although the public comment period had toned down a bit from past meetings, which included taunts, heckling, and shouts of racism, a number of people still demanded that the Bakewell Company, run by local community backer Danny Bakewell Jr., be awarded the project. The Bakewell Company was selected as the clear winner of the bid by the Heritage Square development selection process.

In August Bakewell's partner Century Housing Corporation, said they were no longer interested in moving forward with Heritage Square. However Bakewell



indicated that his company was still interested and would find a new partner. At the time the council voted to end the 60 day exclusive negotiations with The Bakewell/Century Housing Partnership prompting many in the city's Northwest to claim the process was, all along, fixed.

At that time the meeting came to a complete standstill as each member of the council was asked by the public, to disclose any conflicts council members may have with the current selected developers, Bakewell or others; whether or not any of the counsel's spouses worked for, and would subsequently gain from, another developer being given the contract.

The suggestion was that Bogaard tried pushing for Heritage Housing Partners of which his wife has a direct interest. He later denied any wrongdoing although he had recused himself a number of times in the past on similar matters.

Ishmael Trone, co-chair of the Heritage Square Developer Selection Committee, along with John Kennedy both said they were insulted by allegations that they had manipulated the process to favor the Bakewell Company. Some called the act a counter-productive smear campaign.

The city hired an unnamed Orange County investigator to create a report claiming Bakewell had met privately with committee members. Trone and Kennedy said such actions have now tarnished their reputations. "We have a right to know who asked for this report," Trone said. "None of it is true and no one interviewed us."

Councilmember Chris Holden in August asked for, "a cooling off period," lasting through the council's seasonal September vacation. At the council meeting Bogaard asked that they please move forward.

Kurtz said in a report that after the scope of the project is finalized and the independent financial analysis of the project is done, the chief executive officer be required to review the qualified proposals and return to the community development commission with a recommendation in December. Trone said that if another development selection committee was formed, if asked, he would gladly sit on that committee as well with no hard feelings regardless of which developer was chosen.

Pasadena Goes To The Dogs As Thousands Descend On This Years Wiggle Waggle Walk

By Dean Lee



Walk stretched for more than a mile around the Rose Bowl. Even though some dog owners only made the 3.1 mile loop by carrying their beloved pets, everyone seemed to have fun.



such as the Kidspace's own mini Wiggle Waggle Walk.

Pasadena Humane Society President and CEO Steve McNall said the shelter was currently at its max caring for more than 10,000 animals from seven cities, including Pasadena, South Pasadena, San Marino, La Canada/ Flintridge, Sierra Madre, Arcadia and Glendale. He said other services they provide include animal control, investigation of animal cruelty and neglect, licensing, adoptions, pet behavior help and training classes. He also said they do outreach and education in several different cities.

McNall escorted the event riding in a new red Ford convertible Mustang as an equestrian unit also started the dogs walking.

The Pasadena Humane Society has 75 employees and over 400 volunteers.

Like something read from a Dr. Seuss book, big dogs, small dogs, some with some spots, some not, some with short hair others with long, but one thing was certain Saturday as they all came together, they were the ones certainly in charge as their masters were simply outnumbered three to one.

And, there were so many dogs that at any given time the sheer number of them taking part in this year's Pasadena Humane Society Wiggle Waggle Walk stretched for more than a mile around the Rose Bowl. Even though some dog owners only made the 3.1 mile loop by carrying their beloved pets, everyone seemed to have fun. There was also a shorter one mile route around just the front of the Rose Bowl and many opted for that since the weather was hot.

Pasadena Humane Society and SPCA spokesperson Ricky Whitman said more than 2,000 walkers helped raise in excess of \$237,000 for the animals at the shelter. She estimated that 3,000 to 3,500 dogs were at the event throughout the day. That compared with 1,200 people from around Southern California last year that helped raised \$155,000.

"I would call that a success," she said. "We were even surprised at the large number of people that turned out, it was great. We exceeded way over our fund raising goal."

She said prior to the event they had hoped to raise \$2,000, "for the animals."

The Pasadena Police K9 unit held a demonstration and many event goers had the opportunity to meet the specially trained German Shepards. Police said the dogs are trained in Germany before coming to the United States. Many others took part in the event's Family Fun Fair

New Women's Shelter Focus of Zonta Meeting



By Teresa Baxter

The Pasadena chapter of Zonta International recently held their monthly meeting featuring a guest speaker from the Union Station Foundation. Sandra Peterson, Director of Program Standards and Evaluation, gave an informative lecture and presentation in which she described the programs available for homeless women in the area. Union Station Foundation is the San Gabriel Valley's largest private agency serving the poor and homeless. Through fundraising efforts of the last seven years the expansion of the center, with the inclusion of a 20-bed women's dormitory, is nearing completion.

"Last Friday we had our open house for our new 20-bed women's dorm," she said. "Up until now we had been housing women and men in the same dorm and were only able to serve about nine women at a time."

Peterson reinforced the urgency for the need of a women's dormitory on the premises, sharing that one of the reasons women choose to remain on the streets, rather than in the shelter, could be due to the fact that they are trying to avoid an environment where they are being "shoved in with the men."

"That was one of our main goals for getting a totally separate shelter," said Peterson.

"So that women could really feel safe and they could have a special place that was their

own."

The most recent Pasadena Homeless Count, completed in 2007, documents that there has been a slight decrease in the destitute population from 1,165 in 2005, to the current number of 969. But, the fact remains that 465 of this total are women and children.

According to Peterson, some homeless women in Pasadena have been living on the streets for over 15 years. The new shelter, which should be operational in the next few weeks, is meant to offer a comfortable environment where they can have a meal, and hopefully open up to case worker in the first steps to socialization. "It has happened in the past, and I guarantee you with this new women's program, it will happen more often," she said.

Aside from the expansion of a women's dormitory the renovation also includes offices for clients to meet privately with case managers, a multi-purpose room for classes, support groups and meetings; and expanded food storage and freezer capacity to allow the acceptance of larger donations to the facility.

Zonta International is a worldwide service organization of executives working together to advance the status of women. Since its founding in 1919 in Buffalo, New York, Zonta International has been dedicated to improving the legal, political, economic, professional, health, and educational status of women. For more information about upcoming events or membership requirements, please visit www.zontapasadena.org

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Sierra Madre Fire Safe Council
TIP OF THE WEEK
From Caroline Brown

Being able to write a column for the newspaper since last November has given me a perspective on brush fire safety and how to communicate my concerns with my fellow hillside and canyon dwellers that I would not have had otherwise. Two years ago I came home from a meeting of the Southern California chapter of the Society of American Foresters where I met people from other Fire Safe Council chapters in Southern California and knew that we needed to start a chapter here. Less than a year later we had a column in the newspaper where we were able to get our message out to the community.

Practically every week this past year there has been a fire to talk about because our fire season has never ended. This drought is perhaps the worst in recorded history. Every week there is a message to repeat and repeat again. The homeowner living in the “Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone” has one thing in the fire triangle (heat, fuel, oxygen) that they can control--Fuel. Create a defensible space around your home through fuel modification in the Home Ignition Zone, and water wisely the decorative plants and big trees to keep them from being a fire hazard on your property.

The next Fire Safe Council meeting will be Monday, October 8, 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. smfiresafecouncil@hotmail.com or c.brown@mobserver.com

Environmentally Speaking,
“Did You Know?”
Precycling

The subject of precycling was brought up briefly in our article last week entitled, “Trash Free Lunches,” but the term itself was not defined. Precycling is making buying choices that support responsible products and packaging which in turn, makes recycling easier and reduces the amount of garbage thrown away.

The following recycling tips focus on supermarket shopping, but the ideas apply to other forms of shopping as well. These are but a few...some oft repeated.


- 1) Avoid the paper vs. plastic dilemma. Durable canvas or string bags are light and convenient to carry and can be used thousands of times. They save an astonishing amount of paper and plastic over time while also saving money.
- 2) Avoid single-or limited-use items. Don't buy plastic razors, throwaway cleansing pads, cigarette lighters, or foil baking pans. Reduce or eliminate your use of disposable plastic diapers, which account for a startling two percent of total U.S. landfill volume.
- 3) Compare the size of the package to the size of the product. Do without products like juice boxes for children. They have layers of cardboard, plastic and aluminum and a plastic straw attached. Avoid single-helping packages. Choose products that are not in plastic trays and do not have attached “promotional” materials.
- 4) Spread the word. Tell grocers, store owners, restaurant managers and others that you are making your buying decisions based on the environmental impact of products. Let the manufacturers know too (many companies carry addresses or phone numbers on their packaging) environmentaldefense.org

Brought to you by:
SMEAC Sierra Madre Environmental Action Council
P.O. Box 85
Sierra Madre, Ca. 91025-0085
**Your thoughts and comments are welcome...*

The 21st Annual Fire Prevention Festival and Open House presented by the Sierra Madre Fire Department will be held Saturday, October 13, 2007 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Fire Station #41 located at 242 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., in Sierra Madre. There will be a variety of exhibits and displays at the festival to include; emergency medical and fire fighting equipment, Home fire safety information, and the U.S. Forest Service with “Smokey Bear”. Representatives from Southern California Edison, The Gas Company, Sierra Madre Fire Safe Council and Post Alarm will be on hand for questions. Free hot dogs, popcorn, balloons, coloring books, badges and a coloring contest with prizes and a bounce house for kids. We will also have free smoke detectors for seniors. Your Sierra Madre Fire Firefighters look forward to seeing you there!

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SIERRA MADRE POLICE BLOTTER

During the two week period from Sunday, September 23rd, to Saturday October 9th, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 545 calls for service.

Sunday, September 23rd:

4:33 AM – Arrest, 100 block North Baldwin Ave. Officers stopped a vehicle for a minor traffic violation. A records check revealed the driver did not have a driver's license. The driver was arrested and issued a written notice to appear and released on a citation.

4:04 PM – Fireworks violation, 1900 block Vista Ave. A resident called reporting hearing gunshots. Upon arrival officers were flagged down by a resident, who admitted to setting off two bottle rockets. The illegal fireworks were confiscated and the resident was counseled and released.

Monday, September 24th:

12:17 PM - Arrest, 200 block South Sunnyside Ave. A driver was stopped for failure to stop at a red light. A records check revealed the driver's license was suspended/ revoked and he had an outstanding warrant. The driver was arrested.

10:55 PM – Arrest, 100 block South Baldwin Ave. A driver was stopped for an equipment violation. A records check revealed the driver was unlicensed. The driver was issued a citation for the violation. The driver was arrested and released on a written promise to appear for driving without a license.

Tuesday, September 25th:

8:11 PM – Felony evading, Grand Theft Auto, Parole Hold. A neighbor called to report a truck and trailer blocking a driveway in the 200 block of Grove St. A records check revealed the truck had been stolen in the City of Corona on Monday, September 24th. Officers saw three men get into the truck and drive away. Officers tried to stop the truck, but the driver refused to yield. One occupant jumped from the truck at Baldwin Ave south of Sierra Madre Blvd. and was taken into custody. The truck driver drove on to the eastbound 210 Freeway to the 1-15 Freeway in Riverside County. The Pasadena PD helicopter provided assistance, and Sierra Madre PD turned the pursuit over to the California Highway Patrol as it reached Pomona. The driver took a freeway exit, drove on a dirt road, through a gate, and down an embankment where the truck and trailer came to rest in a river. The driver got out and escaped by running across the river into a heavy brush area. The passenger was taken into custody and booked along with the suspect who had been arrested earlier. Both men were from Riverside County, and a parole hold was placed on one of them.

