



# Mountain Views-Observer

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

Week Ending November 2, 2007 Volume 1, No. 11

## Once Every 100 Years Centennial Celebration Ends With Huell Howser As Mayor For A Day And A Really Big Flash



Several hundred Sierra Madre residents posed for the 'big picture' on Sunday at the Centennial picnic. Estimates are that over 1,000 residents attended the closing festivities. Photo by D. Lee/MVO

By Dean Lee

In case you missed it Huell Howser, host of "California's Gold," stopped by last weekend for the city's big bash. Mayor Enid Joffe read a proclamation declaring him Mayor for the day but before she did she made sure that he was fully aware that the city needs money, and fast. Mayor Howser was up for the task and after a quick tour of town got right to work asking, in a lighthearted way, folks for cash. "As you know the city's broke," he said as shook hands with everyone he saw, and then asked. "I am the mayor here for another five hours so if you can think of anything we need help." Before leaving Memorial Park for a tour of the historic places, Joffe gave him a large "gold" key to the city and Howser assured everyone he was not seeking re-election. He said being Mayor was an honor that he had never had before.

Although a driving tour listed historic places such as, Church of the Ascension

built in 1888, Mary's Market, the Canyon and the Pinney house built in 1887 Howser blew threw those focusing his attention on what he said he loves most, meeting people. And that he got to do. Howser said last time he was here was the Wisteria Festival, "I must have shook everyone's hand in town twice," he said. "Because for a solid week it hurt, so I've taken that off the list of things to do."

Howser, the king of cool, rode through town in a 1950's red Cadillac driven by a member of the Road Kings antique car club, but not before, he walked a gauntlet of historic hotrods. "Who drives this one," he said as the driver quickly racing over to the car. Howser, Joffe and Judy Webb-Martin all got in and they were off.

Later on foot Joffe, as his tour guide, led him through Kersting Court but had a hard time as he wandered off track talking with bikers and kids alike. He never made it to BeanTown although he commented (continued on page 3)



Kaitlin checks out Tin Man's outfit while being held by her dad, Jeff Kinney. Dorothy, Tin Man, Toto, Scarecrow and Lion were on hand for a special showing of the original Wizard Of Oz courtesy of Time-Warner Communications. Photo by S. Henderson/MVO

## Sierra Madre's Brush With Fire

By Dean Lee

The Sierra Madre Fire Department, along with the help of Pasadena and Arcadia, quickly put down a brush fire in Sierra Madre a day before the current firestorm began. Just days later all three departments were on the front lines battling the worst fires in California history. Fire officials said a call came in at 12:34 p.m. Oct. 20 reporting a small brush in the Chantry Flats area. Assistant Fire Chief Steve Heydorff said they quickly responded putting out the two acre blaze within 30 minutes. He also said Tuesday night that the only thing that prevented the city from being another casualty in the fires raging across Southern California was wind. "We were lucky the winds didn't pick up here," he said. "It was kind of weird we had them on both sides and, we have fire on both sides of us." Heydorff disclosed that the cause of the Chantry Flats fire was an arcing Southern California Edison power line.

Last month a transformer also owned by Edison exploded sending sparks showering down on homes. A spokesperson for Edison said at the time that large parts of the power infrastructure are outdated especially in older communities such as Sierra Madre.

The next day, a fire was reported in Malibu and that fire now leaves behind an eerie feeling of what Sierra Madre could



Four Sierra Madre Fire fighters were dispatched to the San Diego County Witch Fire. Those firefighters that remained in town were busy protecting the city.

have become according to local local firefighters. The Malibu fire was fueled by winds traveling up to 80 mph, but was also caused by downed power lines. An estimated 2,100 people were evacuated in that area.

In the last week 490,000 acres burned in 15 separate fires. At least 1,800 homes were lost and 600,000 people were evacuated according to numerous reports.

Firefighters from Sierra Madre, Pasadena, Arcadia, and Monrovia were all sent to Orange County as part of a 21-man strike team Heydorff said. The team helped fight the Witch Fire that alone burned nearly 200,000 acres. Heydorff said Sierra Madre Firefighters helped residents in burned areas get back into their homes.