The follow up investigation led to SMPD officers obtaining a search warrant for a home in the 200 block of Grove St. The officers seized methamphetamine, heroin, marijuana, evidence of drug sales, and various illegal weapons, including a handgun. A male resident was arrested and charged with possession of narcotics for sales, possession of deadly weapons, and being an ex-convict in possession of a firearm. The man was arrested and taken to Pasadena PD Jail for booking.

1:27 PM – Arrest. A DUI driver was reported in the area of 200 West Highland Ave. The car was stopped in the 100 block of North Hermosa Ave. Officers conducted a DUI investigation and determined the driver to be under the influence of a controlled substance. The driver was arrested and transported to the Pasadena Jail for remand.

Thursday, September 27th:

11:22 PM – Vandalism, Memorial Park. Officers were dispatched to the park regarding a disturbance. During the investigation officers found vandalism/graffiti inside the men's restroom. A pencil was used to deface the bathroom walls.

Friday, September 28th:

11:23 PM – Arrest, 100 block Sierra Madre Villa Rd. A driver was stopped for a minor traffic violation. A records check revealed the drive was unlicensed. The driver was transported to the police station as he had no valid identification. He was later released on a written promise to appear and the car was impounded for thirty days.

Sunday, September 30th:

8:43 AM – Stolen vehicle, 200 block North Mountain Trail. A resident called to report her red 1989 Chevrolet Corvette (5KSM747) was missing. The Corvette was last seen Saturday 9/29 at 7:00 pm and discovered missing Sunday 9/30 at 8:30 am. No estimated value was available.

Monday, October 1st:

10:22 AM – Battery, 00 block West Sierra Madre Blvd. A resident came to the station to report that her ex-boyfriend assaulted her in the parking lot of Happy's Liquor Store. The assault occurred Sunday 9/30 at around 1:00 am. The case has been referred to the detective bureau.

Tuesday, October 2nd:

2:41 AM – Suspicious vehicle, 500 block Woodland Drive. Officers stopped to investigate a man who was sleeping in his car. During the investigation a records check revealed he had an outstanding arrest warrant. The man was arrested and released after being issued a written promise to appear.

Wednesday, October 3rd:

5:17 PM – Identity theft, 00 block South Lima Ave. A resident came to the station to report he had been the victim of identity theft. The case was forwarded to the detectives' bureau.

Thursday, October 4th:

11:02 AM – Vandalism/Graffiti, 440 West Sierra Madre Blvd, public library. A library employee reported damage to the men's restroom. “SMS 2007” and an unrecognizable word were scratched on the mirror and plastic towel dispenser. The cost of repair was estimated at \$120.00.

Friday, October 5th:

7:14 PM – DUI arrest, 1600 block Santa Anita Ave. Officers stopped a car for a traffic violation. During the investigation the driver was found to be driving under the influence of alcohol. The driver was arrested and transported to the Pasadena Jail for remand.

Saturday, October 6th:

1:25 AM – Arrest, 1000 East Grandview Ave. A vehicle was stopped for a minor traffic violation, expired registration. During the investigation a glass smoking pipe and a small amount of marijuana were found in the car. The driver was issued a citation for the expired registration and a written promise to appear for the marijuana.

ROOSEVELT SCHOOL SEEKING ALUMNI AND FORMER STAFF
TO ATTEND 100 YEAR CELEBRATION

Pasadena Unified School District's Roosevelt School is seeking former staff and alumni to join them when they celebrate 100 years in Education on Sunday, October 21 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. The event, which will include entertainment, games, crafts and other activities, will be held at the school site, 315 North Pasadena Avenue, Pasadena.

The anniversary celebration is open to current and former students, staff, families, prospective families, and the general public.

For more information, contact Principal Kathee Bautista at Roosevelt School. Telephone (626) 795-9501

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Pasadena Arts Weekend

October 12 - 14, 2007

Get ready for three days filled to the brim with the best in live music, contemporary art, cultural exhibitions and hands-on activities during Pasadena ArtWeekend, Friday-Saturday-Sunday, October 12-13-14, 2007. This eclectic citywide festival features more than 40 exhibitions, performances and cultural activities united by a mission to provide quality productions with easy accessibility. All Pasadena ArtWeekend activities are free and open to the public.

This unique cultural festival includes numerous locations throughout Pasadena, from nationally acclaimed recording artists performing in courtyards, alleys and street corners in Old Pasadena, to the tree-lined streets in the Playhouse District overflowing with attendees at a neighborhood ArtWalk. Thousands of art lovers are expected to attend these and other events, which bring together top-notch artists, unite nationally recognized cultural institutions and connect diverse communities with family friendly programs.

Major cultural institutions will open their doors for free during ArtNight (Friday, October 12), residents will take to the streets for the Latino History parade and jamaica (Saturday, October 13), and art aficionados will be able to browse two major outdoor exhibitions, ArtWalk (Saturday, October 13) and One Colorado's ArtMarket (Sunday, October 14). Music lovers will gather for numerous outdoor music performances showcasing new and emerging talent in cooperation with KCRW Presents (Sunday October 14.) In all, attendees will experience a panoply of fine arts, cultural heritage, dance, music and live theater – along with the companionship of fellow art adventurers in a delightful urban setting filled with amazing architecture, bustling street life and unparalleled shopping and dining.

For more information on Pasadena ArtWeekend feel free to visit www.pasadenaartweekend.com for a full list of events and activities. The major components of Pasadena ArtWeekend are as follows:

ArtWalk, Saturday, October 13 – 11 am to 5pm

The Playhouse District Association and the Pasadena Society of Artists invite you to discover ArtWalk 2007.

The highlight of one day jam packed art festival will be the visual arts village where attendees can view and purchase artwork from juried artists. Among the highly acclaimed artists participating in Art Walk this year are legendary Chicana artists, Patssi Valdez and Margaret Garcia.

ArtWalk will also feature free admission to the Pacific Asia Museum and the Pasadena Museum of California Art, a medley of hand-on activities, a beat-bopping poetry slam, author readings, culinary art, live music, and much more.

ArtWalk will be held primarily on El Molino Ave. between Green St. and Colorado Boulevard.

ArtHeritage, Sunday, October 14 – 11 am to 4 pm

The 9th annual Latino History parade and jamaica will showcase the strong cultural and historical roots of Latinos and will be filled with experiences from 1960-1969!! The theme of the event is The Signs of the Times.

This day of living history welcomes all - bridging communities and generations, sharing the arts, culture, heritage and history of Pasadena and the San Gabriel Valley. The parade route begins at Los Robles Avenue (north of Washington Blvd.) and ends at La Pintoresca Park (corner of Washington Blvd. and Fair Oaks Ave). Enjoy free entertainment, arts and crafts workshops, and information booths and buy cool crafts and groovy food!

Pasadena Art + Design Open Market, Sunday, October 14 – 10 am to 5 pm

Old Pasadena's most popular fine arts market focuses exclusively on work by students, faculty and alumni from Art Center College of Design and Pasadena City College.

It's a great opportunity to find innovative productions by emerging artists, illustrators, ceramicists, and the next generation of environmental and industrial designers experimenting with different media. And, any purchases benefit 100% the artists and students directly. The Art Market occurs in the alleys and Courtyard at One Colorado.

Art Performance, Sunday, October 14 – 11 am - 6 pm

Old Pasadena Management District and 89.9 KCRW present ArtPerformance, a showcase of free eclectic music ranging from new and emerging artists to nationally recognized talent. Performances will take place on multiple stages throughout Old Pasadena. Spanning genres and musical tastes, ArtPerformance offers something for everyone. A perfect complement to One Colorado's ArtMarket, music lovers are invited to enjoy such artists as Meiko, Cambodian pop-rock sensation Dengue Fever, Culver City Dub Collective, Ceci Bastida, French chanteuse and songwriter Jessica Fichot, Sara Lov of Devis, Tijuanos, and the LA Music Academy.

It's Curtains For Rich Johnson



As you now know a terrific and funny play is opening this week at the Sierra Madre Playhouse. It's called "The Good Doctor" and is playing weekends commencing October 5th and on through November 10th. It's a Neil Simon play and enjoys a cast of 19 terrific and solid actors.

I'm...actor number 20. Our brilliant director, June Chandler, singled me out of a crowd telling me I was perfect for this very important part in the production. Hmmmm. I play an ignoramus husband who doesn't have a clue. How could she have known? Anyway, I got the part and its in a vignette called "The Seduction" and guess what? I'm not the seducer. I guess June didn't want

to typecast me so early in my career as a romantic lead.

The play is Neil Simon's tribute to Chekhov. No, not the guy on Star Trek, the Russian Playwright and short story writer. He was also a doctor, hence the title, "The Good Doctor".

The play is visually dazzling. The setting is winter in a small cabin in the Russian woods. Hal Sweesy stars as the Writer who makes his way to the cabin, falls asleep and awakens to find 18 terrific actors (and myself) standing around him. We're all ghosts hence we are dressed in black. He picks and chooses amongst us to be the players in nine different vignettes.

My vignette, I must confess, is the least believable. Why? A gal named Tracy Jensen plays my wife and she is gorgeous. Even her understudy Diane is a knockout. So who's gonna believe I'm not interested. They should have cast me as the wife. It would have been much more believable. Except then why would the seducer be interested in me? It all gets so confusing. I'm glad Ms. Chandler is in charge.

But seriously, it's a funny comedy full of love and romance. (Guys, are you picking up on this major schmooze opportunity?)

Finally, my good friend Julie emailed me and said she really wanted to see the play badly. I encouraged her to come the first weekend. Cause who knows...I might get better.

The Sierra Madre Playhouse Presents an Actors Etc. Production



October 5 - November 10

The play is suitable and entertaining for all ages. Performances:

Fridays:

10/19, 10/26, 11/2, 11/9 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturdays:

10/13, 10/20, 10/27, 11/3, 11/10 at 8:00 p.m.

Sundays:

10/14, 10/21, 10/28, 11/4 at 2:30 p. m.

Adults: \$20

Seniors, Students: \$17

Children (12 and under): \$12

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5	Up to \$48,600
6	Up to \$55,700
Each additional person	\$7,100



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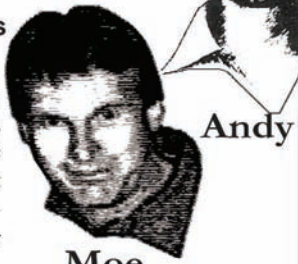
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PCC Names Honor Student Sean O'Connor As New A.S. Trustee

By Dean Lee

Big changes for Pasadena City College as ecological conscience student Sean O'Connor became the newest elected Student Trustee. O'Connor said last month that he planned to make awareness of environmental issues a top priority, something many students said is badly needed.

Currently the school is about as "un-green" as can be worrying many in the student government including former student body president, Natalie Courtney, who said she planed to start a club on campus this semester to address the issue.

PCC has no recycling programs and uses no green power such as solar or wind power on the campus even though a number of new buildings in the last few years have been built. Building upgrades are being done through the 2002 voters approved Measure P General Obligation Bonds giving \$150 million to the school.

Many have questioned why lights in the schools new parking structure off Bonnie Avenue just north of Del Mar Boulevard were never retrofitted solar. The campus has a number of other major projects such as the Campus Center under construction. Courtney said she and others plan to push for green building technologies to be used in the newer structures.

Warren Weber who sat on the Measure P Citizens Oversight Committee said that solar power was not as cost effective as a fossil fuel burning power plant so at the time it was not included in the projects.

Earlier this year representatives from Greenpeace were shocked to find such a lack of understanding at the school as they campaigned for a day about the issue of global warming.

"I intend to facilitate exchanges between the student body and the office of student trustee by actively soliciting input on important campus issues," said O'Connor. "I wish to promote an environmentally conscious campus while guaranteeing economic effectiveness, encouraging activities that foster social networking, and generate a positive ambiance on campus."

O'Connor was born in Frejus, France, a small village on the Mediterranean coast. After moving to Monrovia with his parents in 1996, he attended the Lycee International de Los Angeles, a French American school, for three years. O'Connor then enrolled in a



Before becoming PCC Student Trustee, Sean O'Connor, (pictured left) was one of a few students that took the time to meet PCC's newly appointed 11th president Paulette Perfumo. Many faculty and staff also waited to meet Perfumo, the first week of school, during her first public appearance as president. Photo D. Lee/MVO

rigorous home-schooling program. PCC accepted O'Connor into their High School Diploma Program, and he was able to obtain his diploma in 2005 at the age of 15.

O'Connor took fencing and was a member of Boy Scouts of America. He also enjoyed traveling around the world on vacations with his parents, which allowed him to experience other cultures.

O'Connor said he is honored and grateful to the student body at PCC for electing him student trustee.

After completing one more year at PCC, O'Connor plans to transfer to UCLA, where he hopes to obtain a degree in environmental science.

PCC's Board of Trustees made permanent this summer limited voting powers given to the Student Trustee making the position one of the most powerful in student government in the state.

Last year the Board had given then Student Trustee Connie Chung the limited voting powers after she lobbied for the right to second motion items in front of the board. The issues had been voted down a number of times previously.

TRISH'S TRUTH "Less Stress"

By Trisha Collins

Stress. Everybody has it, and everybody goes through it. It's apart of life and there's practically no avoiding it. Stress is a given, and most definitely isn't wanted, but you'd be surprised to find that most stress is self-imposed. So much stress can be avoided just by the way you react to simple things in your everyday life. Most stress is brought on by the most unlikely person...you, and since you bring on your own stress, it's you that can help prevent most of it.

Stress can be caused by the simplest things, and how you react to them determines your personal stress level. Lets say you're walking in a rush and you stub your toe because someone's leg was in the way. Do you A) Get angry at the person and their legs, telling them to "watch where I'm going!" or do you B) Stumble a little and tell the person "Excuse me" and ask them if they could move their leg so that doesn't happen again. Of course, we all should have chosen letter B, but lets be real. Not everyone faces little things like that positively. Little trips like that (when approached negatively) can stress out your whole day and throw you completely off balance. When responding positively, you can be able to shrug it off and move on with your day and your life.

You can relieve stress in many ways. Often, it helps to talk to someone about how you're feeling. When we swallow stress, we increase the risk of negative response. No one should keep such feelings bottled up inside, or else it can be released more powerful and violent than you would think. If you can't talk to anyone, you can always write in a journal. That's what I do when I need to relax and let my feelings loose. I express them by writing in my notebook (I have 19 at the moment) and after that, I almost always feel better.

Stress not only affects your mind and feelings, but it also affects your body too. People with a lot of stress start to premature age, and are sick often. Yes, having stress can make you sick, inside and out. People with and unhealthy amount of stress can often have headaches, migraines, upset stomach, and flu symptoms. You can also break out, and hair could start to fall out or turn a little gray.

So if you feel yourself feeling stressed, look at your situation and try to react positively. You can also take a little time out of your day to relax, take a breather. A little meditation couldn't hurt either. Take control of your life and try to manage your stress wisely. Besides, usually, there's no one to blame but yourself, so do yourself a favor a have less stress!

E-mail me at tcollins@mobserver.com.

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Friday and Saturday

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Arcadia Presbyterian Church - Main Sanctuary

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Information/Directions: (626) 445-7470

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"Hands!" The Musical takes a new, light-hearted look at what familiar Bible friends and a young med student have done or will do with their hands. This high-energy, original, new musical incorporates humor and exciting contemporary music to present an uplifting and redemptive message showing today's audience what they could do with their hands to make our world a better place. "Hands!" The Musical provides an evening of delightful, motivating, joy-producing entertainment for all ages. "Hands!" The Musical is a perfect opportunity to invite friends and neighbors, co-workers and business acquaintances to visit our church and see what a friendly, outgoing place Arcadia Presbyterian really is.

We see Eve pluck that forbidden fruit, releasing sin into the world. We're there with Noah as he picks up his hammer, calls the creatures and builds that ark. Ruth and Naomi explore what happens when you "Just Pray." David gives Goliath a terminal headache with a slingshot and a handful of stones. Matthew, the tax collector, leaves the IRS behind, becomes a disciple and one of Jesus' biographers. Judas, the betrayer, shows us a new side when he sings that he'd "Like Another Yesterday." Finally we meet a young woman at a crossroads experience where she realizes she must change her heart before she can use her hands in God's service.

Our hands are God's tools today, too, and there is so much we can do with them to further God's kingdom. And YOU! What are YOU doing with your hands!!

Admission: \$10/Adults, \$5/Kids 12 and Under, Students With I.D.

"Hands!" The Musical is a Davis-Wheatley Production

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What Students and Parents NEED TO KNOW
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6:30 Registration
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Key Note Speaker
Youlonda Copeland-Morgan,
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- Completing Your College Application
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Former Admissions Director of Caltech and Occidental College*
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Presented by Penny Sommers, Senior Education Manager, The College Board

TRANSLATION WILL BE PROVIDED

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Mountain Views-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.

FAQ's

By Susan Henderson

FAQs (n) frequently asked questions



Well, first and foremost I want to take this time to thank everyone that has ever picked up either this paper The MountainViews-Observer, or the previous paper where I was co-publisher. It is because of your desire for news and information that I continue on this journey. I truly thank all of you, those who support my efforts, you are truly inspiring. And those who do not, I thank you to, for you only make me stronger and more determined.

Now that the mushy stuff is over, in celebration of over 365 days of publishing, I am writing this miscellaneous collection of comments to touch on subjects that I have been asked about over the last year.

No. 1 Where is my paper? The MountainViews-Observer is a small business in Sierra Madre that operates on the funds generated from subscriptions and advertising. We contract with distributors to deliver to every home in Sierra Madre and have tried several different methods to make certain this happens. In the previous publication that I co-published, the paper was mailed weekly. However, especially with the increase in postal rates, that cost is prohibitive. Therefore, we are constantly looking for ways to have your paper delivered in a timely manner. It's too bad the days of the neighborhood paper boy is over. They were very reliable. There is no other paper in this area that delivers, every week, to every household in Sierra Madre or any of the surrounding cities. *The home delivery circulation of the Mountain-Views Observer exceeds the home delivery circulation of both the Los Angeles Times and the Pasadena Star News in Sierra Madre, combined.* So, it is a huge task and we are working out the details. You can however, also get your paper in front of the post office, many businesses in Downtown Sierra Madre and at Albertson's and Ralphs. Or, feel free to call us at 626-836-5100 and we will bring a paper over to you.

No. 2 Why Are You Doing This? Now that is truly a good question. Let's see. Perhaps my parents dropped me on my head when I was a child. No, that's not it. Ok, well perhaps I just like working 100 hour weeks. Or better yet, maybe I just love pouring every penny I have into this enterprise. Hmm... that doesn't sound right either. Ok, I got it. I publish this paper because I love it. I love sharing information with others. I love learning and writing about the treasures in our community. I love providing a needed service to the community. I love bringing people together, even when they don't agree. I love providing the opportunity for others to share their talents.

No. 3 What's with some of your columnists? This paper's opinion pages are an opportunity for others to share their views on current events. That means that there will be times when you may or may not agree with what is written, however, this is a country that embraces freedom of speech. Regardless of what side of an issue you may be on, it is important for you to know what the opposing view is thinking. It would be the highest form of censorship if I only allowed people who only thought a certain way to participate in this paper. I encourage anyone to share their letters to the editor or to submit columns for publication. If you disagree or have something to say, please submit it. And, please know, just because it is printed as an opinion in this paper, does not mean that I agree. My column is the only one that reflects what I feel 100% of the time, *and I always sign my name to it.*

No. 4 Who Are You? Well, by now, if you live in Sierra Madre, you probably know. I have lived in the city since 2003. I am the mother of five – 3 by birth and two adopted, grandmother of 4.11 – (a new grandchild is due on November 6th). I have a wonderful life partner of almost 12 years who has not abandoned me because of all the activity involved with the publishing a newspaper mostly out of our home. I was born and reared in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; educated at The Ohio State University and the University of California, Berkeley. I would deem myself politically to be a.....gotcha.....I'm not telling that much. I will say that I have been both a registered Republican, Democrat and Independent. However, as I age, the middle of everything is the place where you will probably find me. I have spent a lifetime working with children and adults on a volunteer basis. Professionally, I have lived and worked all over the world, made at least 17 trips to the White House, spent time at the Knesset in Israel and much more. We have two 'mature' beagles and the usual Sierra Madre collection of raccoons and other wildlife all around us.

So there you have it. Now I have a question for you. **Will you please subscribe to this paper?** Yes, it is a business venture, but only in the strictest sense of the word. The cost for operating this paper is expensive even on a shoestring budget and advertising offsets some, but not all costs. My savings and retirement and consulting income have been the source of running this paper. But I do it because it is needed. I have made a commitment not to allow advertising to overwhelm news in our paper. Just breaking even is difficult. However, with the support of the community this paper can continue. By subscribing, you are underwriting the cost of the paper coming to your door. In this edition you will find an envelope for your donation. Feel free to donate more than the annual subscription price of \$60 if you can. It will be greatly appreciated.

Thanks again for your inspiration

Susan Henderson, Publisher of *The Only Paper In Town*

Letters To The Editor

Thanks For Sharing Rich:

Dear Editor,

On behalf of women everywhere, a big thank you to Rich Johnson for thinking of others while mourning the loss of his beloved twin sister, Ruth. By relaying to women specifically, the circumstances of Ruth's premature death from heart disease, Rich may have saved some lives. Listing the fact that Ruth had had nine heart attacks while only experiencing some back pain was quite an eye opener! As he pointed out, shortness of breath, nausea or jaw pain might also be warning signs of a heart attack. Ladies, do not ignore or dismiss any of these symptoms, get to a doctor!

Condolences to you and your family Rich, and thanks to you, perhaps Ruth's legacy might well be that of saving lives.

Sincerely, Pat Birdsall Sierra Madre

Happy Anniversary From Our Readers

Thank you for 52 great weeks of keeping us informed of what is happening in Sierra Madre. Wish you many years of success.