## Witches, Goblins & Ghosts Halloween Takes Minds Off Problems



Downtown Merchants had a free window 'makeover' by local students

Alegria spend days and days before Halloween thinking up new ways to scare visitors. But the festivities start long before All Hallows Eve. Giant pumpkin patches are planted with mysterious giant pumpkin seeds and fed with secret formula pumpkin food. These monsters are shaded from too much direct sun, turned for uniform shape and color, pampered and petted, and watched by the entire neighborhood as they grow and grow and GROW! You'll see them all on display this coming Halloween night if you stop by East Alegria, along with ghostly card players, screaming witches, flying ghouls and lots of Trick or Treat candy.

Hope for a dark and stormy night and get ready to scream! There may be a monster waiting to grab you, if you don't watch out!

Happy Halloween and may all your candy be the really good kind!

-Deanne Davis for MVO

Where on haunted earth can you find 372 Harry Potters, 289 Ninja Turtles, 106 Winnie the Poohs, 13 Raggedy Anns, 718 Draculas, a bunch of hippies, a ragtag band of hoboes, the occasional cheerleader, a few mummies, lots and lots of Screams, rock stars, poodle skirt girls from the 50's, some bunnies, a lion or two, dozens of every princess Disney ever created, and a gaggle of blood-stained corpses? Halloween night on East Alegria in Sierra Madre, that's where!

Have you ever seen a giant pumpkin spider with legs ten feet long? Have you walked through a graveyard on someone's front lawn? Or seen ghostly figures flying through the air? Have you seen a vampire rise right up out of his coffin? Have you oohed and aahed over dozens of pumpkins carved into faces the likes of which you've never seen before....guaranteed to cause nasty nightmares? If you haven't, you haven't visited East Alegria on Halloween night!

It's tradition that the residents of East



Alegria residents Doug and Heather Parker and family from as far away as North Carolina carve home grown pumpkins and squash for Trick or Treaters.

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# Weather Wise

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

Saturday	Sunny	Hi 70s	Lows 40-50s	Windy
Sunday:	Sunny	Hi 80s	Lows 50-60s	Windy
Monday:	Sunny	Hi 90-100	Lows 60s	Windy
Tuesday:	Sunny	Hi 90-100	Lows 60s	Windy
Wednesday:	Sunny	Hi 80-90s	Lows 60s	Windy

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service



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### From Chief Marilyn Diaz: FIRE DANGER

All of your Sierra Madre public safety officials, police, fire, paramedics, and search and rescue, are on high alert due to the fires. We have closed Bailey Canyon, Mt. Wilson Trail, and Santa Anita Ave. to Chantry Flats to motorists and hikers due to the fire danger. Though as of Tuesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, there have been no fires in the San Gabriel foothills, residents should coordinate with their families, loved ones and neighbors in the event that they have to evacuate, communicate, and survive for up to seven days. Canyon residents need to be especially vigilant due to the heavy brush and narrow, winding roads.

### What's Cooking At Ascension?

Sierra Madre's Church of the Ascension has collected the best recipes from group members, family and friends and compiled them into an attractive keepsake cookbook.

Come see us at Dickens Village November 16<sup>th</sup> the cook book and testing of some of the delicious recipes will be surely please everyone, we will be located in front of Webb-Martin Realtors at 30 N. Baldwin. The cook book will also be for sale at local Sierra Madre merchants, and on line at [www.morriscookbooks.com](http://www.morriscookbooks.com).

These one of a kind cookbooks are available for \$10.00 and make wonderful gifts. The cook book contains over 240 well- loved recipes including appetizers, main dishes, desserts and many others. Recipes include the contributor's name, enabling you to find the recipes of family and friends.

## WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

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



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

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

**Lucky Baldwin's**  
21 Kersting Court  
(626) 355-1140

**Mary's Market**  
561 Woodland Drive  
(626) 355-4534

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

The "Milton and Harriet Goldberg Recreation Area"  
Groundbreaking and Dedication  
Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> 10:00 a.m.  
at 171 S. Sunnyside Ave., Sierra Madre.  
Call 626-355-5278 for more information.



Mayor Howser with (l to r) Ann Luke; Chatting in Kersting Court and Taking The City Tour with Enid Joffe and Phylis Chapman



The Perfect Attire For A Centennial!



Residents watch attentively as we get a new Mayor!



A wonderful picnic at the Passionist Retreat



Congregational Church Choir



Canon dedication at Memorial Park during Pioneer Days Activities



Taking A Look At Sierra Madre's History



Wine & Jazz Fest brought live music to Downtown.