Carroll Brown

Congratulations, Mountain Views-Observer on creating a great local paper that just gets better and better. Susan, you are a publisher beyond compare, available, interested, willing to try new ideas and totally involved in our community and the people who live here! May you publish for the next 52 years, now that you've passed the 52 week milestone. Much admiration, *Deanne Davis*

Writers write to learn how to live life alive. And in that journey, expose to the reader, how to empower and embrace their own individuality, challenge their views and redefine who they are.

Catherine Evans

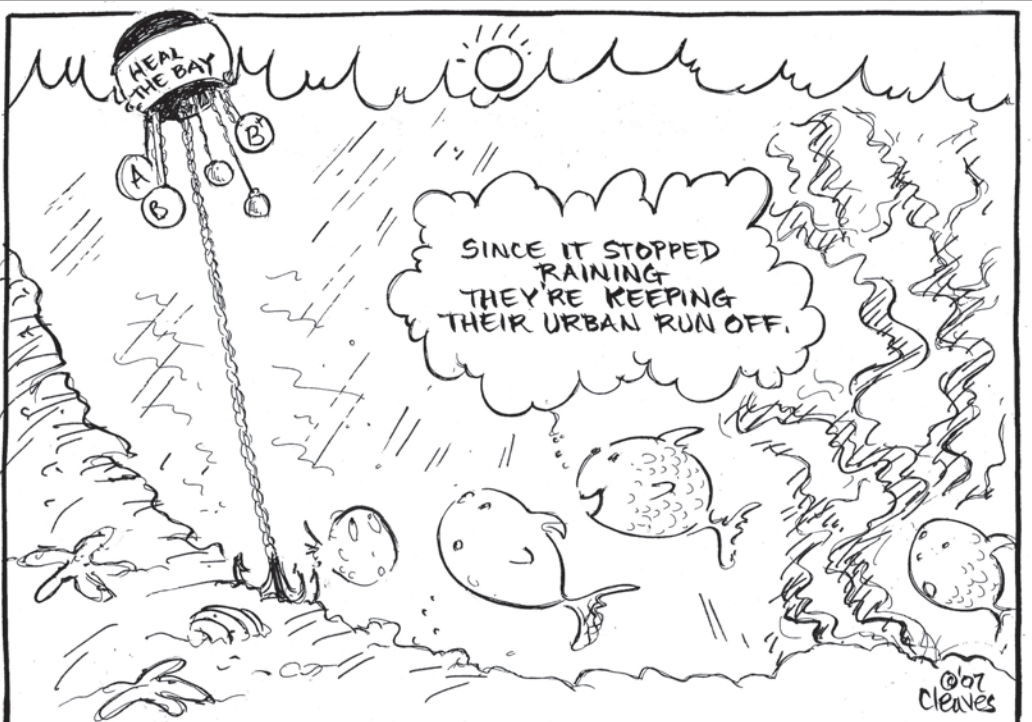
Cautious, careful people, always casting about to preserve their reputations... can never effect a reform.

Susan B. Anthony from Catherine Evans

Congratulations on your anniversary and thank you for your service to the community. *Mary Barrow*

It's considerate of you to mark your anniversary this way. I hope the paper will thrive in its second year and beyond. I also hope to provide more "Only One Earth" articles before too long.

Best wishes,
Albert



Behind The Scenes.....

This question has been asked of me many times, “Why do you do this?” The answer is simple. I publish this paper because I love keeping the public informed. More importantly, I love bringing the talents of others together and sharing those talents with you. This paper is a labor of love not only for me, but for those members of the ‘team’ that create each edition. Hear what some of them have to say about themselves and/or the paper. But, before you start reading, let me tell you that this paper would absolutely not exist without the reporters, columnists, proofreaders, graphic artists, cartoonist, and other journalists that VOLUNTEER their services. I personally want to say thanks so much. I also ask you to take a moment and say thanks the next time you pass them on the street. If we all didn’t continue to make the sacrifices necessary to keep this paper going, there would be no paper in Sierra Madre. Thank you. -Susan Henderson



Dean Lee, City Editor

Two weeks to the day, a year ago —which is eons in the newspaper world— I was approached to write for this newspaper which at that time did not have a name. Or that I was told. In an age where digital media dominates I thought the idea was crazy. What I think we have done over the course of one short year is not only, prove that print newspapers are alive and well, but also that the community does not care what form information comes in, only that it’s interesting, informative and accurate. That was my endeavor for this year. And that is what’s planned for the foreseeable future as City Editor of this newspaper.



Ann Cleaves - Editorial Cartoonist: Ann is a freelance cartoonist for a number of newspapers in Southern California. Ann first started cartooning while serving as a Peace Corps volunteer in upcountry Liberia with her husband Courtland. Her first published cartoon appeared in the Temple Daily Telegram in Temple, Texas in 1985. A long time member of the American Association of Editorial Cartoonists, in 2004 she retired from teaching adult education in LAUSD to spend more time drawing cartoons. On September 17, 2007, Ann won third place in a nationwide contest for an editorial cartoon created for the Mt. Wilson Observer. Congratulations and Thanks Ann.



Kim Kelley, The Mountain Clymer After selling Adams’ Pack Station a year ago, I was persuaded by my long-time Bean Town friend, Jack Tierny to put my stories down on paper. It was with his support that I have found the confidence to take on the challenge of writing a weekly column. I want to thank him and all others who have since encouraged me to continue. It is yet another exciting new path for me to follow in life.

Vince Pirolli The Wine Guy

I started writing for the local paper back in 1997, when at that time I owned my own wine, liquor and deli shop in Arcadia. I am very passionate about wine and it has been my interest for many years. I really enjoy writing and sharing stories about wines and pairing with them with foods. I also occasionally judge wine competitions, and I coordinate the wineries for the annual Sierra Madre Wine and Cuisine Tasting to benefit the library.



Jeff Brown - The Book Review and Take One, Scene One DVD Review: When the paper first came out I thought “Wow” how great to have a new city paper and what can I do to contribute and be more involved in town. Just a few weeks later one of the owners knowing my experience with books asked if I would like to write a book report. This way I can keep up on the latest new book releases but now also share great DVD ideas as well.



Peter Dills - A Table For Two: I have been writing for the paper almost five months now, and I really try to provide a service to the people of the foothills. There are many great restaurants in the area and want to let everyone know just That. I am 44 years old and have a daughter that attends St. Rita’s. Not that anyone should care how old I am. So keeping reading the paper!!!!

Sir Eric Maundry: Why do I participate in this paper despite the myriad Continental offers I receive weekly? Well, originally I was told that I would be receiving a very healthy per item stipend plus car service and unlimited chai tea lattes at Bean Town. And I have no doubt that the money will begin arriving soon. I have always been fascinated by the conflict between the popular versions of reality and things as they truly are. And nowhere are the opportunities to explore that contrast more clearly delineated than in this charming little town. And yes, I am not Susan Henderson ...



Bob Eklund - Looking Up: became interested in astronomy at age 5, when he moved into the home of his grandfather, staff photographer and lecturer at Wisconsin’s Yerkes Observatory. Now a professional writer, Bob helps with public outreach at Mount Wilson Observatory. His book of essays and poems, First Star I See Tonight: An Exploration of Wonder, will be released this month. A companion volume, Winds Aloft: A Celebration of Inner and Outer Weather, is in preparation.

Stanley J. Forrester - Sports Commentary

We live in a super sized society. Better is defined by bigness I write for this paper because it gives me an opportunity to express my views to my home town. The paper deals with our town and those issues which touch our lives. I write to stay in touch. If you read my column you know that my observations are those of a fan and not of a professional. I write because I love the paper.

Trisha’s Brief Bio - Teen Contributor



First, my name is Trisha Collins, and I am the writer of “Trish’s Truth”. I’ve been writing in journals and notebooks ever since I was six (I have 17 journals in total) and never received an English grade lower than an A, so writing my own column has always been a dream of mine. I’m a teenager who’s only job is school and to make my 3:18 pm bus home. I love having the responsibility of writing articles every week, where hopefully I can relate to teens (and adults) that are going through similar things I am. My goal is to guide, help, and relate through writing and I look forward to continuing this in the future.

Vivianne Parker - Reporter

Why do I write for the paper? To make a difference covering an aspect of the story trying to find the heartbeat of the issue. Altadena and Pasadena have interesting story lines with unique characters who are making things happen. Writing about how they make these cities work will be exciting. I also hope to write about one of things I love about California which is its diversity and how people are working together...because we must make it work.



Pat Birdsall - Birds Eye View

I write for this paper because in mid-October of 2006, I was asked to do a column based on the newsletter I wrote at the time called, “Senior Moments.” Of course, I’ve done no such thing. I like to write about the annoying little things that we all encounter every day. My take might be a bit more wry than others would express, but it works for me. Very therapeutic!

Rich Johnson - Columnist

Why I write for the MountainViews-Observer? Possibly the more pertinent question is why anyone would print what I write. And that’s at the heart of why I write for the MVO. Someone asked me. I think I was hired to provide comic relief in the midst of the Measure V firestorm. After all, I am the token conservative on the staff. Finally, I would do anything to be invited to a Susan Henderson BBQ.



Mary Carney - Inside Out

When MVO first appeared, its new “voice” offered perspectives seldom spoken “out loud” in our rather conservative community. Because no one “voice” is the be-all, end-all of any situation, I appreciated the thinking stimulus of these alternative viewpoints. A passionate reader, I volunteered to help put the paper together, and started in July ‘07. My own alternative “From the Inside Out” voice first expressed itself Labor Day weekend.

Patricia J. - A Quote And A Thought

I write for the Mountain Views – Observer because I believe that I can make a difference. I love learning and sharing and there is always more to learn. Besides, I read somewhere that once you stop learning, you stop growing. When I was younger, if someone gave me some candy I would let my older brother take a piece, then my younger brother and I would eat what was left. I’m giving you what’s left.



Teresa Baxter - Contributor

Teresa Baxter resides in Pasadena. She is also a returning student at Pasadena City College, pursuing an AA degree with a focus on broadcast and print journalism. Teresa also moonlights as a bartender at the Women’s City Club of Pasadena and volunteers at the nonprofit, Ten Thousand Villages.

Caroline Brown - Contributor

I have lived in town 34 years. My husband and I knew a cabin in the canyon surrounded by oak trees was perfect for us. I didn’t know too much about living adjacent to wildfire prone hillsides or preserving open space. I do now. I am happy to write the Sierra Madre FSC Tip of the Week for the newspaper especially when I learned that Susan lost her home in the Oakland Hills fire of 1991.



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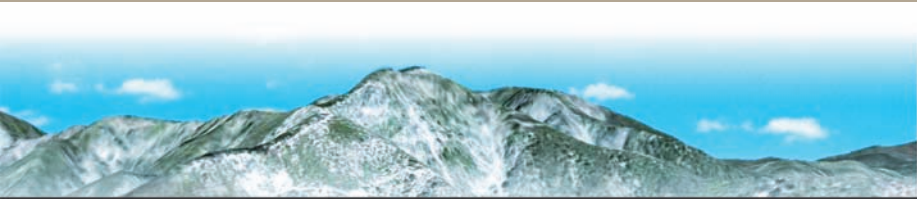
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MountainViews-Observer

City of Sierra Madre
Notice of Planning Commission Unscheduled Vacancy

Notice is hereby given that the City of Sierra Madre is accepting applications for one (1) unscheduled vacancy on the Planning Commission. The vacancy occurred when Commissioner Hutt resigned his position. The term of this unscheduled vacancy expires June 30, 2011.

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Commission consists of seven members appointed by the City Council for four-year terms. Meetings are held on the first and third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in City Hall, Council Chambers.

- The responsibilities of the Planning Commission fall into two broad categories:
1. Consideration of current land use (i.e. applications for General Plan amendment, zone changes, specific plans, conditional use permits, tract maps, variances, and appeals of staff/land use decisions); and,
 2. Advising the City Council on City initiated amendments to the City’s General Plan.

Applications

Applications are available at City Hall and the Public Library or online at www.ci.sierra-madre.ca.us. Completed forms may be mailed, faxed, or hand-delivered to City Hall. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

City Hall
232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Sierra Madre, CA 91024
Posted: September 17, 2007

Phone: (626) 355-7135
Fax: (626) 355-2251

400715MM File No. 20072096948
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: CLINICA FEMENINA DE LA COMUNIDAD, 14673 Ste 202 Panorama City, CA 91402. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Nolan C. Jones 14673 Parthenia St Ste 202 Panorama City, CA 91402. The business is conducted as: AN INDIVIDUAL. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Sept 11, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above.

NOTICE-The Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 at seq. Business and Profession Code) First filing: 10/06; 10/13; 10/20 and 10/27, 2007 400715MM

390701JJ File No. 06-20072210786
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: EQUIPICKS, 124 Tustin Ave Ste 103 Newport Beach, CA 92663. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) NETIXS, INC., 124 Tustin Ave Ste 103 Newport Beach, CA 92663. The business is conducted as: A CORPORATION. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Sept 25, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) not commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above.

NOTICE-The Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 at seq. Business and Profession Code) First filing: 09/29; 10/06; 10/13 and 10/20, 2007 390701JJ

390702SJ File No. 20072210538
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: 3 G, 240 W. 46th St Los Angeles, CA 90037. The name of registrant(s) is (are) Leon Anthony Gaston 240 W. 46th St Los Angeles, CA 90037. The business was conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Sept 25, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) not commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above.

NOTICE-The Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 at seq. Business and Profession Code) First filing: 09/29; 10/06; 10/13 and 10/20, 2007 390702JJ

390703MU File No. 20072211388
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business: OFF DA TOP, 1429 W. Jefferson Los Angeles, CA 90007. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Charlton Harlow 1429 W. Jefferson Los Angeles, CA 90007. The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Sept 25, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) not commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above.

NOTICE-The Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 at seq. Business and Profession Code) First filing: 09/29; 10/06; 10/13 and 10/20, 2007

390703MU File No. 20072198387
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: JW1 PROPERTIES, 9190 W. Olympic Blvd #318 Beverly Hills, CA 90212. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Judy Woo 9190 W. Olympic Blvd #318 Beverly Hills, CA 90212. The business is conducted as: AN INDIVIDUAL. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Sept 24, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) not commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above.

NOTICE-The Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 at seq. Business and Profession Code) First filing: 09/29; 10/06; 10/13 and 10/20, 2007 390704M

390705ED File No. 20072220074
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: CALIFORNIA ADDRESSING SERVICE, 1128 Brewster Dr Pomona, CA 91767. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) Walter Soto 1128 Brewster Dr Pomona, CA 91767. The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Sept 26, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) not commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above.

NOTICE-The Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 at seq. Business and Profession Code) First filing: 09/29; 10/06; 10/13 and 10/20, 2007 390705ED

390706ED File No. 20072220568
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business: SRV INSURANCE AND INVESTMENTS, INC., SRV INSURANCE, 7105 Eastern Ave St A Bell Gardens, CA 90201. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) SRV INSURANCE AND INVESTMENTS, INC., 7105 Eastern Ave Ste A Bell Gardens, CA 90201. The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Sept 26, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) not commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above.

NOTICE-The Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 at seq. Business and Profession Code) First filing: 09/29; 10/06; 10/13 and 10/20, 2007 390706ED

390707AN File No. 20072218577
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: DIESEL TRUCK GENERAL MAINT, 8637 Dearborn Ave South Gate, CA 90280. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Carlos Jaramillo 8637 Dearborn Ave South Gate, CA 90280. The business is conducted as: AN INDIVIDUAL. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Sept 26, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) not commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above.

NOTICE-The Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize

the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 at seq. Business and Profession Code) First filing: 09/29; 10/06; 10/13 and 10/20, 2007 390707AN

390708AN File No. 20072236743
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: PACIFIC CONSTRUCCITON SERVICE, 1340 N. Ravenna Ave Wilmington, CA 90744. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Mario Sandoval Lagunas 1350 N. Ravenna Ave Wilmington, CA 90744. The business is conducted as: AN INDIVIDUAL. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Sept 28, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) not commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above.

NOTICE-The Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 at seq. Business and Profession Code) First filing: 09/29; 10/06; 10/13 and 10/20, 2007 390708AN

390709AN File No. 20072218582
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: POLLOS A LA BRASA LOS ANDES, 8330 Long Beach Blvd #118-119 South Gate, CA 90280. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Julio Soto 2320 W. Ocean View Ave #5 Los Angeles, CA 90057. The business is conducted as: AN INDIVIDUAL. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Sept 26, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) not commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above.

NOTICE-The Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 at seq. Business and Profession Code) First filing: 09/29; 10/06; 10/13 and 10/20, 2007 390709AN

3907010AN File No. 20072220784

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT
OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME

The following person (s) has (have) abandoned the use of the fictitious name: OCEAN BAY SEAFOOD MARKET, 3520 N. Figueroa St Ste 5 Los Angeles, CA 90065. The name of registrant(s) is (are) Jose Efrain Morales 2235 N. Naomi St Burbank, CA 91504. The business was conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 05/02/2007. Original File #20071066695. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Sept 26, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) ended to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 09/26/2007

NOTICE-The Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 at seq. Business and Profession Code) First filing: 09/29; 10/06; 10/13 and 10/20, 2007 3907010AN

380701SJ File No. 20072127009
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: UNIQUE BUILDERS & MANAGEMENT COMPANY, 301 Bixby Rd Long Beach, CA 90807. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Eliseo Resreccion and Cynthia Enis 301 Bixby Rd Long Beach, CA 90807. The business is conducted as: CO-PARTNERS. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Sept 14, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) not commenced to transact

City of Sierra Madre Notice
Community Arts Commission Unscheduled Vacancy

Notice is hereby given that the City of Sierra Madre is accepting applications for one unscheduled vacancy on the Community Arts Commission. The vacancy occurred when Commissioner Kathleen Discoll resigned October 3, 2007. The term of this unscheduled vacancy expires June 30, 2009.

COMMUNITY ARTS COMMISSION

The Commission consists of seven members appointed by the City Council for three-year terms. At all times, at least four members of the community arts commission shall be and remain residents of Sierra Madre. The purpose of the commission is to actively encourage the understanding, development, appreciation, and programming of existing and future music, drama and other creative art activities for the artistic enrichment of the community, utilizing local resources. The Community Arts Commission falls under the Political Reform Act of 1974 and therefore members must file statements of economic interests.

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in City Hall, Council Chambers. Contact staff liaison Elisa Weaver at (626) 355-5278.

Applications

To apply for the Community Arts Commission, obtain an application from City Hall, Community Services, and the Public Library or online at www.ci.sierra-madre.ca.us. Completed forms may be mailed, faxed, or hand-delivered to City Hall or Community & Personnel Services Department. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

Community & Personnel Services
611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Sierra Madre, CA 91024
City Hall
232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Sierra Madre, CA 91024
Posted: October 3, 2007

Phone: (626) 355-5278
Fax: (626) 836-6656 or

Phone: (626) 355-7135
Fax: (626) 355-2251

business under the fictitious business name or names listed above.

NOTICE-The Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 at seq. Business and Profession Code) First filing: 09/22; 09/29; 10/06; and 10/13, 2007 380701SJ

380702SJ File No. 20072126840
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: PEL/SCI MARKETING COMPANY, 1492 Stonewood Ct San Pedro, CA 90732. The name of registrant(s) is (are) PORT ENTERPRISES, LLC, 534 E. Mariposa Dr Redlands, CA 92373. The business was conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Sept 14, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) not commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above.

NOTICE-The Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 at seq. Business and Profession Code) First filing: 09/22; 09/29; 10/06; and 10/13, 2007 380702SJ

380703MU File No. 20072127096
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business: SPENCER FAMILY CHILD CARE, 158 E. 56th St Los Angeles, CA 90011. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Patricia Spencer 158 E. 56th St Los Angeles, CA 90011. The business is conducted by: HUSBAND AND WIFE. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Sept 14, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) not commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above.

NOTICE-The Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 at seq. Business and Profession Code) First filing: 09/22; 09/29; 10/06; and 10/13, 2007 380703MU

380704MU File No. 20072126432
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: UPTOWN BARGAINS, 402 W. Leon Ave Arcadia, CA 91007. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Soomay Yen 402 W Lemon Ave Arcadia, CA 91007. The business is conducted as: AN INDIVIDUAL. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Sept 14, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) not commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above.

NOTICE-The Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 at seq. Business and Profession Code) First filing: 09/22; 09/29; 10/06; and 10/13, 2007 380704MU

380705MU File No. 20072126906
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: A L HOUSE COURIER, 1776 S. Rimpau Apt 27 Los Angeles, CA 90019. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) Allen L. House 1776 S. Rimpau Apt 27 Los Angeles, CA 90019. The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Sept 14, 2007. The registrant (s)

has (have) not commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above.

NOTICE-The Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 at seq. Business and Profession Code) First filing: 09/22; 09/29; 10/06; and 10/13, 2007 380705MU

380706MU File No. 20072126934
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business: NILE TOBACCO, 7525 S. Western Ave Los Angeles, CA 90047. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Saad A. Saad 7525 S. Western Ave Los Angeles, CA 90047. The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Sept 14, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) NOT commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above.

NOTICE-The Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 at seq. Business and Profession Code) First filing: 09/22; 09/29; 10/06; and 10/13, 2007 380706MU

380707DV File No. 20072126005
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: CANYON OAK CONSTRUCTION INC., 25 Flower St Arcadia, CA 91006. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) CANYON OAK CONSTRUCTION, INC., 25 Flower St Arcadia, CA 91006. The business is conducted as: A CORPORATION. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Sept 14, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) not commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above.

NOTICE-The Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 at seq. Business and Profession Code) First filing: 09/09/22; 09/29; 10/06; and 10/13, 2007 380707DV

380708MU File No. 20072126431
STATEMENT OF
ABANDONMENT OF USE OF
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

The following person (s) has (have) abandoned the use of the fictitious name: UPTOWN BARGAINS, 402 W. Lemon Ave Arcadia, CA 91007. The name of registrant(s) is (are) Soomay Yen and Francois Liandat 402 W. Lemon Ave Arcadia, CA 91007. The business was conducted by: CO-PARTNERS. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 02/01/2005. Original File #05-0241805. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Sept 14, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) ended to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 09/14/2007.