Saturday's Wine & Jazz Fest brings out the crowds



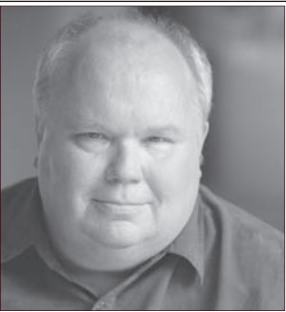
Saturday's Wine & Jazz Fest brings out the crowds

Photo Credits: Huell Howser/Centennial Picnic - Dean Lee; Memorial Park - D. Lee and S. Henderson; Wine and Jazz Fest - P. Carpenter



# This, That, and The Other Thing

By Rich Johnson



In case you're interested, I am halfway through the six week run of the Neil Simon play, "The Good Doctor" at the Sierra Madre Playhouse. I haven't seen any press on the play yet. If I don't see something this week I'll write a totally objective review of the dazzling set and marvelous performances.

By the way, I lost a \$10 bet on Monday. I bet Mike, the Stage Manager, someone would come to their senses and replace me with an actual actor. But, like the energizer bunny (or maybe Godzilla), I keep going and going and going. There is, however a rumor circling the theater that Neil Simon is desperately trying to get in touch with our director. So, maybe my time is running out.

The Sierra Madre Playhouse is a small, intimate theater that seats only 99 people. And I'll let you in on a secret: There is a reason it only seats 99. You see, actors who are in the actor's unions, like Screen Actors Guild, Equity, and AFTRA can perform in nonunion plays only if there are fewer than 100 seats in the theater.

Now, let's switch gears. Guys, listen up. There is someone very special involved in this play. And when you come to the play after the curtain goes down ask to meet Randy. Randy is my personal hero. Why? First and foremost he is the brilliant stage designer who also runs the lighting.

That's not why he's my hero. Second, he is hair-impaired like me. But that's not why he is my hero. He's my hero because, somehow, he managed to talk a beauty queen into being his bride. His wife is our celebrated and brilliant director, the vivacious and beautiful actress June Chandler. Way to go Randy! When I see them both I am going to ask June WHY and Randy HOW. Then I'm writing a book.

As of this writing there are fires burning all over the southland. My prayers are with all those families affected by the ravaging blazes. I remember the fires that threatened our area a dozen or so years ago. We were living in Upper Hastings Ranch at the time and the fires got close enough to where we packed our cars ready to evacuate down Michillinda. You certainly learn quickly what's really valuable when deciding what to pack. My six- year old son, Alex, loaded in all his super hero action figures with matching weapons. My five-year daughter, Olivia, had a matching number of Barbie dolls and clothes. I loaded in my guitars. And my wife packed away what I instantly realized were the most precious items in our possession. The photo albums. Other than the kids, photos are the only completely irreplaceable treasures. You might remember that just in case.

## 100 YEARS (continued from page 1)

"he had heard a lot about it." Howser never took his sunglasses off adhering to true California principles.

The grand finale was a community picnic at Mater Dolorosa Passionist Retreat at which time an estimated 1,000 residents gathered for a town photo commemorating the end of the year's centennial celebrations. Later council member Don Watts joked, "I'll see you in another 100 years."

In the photograph, Howser was somewhere in the middle. Earlier other council members had also joked about the checking of IDs. Howser referred to the council members as "his honorary staff." Before truly leaving at a long days end, he turned the city back over to Joffe and said, "Sierra Madre in truly a part of California's gold."

## BARGAIN BOOKS TABLE AT SIERRA MADRE LIBRARY

### Cool Weather Cool Deals

The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library will have a "Bargain Books Table" inside the Library from Monday, November 5, through Saturday, November 10, during the Library's public open hours. Featured subjects will include History, Biographies, Animals, Gardening, Children's books, speciality books, and Fiction, all in good condition. All books will be sold at the bargain price of \$1.00.

The Sierra Madre Public Library, located at 440 West Sierra Madre Boulevard in Sierra Madre, is open Monday through Wednesday from noon to 9 p.m., Thursday and Friday from noon to 6 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For further information on programs and services please visit the Library's web site at [www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us](http://www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us) or call (626) 355-7186.