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3807090M File No. 20072171747
STATEMENT OF
ABANDONMENT OF USE OF
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

The following person (s) has (have) abandoned the use of the fictitious name: CALIFORNIA COOL, 620 N. Boyle Ave Los Angeles, CA 90033. The name of registrant(s) is (are) Edgar A. Arguello and Sylvia Flores 620 N. Boyle Ave Los Angeles, CA 90033. The business was conducted by:

HUSBAND AND WIFE. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 06/27/2003. Original File #03-0248793. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Sept 20, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) ended to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 09/20/2007.

NOTICE-The Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 at seq. Business and Profession Code) First filing: 09/22; 09/29; 10/06; and 10/13, 2007 380709M

380710AN File No. 20072126704
STATEMENT OF
ABANDONMENT OF USE OF
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

The following person (s) has (have) abandoned the use of the fictitious name: AMERICA SMOG CENTER, 11217 Walnut St El Monte, CA 91731. The name of registrant(s) is (are) Bernarda Yaneth Rodas 11217 Walnut St El Monte, CA 91731. The business was conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 11/28/2005. Original File #05-2882557. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Sept 14, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) ended to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 09/14/2007.

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380711SJ File No. 20072123277
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: A- AVALON FUNDING, 122 N- Avalon Blvd Wilmington, CA 90744. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) ANDALUCIA LENDING INSTITUTION, INC., 5260 Andrew Dr La Palma, CA 90623. The business is conducted as: A CORPORATION. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Sept 14, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) not commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above.

NOTICE-The Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 at seq. Business and Profession Code) First filing: 09/22; 09/29; 10/06; and 10/13, 2007 380711SJ

380712DS File No. 20072187246
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: EXCLUSIVE MARKETING SOLUTIONS, 1329 Rolling Knoll Rd Diamond Bar, CA 91765. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Rosemary Benesch 1329 Rolling Knoll Rd Diamond Bar, CA 91765. The business is conducted as: AN INDIVIDUAL. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Sept 14, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) not commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above.

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Looking Up



Photo by Aaron Dominguez

With Bob Eklund Anniversary Waltz

As I write this on the first day of October 2007, two anniversaries swirl around my memory like twin waltzers on a ballroom floor. The first of these is of a Saturday last year at Mt. Wilson, on the last weekend of October, when I first encountered the editorial staff of this newspaper at an Open House of the Observatory. Somewhere in the course of our tour the question was posed: “Would you like to write a column for our newspaper?” Although I had been a professional writer since 1957, I had never written a newspaper column before, and the idea intrigued me—especially when they said I could write about “whatever excites you.” That was an offer I couldn’t refuse.

Nearly a year has passed since I began writing “Looking Up,” and I’ve never had a moment’s regret. I’ve found that the weekly exercise of having to write 500–600 words on a topic of my choosing is a kind of aerobic mental exercise—a bit like a stiff hike or an evening of folk dancing would be for the body—and it probably contributes to keeping me young.

Over the past year, my columns have ranged in subject-matter from historical pieces about Mount Wilson Observatory to the latest space and astronomy news—with a few excursions into things like local geology, the joys of stargazing, the seasons, time changes and the nature of time, the excitement of flying, Los Angeles history, and local science/astronomy education. The one thing they all have in common is some connection to the thought of “looking up.”

At first, I worried that I might run out of things to say. But, so far at least, ideas have just kept on bubbling up, like water from an artesian spring. Often, as we approach deadline, I will say to my wife, Laura: “What in the world can I find to write about this week?” Usually at that point, we’ll go for a walk around the block and talk about it, and before you know it the question is somehow resolved. It always happens—and believe me, writing this column is one of the most fun things I’ve ever done.

ANNIVERSARY NO. 2 — I mentioned earlier that I’ve been writing professionally since 1957. It’s easy to remember that date because it all started, really, with the launch by the Soviet Union, on October 4, 1957, of the first man-made object to orbit the Earth—a tiny, grapefruit-sized satellite that the Soviets called Sputnik and the international scientific community named “1957 Alpha.”

The date of that launch is usually considered the beginning of the Space Age. I also count it as the beginning of my writing career. I had recently been hired by a maker of electrical connectors, Cannon Electric, as a member of their advertising department staff, and they decided to make me editor of a small and languishing publication for customers with the rather imposing name of Cannonade. I was given a lot of freedom to re-shape Cannonade as I liked—and one of the first assignments that came my way was to write an article about how a South Pasadena manufacturer of precision instruments, Boller & Chivens, had built a very-wide-field telescope that was being used to track and photograph the newly launched satellite.

I reveled in the assignment and found that I thoroughly enjoyed the interviewing process (it was a special pleasure to hear the “beep-beep” of Sputnik live on a short-wave radio in the Boller & Chivens office) —and at that point my career as a science/technology article writer was launched.

I think I can also count October 1957 as the beginning of my career in poetry. Very late one night, not long after the Sputnik launch, I sat down and expressed in the following poem my feelings about the new age that I felt was just then beginning:
1957 ALPHA
October 4, 1957

Somewhere beyond this night’s dark boundaries, there
Above the farthest fringe
Of cirrus gleaming by the Moon’s command,
And where no earthly thing has ever been
Since Earth began,
There is, tonight, this strangest work of man.
This little ball, hurled up, defiantly,
To pirouette around our aging globe
And sit in council with the silent stars
Has made us all a part
Of something vast beyond the mind’s conception.
We are like children, run away from home:
Our hearts, in pride and apprehension, know
That home will never be the same again.

(Unless otherwise attributed, poems used in this column are by Bob Eklund and are copyrighted by him.)

If you’d like to learn more, contact Bob at b eklund@m vobserver.com

The Mountain Clymer

By Kim Clymer The Milormore

Sometimes there is nothing more satisfying than seeing someone learn a lesson that they really needed to learn for a long time. There are many people in this world who, for whatever reason, turn a deaf ear to lessons that they desperately need to hear. Sometimes it’s because the lesson hurts too much to learn, sometimes it’s because they thought they already had something figured out and there was nothing more to learn, but more often than not, it is because they are too insecure to acknowledge that there is something they do not know. These are the “know-it-all’s” that we all run across in our lives. These are the ones that we all take some kind of glee in watching them being put in their place.

I had such a friend. A man who on the surface was very full of himself. He exuded an enormous amount of confidence, assertiveness and control. He knew it all and would be taught nothing by anyone. I knew him well enough to know that this bluster was all a façade, that it masked a myriad of horrible insecurities. I felt bad for him in a lot of ways, but that did not always make it easy to deal with him... occasionally others did know what they were talking about, and many times he should have listened. People like him always learn the hard way, but would never admit to making a mistake.

One day, the previous owner of the station came to visit. Dennis Lonergan had lived in the mountains most of his life and had spent years packing supplies into the canyon. He trained me to pack before I took over the station and frequently stopped by during the first few years to teach me new skills that I had to learn to accomplish some of the tasks that I was asked to do. I tried to pass this invaluable knowledge on to my friend who helped me pack, but he always had a better way to do things... “better ways” that usually had disastrous consequences. He thought of Dennis as a “hillbilly” who could not possibly know anything. People who live close to the mountains all of their lives are anything but dumb. There is a great deal of wisdom to be gained there. Dennis is wise, very wise... that was apparent to me from our very first meeting. He keeps that wisdom hidden away behind a great deal of humbleness and a laid-back, down-home country charm that makes it almost unnoticeable to those who do not make the effort to look deeper. He has a very sly and dry sense of humor... country boy humor... the kind that blindsides you if you are not careful.

Dennis had spent the day working down in the canyon and came out late in the afternoon. We greeted him as he came into the parking lot and he stopped to chat. Dennis had a story to tell of an encounter he had with a bear during the day, and of course my friend had to tell him about an encounter that he had, and he had to tell Dennis just how bears really think and act and how he is an expert on bears and that Dennis really did not know much about them at all... typical stuff. Dennis took it all in with a grain of salt and a feigned appreciation for the lesson on bears.

My friend was unimpressed. “Oh yeah? What’s that?” He felt he had to ask.

“It’s a really rare bird you have probably never heard of,” Dennis said.

“I’ve been coming up to the mountains all of my life,” my friend answered, “I’m sure I have heard of it and seen it. What was it?”

“Well, this is a really elusive one,” Dennis said in his best cowboy drawl, “...not too many people run into them... they’re kinda shy and stay away from people... it’s called a milormore.

“Oh, I know them... I’ve seen them many times,” my friend replied.

“I haven’t,” I said.

Dennis continued, seemingly now for my benefit, “It’s a tiny little grey bird, white tips on its wings.”

“Yup,” my friend verified the information Dennis was giving me.

“A little crest of feathers on its head... long tail that’s kinda striped.”

“Yeah... seen one since we’ve been here... down on First Water trail,” my friend noted.

“Oh, really? I haven’t. When?” I asked.

“When we were out on the trail one time,” he answered, “You probably weren’t paying attention, as usual.”

“Oh.” I said a bit annoyed at that remark, and seriously doubting that he had ever really seen or heard of it.

“The milormore is a really interesting little bird,” Dennis informed me, “It has some really unusual behavior.”

“Yup... sure does,” my friend said.

“Really? What does it do?” I asked.

“Well,” Dennis continued his yarn, “...it doesn’t like to fly much... spends a lot of time on the ground.”

“Yeah,” my friend said, “...that’s where they always are.”

“You will be walking down the trail and see a milormore on the trail and it won’t fly away like other birds,” said Dennis.

“Nope,” my friend said.

“It will just turn and start running down the trail. It will go faster and faster and then suddenly it does the strangest thing.”

“Sure does!” my friend exclaimed knowingly.

“It’s running and running and suddenly it just stops right there in the middle of the trail,” Dennis explained.

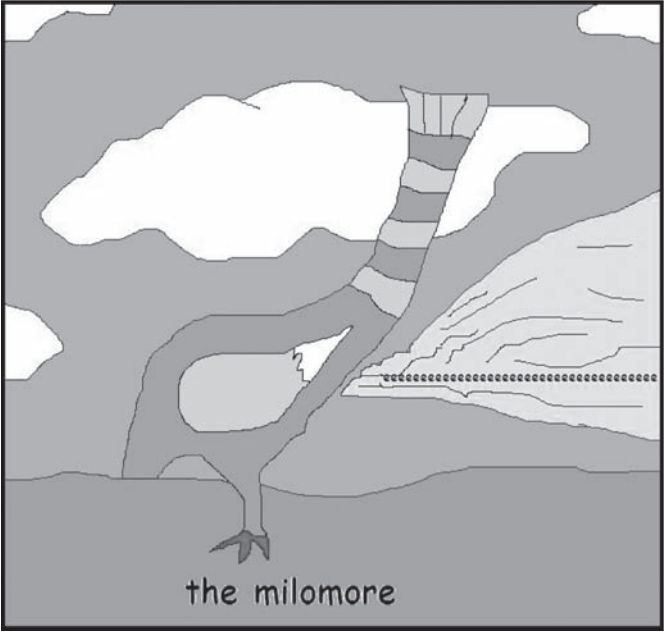


Photo by Kim Kelley

My friend shook his head knowingly.

“And it sticks its head in the ground... and lifts its tail in the air...”

“Yup.”

“...and whistles out its ass really loud... and you can hear that thing for a mile-or-more!!!”