# Homeowners Must Be ProActive When It Comes To Fire Safety

By Caroline Brown

In 1991 the Oak Hills Fire brought into public focus, unlike any fire before, the need for homeowner participation and preparation for wildfire in the urban interface zone. At one point, in the course of that fire, a home caught on fire every 11 seconds. In fact, our publisher/editor, Susan Henderson, lost her home in that fire. That fire resulted in the formation of California's Fire Safe Council and ultimately to the formation of the Sierra Madre Fire Safe Council (SMFSC). SMFSC is working to give homeowners information needed to minimize loss and make our foothill community less vulnerable.

Southern California's constant natural disaster scenario is wildfire. The wildfires of 2003 and 2007 have caused enormous loss--lives, homes, businesses, pets, wildlife, natural resources. Those losses are in the billions of dollars that can be counted and there is no measurement for the heartache and suffering. So the question must be

asked, *How can Sierra Madre be as fire safe as possible?*

Sierra Madre is in the "Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone." Homeowner preparation is paramount. Our Red Flag Patrol is on the alert when conditions warrant and we are called upon by our Fire Marshal. The Red Flag Patrol canvases the area and takes note of potential fire hazards. Volunteers then contact the appropriate authorities so that the situation can be remedied. (FYI - More volunteers are needed.)

Many Sierra Madre foothill residents have been evacuated in the face of on coming wildfire. Those of us who have been through evacuations know our fire history and what to expect. With each evacuation you become more vigilant and more prepared. You can only perform well what you practice often. New residents need to learn from their neighbor's past experiences.

Residents must provide a "defensible space" through fuel modification around their hillside homes. Check the guidelines at the State Fire Marshal's website: [www.osfm.fire.ca.gov](http://www.osfm.fire.ca.gov) where 100' guidelines are given for removing flammable brush. Trees should be free from dead and overhanging branches. Too much brush removal can result in unwanted erosion. Trimming oak trees in the wrong season or too extensively can harm

# User Utility Taxes Challenged In Washington

## Sierra Madre May Face Same Problems As Pasadena

By Dean Lee

Regardless of the funding source used for the impassioned Police Officers Initiative, the city may have to vote in April just to salvage the city's current \$1 million Utility Users Tax (UUT) because the federal government has made changes to the Federal Excise Tax (FET) provisions related to taxing telephone services, said Sierra Madre City Attorney Sandra Levin.

Pasadena is currently in the middle of a heated debate over Measure D to secure their UUT and proponents say that, if not passed, drastic cuts to police, fire, youth services, senior services and libraries will be imminent in that city.

Although technically not a new tax, voters would be asked to update language in the Pasadena Municipal Code relating to the UUT as required by law. Complicating things even more, Levin said proposed federal legislation next year could prevent cities from rewriting, at all, any new UUT municipal codes.

Assistant Pasadena City Manager, Julie Gutierrez, along with Levin and others, said that Senator John McCain (R-Arizona) had unsuccessfully tried to attach a ban on collecting UUTs as part of the Permanent Internet Tax Freedom Act. It was said that McCain is looking for another vehicle to ban UUTs and it is inevitable that he would do so. "Time is running out," Gutierrez said.

A current internet tax moratorium expires nationwide Nov. 1 unless renewed, although Levin said most cities were not looking to try taxing the internet.

Sierra Madre city staff also confirmed that if the Ad-Hoc Finance Committee recommendations do not include using and raising the city's UUT to pay for the proposed higher police salaries, having two tax measures that end up on the same ballot would confuse many residents even more.

A number of Sierra Madre council members, including Kurt Zimmerman, have said that they will only support the police initiative if there is a mechanism to fund it. One resident said studies always show frustrated voters vote no. The April ballot will also include two Sierra Madre city council seats up for reelection - those currently held by Mayor Enid Joffe and Councilmember John Buchanan.

Sierra Madre's Ad-Hoc Finance Committee is also looking at possibly setting up assessment districts, such as a Mello-Roos tax, where a special tax could be set aside for police and paramedics. Other taxes are also being reviewed by staff as possible funding for police.

The UUT issue swept through town the day after Levin addressed the Pasadena City Council while answering a question about their draft emergency measure, Measure D, "Pasadena Utility Users Tax Continuation Measure" written by former Sierra Madre

City Attorney, Michael Colantuono. Levin and Colantuono are partners at the law firm Colantuono & Levin, PC., who are also consultants for the City of Pasadena.

Assistant Pasadena City Manager Gutierrez simply explained at last week's meeting that today's wireless technology and cell phones do not correctly reflect how the UUT is collected. Many carriers now bundle services, and cell phones don't charge for long distance, she said. Last year the IRS said they would stop collecting tax on long distance phone calls for this very reason, and some analysts have suggested that voice over IP, calls made over the internet, have drastically cut UUT fund availability for many cities.

Levin defended recommendations to declare an emergency Pasadena special UUT election on Feb. 5. Such an election comes with a cost of \$432,000. Council member Steve Haderlein questioned what constitutes an 'emergency.' Defining emergency became a sticking point on which the council quickly stalled. Council member Chris Holden then questioned the cost, saying it was the largest he had ever seen.

"If a general tax is going to be put on a special election ballot, it has to be based on a declaration of an emergency by a unanimous council," Levin said. "Proposition 218 does not define an emergency... it allows for the council, who are in the best position, to decide what is an emergency."

Levin also explained that a fiscal emergency would be one where vital services such as fire and police would be lost. Revenue from Pasadena's UUT equals \$10.4 million and Pasadena City Manager Cynthia Kurtz said that was the third largest source of revenue to the city's general fund. Holden also explained that whatever they decided, each council member would have to go back and rally their constituents for a yes vote.

Council member Sid Tyler further said Colantuono's language was confusing and wanted to simplify it. The Pasadena council put the matter off until November 5, the last possible date. As written, the measure states that Pasadena's UUT money funds general city services including 911 response; essential police, fire and school safety; gang/drug prevention; after-school, parks, recreation, senior and other services.

Levin said Sierra Madre is, as are many cities across the state, in the same situation as Pasadena. Kurtz also said Monday that staff found in reviewing other cities with similar measures, they had all passed with the exception of those who tried to raise it. She said Pasadena planned to stay revenue neutral and Haderlein called it "taking too much from the cookie jar."

Levin said Sierra Madre's proposal to double the UUT from 6 percent to 12 would be different, in that residents understand why the money is needed.

them, producing fire hazards later on. The homeowner needs to follow the guidelines carefully.

In the past winds, you have found where the vulnerable parts of your home are. These are the areas where the leaves and downed branches collect. The University of California at Berkeley's Fire Center website: [www.firecenter.berkeley.edu/toolkit](http://www.firecenter.berkeley.edu/toolkit) shows the homeowner how to reduce the vulnerable parts of their home where blowing embers miles ahead of the fire can collect and burn your house to the ground.

In this current fire disaster, newscasters reported fire captains praising the work of their local Fire Safe Councils. Our next meeting is November 12, 7 p.m. at the Sierra Madre City Council chambers. On November 18, the Sierra Madre Fire Marshal will be giving a Thermo-gel demonstration from 12-2 p.m. at Mary's Market. For more information call 355-0741.

These are just a few tips for you to consider. There is a lot of information available to assist you. Please go to any of the websites referenced. Or, feel free to contact the Sierra Madre Fire Safe Council by calling 626-355-0741, 7135 or 9530. You can also reach us via email at: [smfiresafecouncil@hotmail.com](mailto:smfiresafecouncil@hotmail.com)

## 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](http://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**

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

Posted: September 17, 2007

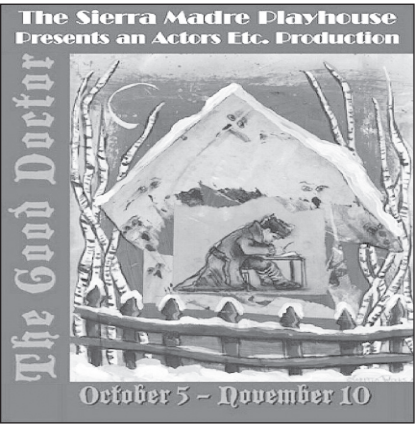
## Adopt Peppermint Today



Peppermint, an adorable, eight-month-old brown tabby with green eyes, is looking for a new home. She is very friendly and loves attention. Peppermint likes cat toys and would make a wonderful addition to a loving individual or family. Come visit with this lovely cat 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 A220981 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](http://www.phsspc.org)