Silence.

Dennis chuckled... “Damnedest thing!”

I covered my mouth to hide my snickering as I walked away. My friend stood unamused and silently seething, but trying to appear unrattled.

Dennis pretended to be oblivious to the humiliation he had just dished out... but he was not... somewhere just under that “gosh-golly-gee-whiz” manner, I could see the total satisfaction he had just gotten. It does a heart good.

<p>BUREAU OF SECRETS By Barbara Sweeney</p> <p>The lingerie shocks us by its largess. Filmy ‘40’s silks and satins, wrapped in tissue, hardly worn, fantastic in their peach and mauve and black detail. Probably fifty of them. And gloves. Pair after pair – wrist-length, elbow-length, full-length, slender handfuls of soft kid and cotton studded with onyx and mother-of-pearl. We find diamonds and jade. Shalimar and Chanel. Silver compacts with fresh-pressed powder, a black seal muff a foot wide,</p>	<p>crisp new hundred dollar bills, ten of them, tucked into sensuous evening bags. At the very bottom of the last drawer resting luminously on yellowing shelf paper, is a photo of her with her Garbo profile debuting at the Veiled Prophet Ball. She, who before her heart ruptured, making its final adjustment, shopped in second hand stores and ate day old bread.</p> <p>We refold what doesn’t fit, pile up the few things that are unremarkable. Everything that surprises us we save for our own daughters. Everything left unsaid.</p>
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Arnold Schwarzenegger is Still Our Governor

In the time since planet earth was last in this position relative to the sun, we inhabitants of this fine blue sphere have accomplished some impressive things (K-Fed now has custody). However, as far as we may have come (at 67,000 miles per hour for 365 days – you do the math), we are, as a matter of fact, right back where we started.

For example, in the very first edition of “The Wild West” (with Kyle McClure) you read about the California Global Warming Solutions Act. Signed into law by Arnold Schwarzenegger on September 27, 2006, this piece of legislation created the first enforceable program to cap greenhouse gas emissions in the United States. It required that California state greenhouse gas emissions be reduced to 1990 levels by the year 2020. I argued (foreshadowing the quality of analysis and insight you have come to expect) that the Governor chose the year 1990 only because it was the year when he last MATTERED. It was in 1990 that Total Recall and Kindergarten Cop were released. And, Arnold was busy working on Terminator 2: Judgment Day, the movie that represents the summit of Arnold’s black-leather movie star hipness.

You may have been wondering, over the past twelve months, what exactly ever happened with that law. “Where is it now?” is probably what is on your mind. Well, it took effect on January 1, 2007. Then, in June the state Air Resources Board had to do some stuff regarding reduction measures. It has to do some other stuff by January 1, 2008 that has to do with mandatory reporting and verification. There are a bunch of other things that are supposed to happen by 2009, 2010, and several other future years that will arrive at a later date.

But what is most interesting to me about this whole issue is the one that is most often overlooked. Apparently, Arnold Schwarzenegger is still our governor. I heard about this on the news recently and after conducting several moments of intense internet research, I have been able to confirm that he is indeed still the

chief elected official of our state. He is still signing bills and turning them into laws (like one that provides funds for a fancy re-entry facility to help criminals adjust to life outside of the razor wire). He is awarding Safety Medals of Valor and funding charter schools and supporting comprehensive healthcare reform. Who knew?

Maybe you heard that he appeared before the United Nations last month. He was not, in fact, representing his home country of Austria. Nor was he there on behalf of the unnamed South Pacific Island from which he hailed in the non-hilarious movie Twins (co-starring Danny Devito). People of the San Gabriel Valley, he was there representing you! And you know what? He was making a speech about (you guessed it) global warming.

He was there, at the invitation of Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to show the whole entire world... well, the portion of it that pays attention to UN special session speeches anyway... that there is important, impressive, ground-breaking environmental work being done in California. There is, actually: greenhouse emission caps, low carbon fuel standards, \$1.1 billion in clean tech investment. You live in a pretty impressive state, my friends. You don’t see the governor of South Dakota at the UN making a speech do you?

California is after all (as Arnold pointed out to the gathered diplomats), the 7th largest economy in the world. It attracts almost half of all US venture capital and generates one of every four US patents. Most impressive. But you know what else? California is where the Mountain Views - Observer lives (right down there in the lower left corner). The paper is now a year old (yay hurray). You get it delivered directly to your doorstep free of charge every week, full of local news, thoughtful commentary, and attractive writers. We’ll meet you back here in a year, right after Arnold’s next major global warming announcement.

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Story and Photos By Chris Bertrand

Highland Oaks Produces An Avenue Of “Arcadia Beautiful” Award Winners

Arcadia prides itself on being a “community of homes”. When I spoke with Linda Garcia, Communications and Marketing Manager for the city, she commented that the tag line is meant to call attention to the great pride the city takes in the appearance of its homes, streets and even its median strips.



I often hear from local Realtors that the Highland Oaks neighborhood is consistently popular with buyers. When this year’s Arcadia Beautiful homes were chosen, a striking avenue of winners were on Highland Oaks, specifically 1500, 1509, 1717 and 1911. So I just had to take a drive by this street! The homes are all lovely, of varying ilk and style, but the gardens simply knock your socks off, even after several weeks of scorching heat.

Additional “Arcadia Beautiful” winners are: 533 N Altura Road, 925 Catalpa Road, 23 Cabrillo Road, 118 Ilene Drive, 416 Coyle Avenue, 380 W. Wistaria Avenue, 517 E. Sandra Avenue, 18 No Golden West Avenue, 2606 Greenfield Avenue, 37 W. Sierra Madre Boulevard, 55 Woodland Lane and 170 El Foothill Boulevard.

Back in 1970, the advisory “Arcadia Beautiful” commission was established by the city, and for 37 years the city has prioritized input from an active group of volunteers interested in working with city staff and the populace on improvement and beautification of the city, property maintenance and a few other details like public nuisances and yard sale requirements.

In 1975 the very first annual “Arcadia Beautiful” ceremony was held, and the group recommended phasing out advertising benches as visual pollution.

Over the years, the group has taken on two other seasonal events, the Arbor Day

planting of trees in March, to increase public awareness of the importance of trees in the city environment, and the popular Holiday Home Decoration Awards in



December. Garcia commented on what a great photo opportunity this event can be! Santa, elves and the Arcadia mayor show up at winning homes with a yard sign and a small token of the city’s appreciation for that home’s addition to the community’s enjoyment of the holiday season.

The organization takes volunteer effort, of course. I had the opportunity to chat with commissioner Jan Torrington about her involvement. She enjoys being one of seven volunteers who agree to comb every street of their

assigned section of the city for a four year term. She’s had a lot of experience looking at homes, and is knowledgeable about the area, since she is a retired real estate agent.

In the case of the “Arcadia Beautiful” and Holiday Home Decorating awards, each commissioner assembles a list of possible winners. Then the group travels to all the nominees, making a group recommendation. Torrington fondly remembers when the ceremonies were homespun, with confections from the Commissioners’ kitchens.

The Holiday Decoration awards will be reviewed by the committee in early December, so those homes interested in consideration should be decorated by December 1, according to Garcia. Nominations from the community can be made to the City Manager’s office for both awards, by calling 626-574-5401.

I hope to be invited to the photo op with Arcadia’s Santa squad, the elves and the mayor in December! Sounds like fun!

Know of an interesting home, garden or person who helps create them, that might be of interest to our readers? Contact Chris Bertrand at Chris.Bertrand@MVObserver.com!



2007 Crystal Ball to Benefit Methodist Hospital’s Expansion

ARCADIA, CA – Methodist Hospital Foundation is gearing up for its 2007 Crystal Ball, an annual fundraising gala to benefit the hospital. This year’s event will help Methodist Hospital embark on a major building project – part of its mission to serve the health care needs of the greater San Gabriel Valley well into the 21st century. Methodist Hospital has served as a leading health care resource for more than one hundred years.

“Now we have embarked on the first major phase of a far-reaching campus transformation that is a key component of our strategic initiative: The Next Generation of Care,” says Dennis Lee, CEO/president of Methodist Hospital. “Our campus development plan is a most positive declaration of our mission: to meet the needs of our community for decades to come.”

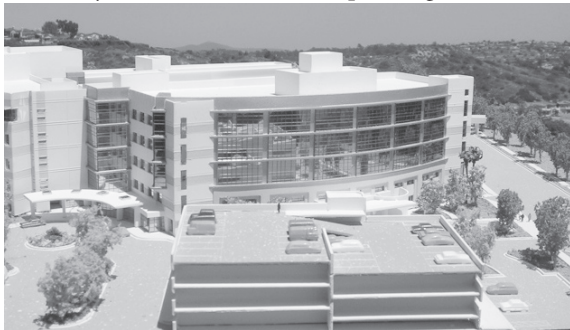
Plans for the expansion project include a new 152,000-square-foot, five-story patient tower that will house a new state-of-the-art emergency department, medical and surgical inpatient beds, two

new intensive care units, new kitchen and cafeteria, new education center, and a new pharmacy. The expansion project is designed to keep pace with the growth and demographic changes in the San Gabriel Valley. Methodist Hospital carefully considered trends in the health care environment, including the possibility of more hospital closures and increasing demand for services. When completed in 2010, Methodist Hospital will not only transform its physical appearance, but will significantly increase access to services with state-of-the-art facilities and technology.

All of these enhancements, from our campus expansion to the acquisition of state-of-the-art technology, will provide our caregivers with tools to deliver an exceptional patient care experience,” adds Lee. “The Next Generation of Care has arrived and it will truly position Methodist Hospital to continue to care for many generations to come.”

The black-tie gala will be held at the Pasadena Convention Center on Saturday, October 13, and will feature dinner, entertainment and both silent and live auctions. Tickets for an opportunity drawing for a stunning holiday jewelry set, a 50” plasma HDTV and a five-day

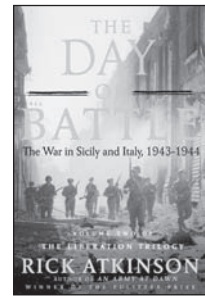
Riviera Maya vacation can also be purchased for \$100 each with only 100 tickets of each available. For more information, please contact Gloria Rico in the Methodist Hospital Foundation at (626) 821-2340 or crystalball@methodisthospital.org.



*Expansion plans include a new state of the art
Emergency Room*

Jeff's Pics

The Book Reports



The Day of Battle: The War in Sicily and Italy 1943-1944
by Rick Atkinson (2007)

In this second volume of his planned Liberation Trilogy, Pulitzer Prize winner Rick Atkinson follows the strengthening American and British Armies in July 1943 as they invade Sicily and fight their way towards Rome. The Italian Campaign's victory was never for sure as Roosevelt, Churchill, and the military advisors had many debates as to whether it was even a good idea. But once it was started, the commitment to liberate Italy from the Nazis never faltered, even though it cost the blood of over 100,000 soldiers. The battles of Monte Cassino, Salerno and Anzio were particularly deadly, but with the liberation of Rome in June 1944, it became certain that victory was going to happen. The Day of Battle is a definitive dramatic account of one of World War II's most amazing military campaigns as it proceeded to final glory. His first book in the series is An Army at Dawn: The War in North Africa, 1942-1943,

includes a special 16-page supplement on "How to Taste Wine" taken directly from Zraly's world famous class. Here you will learn about the best wines, covering a wide variety of tastes, regions, and countries. Organized by region, from simple to complex, the list starts with white wines from France, the U.S., and Germany; moves on to the red wines of Burgundy and the Rhone, Bordeaux, the U.S., Italy, Australia, Argentina, and Chile; and concludes with champagnes and ports. Whether it's about starting a wine cellar, or just to find an appropriate bottle for an occasion, this book will answer your questions.