#### Performances:

**Fridays:** 11/2, 11/9  
at 8:00pm

**Saturdays:** 11/3, 11/10  
at 8:00pm

**Sundays:** 10/28, 11/4  
at 2:30pm

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

**Rummage Sale**  
**Saturday**  
**November 3rd**  
**8:30am-3pm**  
**Sierra Madre**  
**Methodist Church**  
**695 W. Sierra**  
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# MountainViews-Observer PASADENA

## Pasadena’s Great China Controversy: Float Or No Float?

### *MVO Exclusive: Sister Cities President Jane Hallinger Speaks Out*

By Dean Lee

With only two months to go before Pasadena’s biggest event —The Tournament of Roses Parade— Jane Hallinger Pasadena’s Sister Cities president explained what it took to get the now controversial Sister Cities China/Olympic float to become a reality. She also discusses what Mayor Bill Bogaard’s true involvement was and why the float is so important to their program.

Hallinger said that above all else the Sister Cities was a “people to people” program and not “government to government.” And, although she said any human rights violations should be dealt with by governments, having real human contact with everyday people was the only way relationships could be built.

“We are English teachers,” she said. “We don’t have any hidden agenda or hidden involvement in this. We are the people everyone should be mad at.”

According to Hallinger, John Li, president of the Caltech Falun Club, was once part of the Sister Cities program, “He did tell you that?” she asked. Li has been the spokesperson for a number of groups against the float, and is here in exile due to his involvement with Falun Gong.

Li said he had nothing against the Sister Cities, and what he was doing is bringing awareness to the issue of human rights. Li, as well as others, also planned to work with the Sister Cities as recommended in a draft report from the Human Relations Committee released last month. The report states that any recommendations

regarding the float should be delivered to China through the Sister Cities.

The report also acknowledges that individuals practicing Falun Gong have been imprisoned and tortured for their belief. Falun Gong is outlawed in China and the Chinese

“This idea of a China float came out of nowhere else but the Sister Cities”

—Hallinger

government has tried to go so far as to ask Caltech to take down the group’s website and stop Falun groups from practicing on campus. Caltech administrators said they had no plans to do so.

Li and others have also addressed the city council a number of times. During the first meeting, Mayor Bogaard blatantly told them that any float in the parade was entirely a Tournament of Roses decision, although later the council agreed they should take a stand on the human rights violations going on in China.

According to Hallinger, in October of 2004 on the fifth anniversary of the Xicheng District of Beijing becoming a Sister City, the two groups held ceremonial celebrations both in China and in Pasadena.

At one of the meetings, she thought, “Wouldn’t it be neat to do something for the upcoming Olympics through the Sister Cities?” After a number of discussions, the Pasadena Sister City Committee came up with the idea of a float commemorating both their relationships and the Olympics.

“The People on the committee, including myself, thought this would be a wonderful opportunity to negotiate a float,” she said. “We were all revved up about the Olympics in 2008. We look at the Olympics as worldwide people-to-people games.” “This idea of a float came out of nowhere else but the Sister Cities”, she added.

Bogaard described himself, “as a cheerleader,” for the Sister Cities organization in a follow-up interview last week. He also said he had no interest or plans to attend the Beijing Olympics.



Falun Gong practitioner Ann Lau pictured, holds a letter addressed to Tournament of Roses Chairman C.L. Keedy III. The full text of the letter can be found at [mvobserver.com](http://mvobserver.com)

Photo D. Lee/MVO

Li said he disagreed with the float originating in the United States, “Having a float goes back to 1996, when I heard about it from inside the government before I came to the United States, before the Sister



Demonstrators against the Float and Chinese Government Photo By D. Lee/MVO

City, before the Beijing Olympics.”

Hallinger said money was their biggest obstacle as neither Sister City had the resources to fund a \$400,000 float. “We thought in 2005, by bringing representatives to experience the Rose Parade first hand, they would have a better understanding of what it was. Then they might want to sponsor it.”

Prior to that, even though they met with officials from within China’s government, the committee never got a sense China knew what the parade was.

Some said this was certainly true at a recent demonstration in front of Tournament House. A number of protesters did not know what the house was, let alone what the parade was. Several protesters said they were there only to protest the China Olympics.

Bogaard said there has always been a float dedicated to the Olympics every year they are held,

“no matter what city is hosting them.” He added this year was no different but could not recall if Sister Cities had ever entered a float previously. “That’s a question for the Tournament of Roses.” He did recall that Los Angeles, Athens and Mexico City all had Olympic-themed floats.