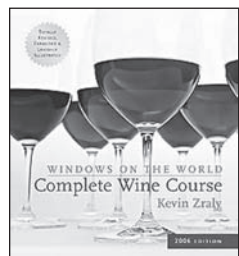
Ingo by Helen Dunmore (2006)
Reading level: Ages 9-12



A family living near the coast of Cornwall gets involved with the undersea kingdom of the Mer people. 11 year-old Sapphy and her brother Conner find themselves in an adventure as they are drawn to the sea and find themselves

underwater. It's a book about choice, where they struggle to balance life on land with the wonders and delights of the sea. They have thrilling adventures and the story weaves in a message about protecting the sea. It is a great fantasy story. The first of a planned trilogy.

Book Pics can be ordered at Sierra Madre Books, 836-3200



Windows on the World Complete Wine Course: 2008 Edition by Kevin Zraly (2007)
For a comprehensive wine education, this latest edition

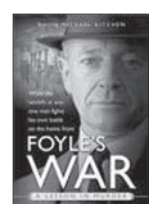
Scene One - Take One DVD Review



Jericho: English Mystery Series (2005)

This is a well done, very atmospheric 4-episode PBS mystery series set in 1950's London. Two episodes are available for rental. In the first episode, A Pair of Ragged Claws, the brilliant Scotland Yard Chief Inspector Michael Jericho (Robert Lindsay), who is still haunted by his father's murder, must solve the racially motivated killing of a young Jamaican man. Jericho finds his attention diverted by the kidnapping of a rich industrialist with ties to the same neighborhood.

In The Killing of Johnny Swan, Jericho, who is both very driven but secretly fragile, must unravel the secret life of track star Johnny Swan when he and his bride are found brutally murdered. With a popular rematch only days away against a Soviet champion whom Swan had beat a year earlier, suspicions of KGB retaliation begin to surface. Unusual and interesting series.



Foyle's War (2003-2006)

Foyle's War is an acclaimed British television series, which includes historical drama grounded in historical fact with thrilling detective stories set on the southern coast of England during the early part of World War II. Christopher Foyle (Michael Kitchen) is an English police inspector who handles local crimes in an environment full of propaganda and social upheaval that was part and parcel with World War II. Sixteen episodes are available for rental.

For comments or recommendations please email jab3jab@verizon.net



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BIRD'S EYE VIEW

Two on the Town- Part I

By Pat Birdsall

My friend Louise wanted to take me out to lunch the day before my birthday. She asked me where I wanted to go and without hesitation I said, "Let's take the Gold Line to Union Station and walk to Philippe's for lunch."

We headed off to the Gold Line Station at 11:00 AM. When we arrived, there were virtually no parking spaces to be had. Being one who wholeheartedly believes in public transportation, I thought that was a good thing. Of course that was before we had to park on the roof of the parking structure and walk down to the opposite side to catch the train. A small sacrifice.

As I might have mentioned previously, I am mechanically challenged to the point where that fact should be attached to my driver's license. When we got to the machine to purchase our tickets for the trip, there was a young Metro Rail employee standing next to it. Not feigning ignorance because it's definitely in my DNA, I asked him how to purchase a ticket. Without hesitation, he pressed the Senior 65+ selection. As I said, I'm having a birthday but I wished that the decade wasn't so obvious. Oh well, a thirty cents saving is a thirty cents savings. (Does that sound sincere?) (Didn't think so.)

We arrived at Union Station and were awed by its magnificence. What a fabulous structure! From the tile-work to the magnificent grilles, the vaulted ceilings and gardens, it is truly something to behold. It harkens back to the days when people dressed up to travel and trains were the way to do it. The modern-day restrooms would have the original architects shaking their heads in bewilderment, however.

Immediately upon entering the Ladies Room, I felt like I was on a conveyor belt... I stepped into a stall and the toilet flushed itself automatically, I guess because I entered its "eye." The instant I stood up after using it, it flushed itself again with water spritzing the entire seat. I couldn't get out of there fast enough. Next, the conveyor- belt moved me to the spot to wash my hands. I stood at the sink looking at the other women washing their hands and wondered what they were doing that I wasn't. The next thing I knew...whoosh! I had water. Then, with not a paper towel in sight, I again followed my conveyor-belt companions. I followed them directly to an air blower so strong that it could dry the hands of the entire population of Cleveland. I was almost tempted to stick my head under it and leave with an entirely new "do," but thought the better of it. Philippe's here we come... (To be continued)

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From the Inside Out

An Ongoing Series of Personal Points of View on Health
... By Mary Carney

How Do You Know?

When you get a prescription, or think about taking supplements or homeopathics and are facing the shelves and shelves of possibilities, how do you choose the right one? Is it a net positive energy provider making your body "stronger?" Or an additional body stressor that weakens your body's ability to heal itself? A wise person today wants to be smart and efficient ... so how do you know when you've got the right one? Trickier questions are: how long will it stay the right one? Are the label directions: take X amount for Y days at Z times really what's best for you? How do you know? Can you trust your provider, or yourself, to make the right choices?

Have you heard of, or read about Applied Kinesiology? Muscle Checking? Muscle Testing? "Your Body Doesn't Lie," copyrighted in 1979 by John Diamond, M.D., was an eye-opener for me almost 30 years ago, now. The basic premise is that your body / mind / spirit system "knows," at a level that you may not consciously acknowledge, what is good and what is not good for it. It remains an inexpensive, essential primer to understanding this tool for taking care of yourself.

In the "alternative" world, most practitioners use some form of muscle testing to "check" for your body/mind/spirit system's acceptance of a proposed course of healing action. For those who don't use it, there are several reasons ... disbelief and mistrust - of either process or self. This process absolutely requires the "external" practitioner to develop self-centering in a "calm and opinionless" point from deep inside out, and a willingness to allow this inner body knowledge to be heard, respected and trusted. It can be done many ways ... to and by yourself with thumb-finger pulls, finger/ finger strength; to you by someone else, using the finger processes, or other sets of muscles: feet movement, arm testing either standing or sitting ... many different ways.

When you find a practitioner who truly knows and trusts the process, you have a practitioner worth his or her weight in gold. For instance, someone close to me went to a "gotta have it" doctor's appointment, had a variety of tests, was advised there was a thyroid imbalance and received the reflexive prescription of Synthroid. As a good patient, it was purchased. Being personally appalled at Synthroid's limitations (it is only one of 4 essential Thyroid support fractions; with only one fraction being enhanced, the other fractions are further stressed to keep

the thyroid balanced, possibly creating deeper thyroid problems in the long run - which is not to say that it can't help in the short run.

So I hauled this person to my practitioner I consider my primary caretaker, whose 18+ years of muscle-checking ability, and my own personal experience, I consider to be without question. After a total body check of how all the organs and glands were functioning, the comment was, "Well, you do have a thyroid problem." Independent energetic verification of a medical diagnosis. Ah ha! So, out came the dutifully purchased Synthroid and a muscle check was done with it in my friend's energy field. No matter how much my friend strained to hold the arm up against the relatively light downward pressure applied, absolutely unable to keep the arm held straight out at shoulder level. My concern was correct - this was not the right formula, at least at this time.

This practitioner had 4 separate nutritional thyroid support formulas available from different supplement companies (selling only to practitioners). Three elicited the "weak arm" response - with one (a whole food formula) resulting in a very strong, "immovable arm" response. Further "checks" elicited X tablets were needed, Y times a day, Z days, and an additional appointment was scheduled. My friend followed this schedule. A month later my friend went back to the medical professional, who did another series of tests. The thyroid was perfectly balanced. Only the whole-food formula had been taken. This particular one, created by Standard Process Labs (they do have others) may be found at Phoenix Pharmacy in Pasadena. There are many ways of knowing. Without the medical diagnostic tests, or having a practitioner who can accurately identify problem areas, who would have guessed there was a problem at all? But once identified, there were clean, energetically supportive whole food options available that did the job faster, and better. Muscle checking? Time to acquire this skill for yourself! That's how you can know, from the inside out!

© 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. For more information, 626-355-6225 or m.carney@mvobserver.com

SPORTS



By Stanley J. Forrester

“Yes, Virginia There Is A Santa Claus”

And, he resides in (Chidendelphia) Chicago, Philadelphia, and Denver; how else do you explain these three teams entry into post-season play? Toward the end of the season the Cubbies were falling, and falling fast, to the Brewers. It appeared that their hope of being in the post-season was simply that - a hope, nothing else. But they pulled it off and will be facing the Diamondbacks on Wednesday in Arizona. We, who have over the years cheered the Cubs, know that in the end we will be disappointed. After all, their last World Series win was in 1908, though they have been in the playoffs in 84, 89, and 98. (19 that is) To be a Cubs fan is the epitome of optimism. Well, this year is no different. The fans have given the Cubs the pennant (in their minds) and they have gone on to the World Series, believing that the Cubs will win the World Series. We will just have to wait and see if Santa's permanent address is Wrigley Field, Chicago, Illinois.

People will be talking about the Mets' choking, but as much as the Mets lost, Philly won, and made up an incredible number of games. Just about two and a half weeks ago the Mets were leading the Phil's by seven games with seventeen to play. The Phillies needed some help from the Marlins in order not to have to play a one game play-off. When the Marlins beat the Mets, the Phillies were in, because they had just whooped the Nationals. Next to the Cubbies, the Phillies may not be the hard luck team of the century, but they are right up there. The Phillies have won in the last 30 years, but they too have had some hard luck. After all, they are the only team in baseball to have lost 10,000 games, and they are

View From The Couch

in the play-offs for only the tenth time in their history. Remember, this is one of the oldest teams in baseball. The Philly fan argues that they are older than the Cincinnati Reds, because the Reds were known as the Red Stockings, and they left the league for about a season in the late 1800's over an argument about selling beer. Virginia, we will just have to wait and see if Santa lives in the city of brotherly love.

The San Diego Padres and many of their fans are asking, where did the Rockies come from and how did they catch us? My Dodgers did their own folding act, and the young hungry Rockies were there to answer the call. One of the best kept secrets in baseball is the fact that, from the end of May to the end of the season, the Rockies have the best record in baseball. This team, which does not have the super stars, has a bunch of hungry youngsters that can play. Thanks to the Padres losing their last two games of the season and the Rockies winning, they had to play a one game play-off. They played for thirteen innings before the Rockies won. If you are a baseball fan this has been some season leading up to the post-season. How ironic is it that the San Diego Padre's newest hall of famer, Tony Gwynne's son, knocks the Padres out of the post-season? Perhaps Santa really does ski, and resides on those Rocky Mountains Slopes. We will just have to watch and wait. Wherever it is, this has been some season. *Sitting on the couch waiting for the best post season ever.....Stanley*

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