Hallinger said until this year there was a lull and they had not heard anything about a China float since 2005.

“Then we had Avery Dennison agree to put up half the money and we thought the Beijing government would put up the other half, but that didn’t come true.” Hallinger added that Avery Dennison decided to sponsor the float through a relationship with Alan Lamson, the chair of the Sister City China Subcommittee.

After the Roundtable of Southern California Chinese-American Organizations was put together and said they would co-sponsor the float by paying the other half, the Sister City committee felt edged out according to Hallinger. “We went to the first China Rose Float meeting and demanded that we have someone sit on the committee,” She said.

“It’s our float. We also said we wanted Sister City members to ride on the float and they agreed to at least one.”

Both Hallinger and Bogaard said no government officials from the People’s Republic of China will ride on the float. “I assume there will be past Olympians, maybe from the local area, Avery Dennison and the Roundtable,” Bogaard said.

Hallinger noted that in the beginning they wanted China to be involved, at one point even building the float in China and shipping it here. She said they later found out tournament rules don’t allow that. In the end, Hallinger said, nothing from the float will now come from China. Bogaard echoed her comments, adding that the only insignia on the float will be the one on loan from the International Olympic Committee.

The Council’s next regular meeting will devote the entire meeting to discussing the Human Relations Commission’s recommendations regarding human rights, China and the Rose Parade float.

## Senator Scott Shares the ‘State of the State’

By Teresa Baxter

Pasadena City Hall was the location for this year’s “State of the State” address given by District 21 Senator Jack Scott, D-Altadena. The 21st District includes Pasadena, Glendale, Burbank, a portion of the city of Los Angeles, and other surrounding cities and communities.

Scott brought up key issues that mainly affect Pasadena residents, as he spoke before the City Council during their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday.

“My relationship with the City of Pasadena has always been very warm and I enjoyed a great deal being in communication with [the city] about your concerns, and in turn give you information about the State Legislature,” he said.

Scott went on to tell the Council of some of the bills that he authored that were recently signed into law by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. He also gave a report of how many of his bills have become laws in his history with the Legislature. “I have recently reviewed the number of bills that I’ve authored...and I have had 158 signed into law,” he said.

Some of the bills this year dealt



Jack Scott, State Senator, 21st District

with the issue of education, due mainly to the fact that Scott serves as the Chair to the Senate Education Committee, he said. There was an emphasis given towards the importance of incorporating a stronger vocational program in local school programs. This year he submitted SB-52, which will make it easier for individuals to get credentialed in order to teach the vocational education courses.

There was also a bill submitted regarding nursing education. Scott acknowledged that there is a tremendous nursing shortage in California, stating, “Unfortunately we are last among all states in terms of the ratios of nurses to our population.” SB-319 was submitted to direct the Office of Statewide

Health planning and development to serve as a clearinghouse for nursing workforce supply and demand. The bill will also eliminate the need for anyone having already earned a BA in another field to go through general course requirements again, in order to permit attainment of a nursing degree more quickly.

The assembly session in January will also be presented one of Scott’s bills dealing with higher education accountability for all the colleges and universities. The State is spending \$17 billion on higher education and “we want to make sure we’re getting the bang for the buck that we should,” he said.

One of the biggest issues facing the State has to do Gov. Schwarzenegger’s Health Care Reform Plan. Schwarzenegger recently announced a program that would guarantee that all residents of the state were insured. There is approximately 6.2 million of the California population that have no health care insurance.

“I think that is a great concern and I have been very supportive of a bill that would move in that direction,” said Scott. “Unfortunately, we have not yet reached an agreement on how to do that mammoth task...I’ll just simply pledge to you that every chance that I get to broaden coverage for the citizens of California, the better we all will be.”

## Pwp To Hire Independent Energy Planning Consultant, Invites Public Input At Meetings

Pasadena Water and Power (PWP) will seek the services of an independent consultant to advise on revisions to its draft 20-year Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), the utility’s blueprint for meeting the future energy needs of its customers. PWP anticipates issuing a request for proposals (RFP) for consulting services in early December, and going to City Council for final approval and award in early 2008.

PWP invites its customers to assist in the development of the RFP by participating in two upcoming public meetings. PWP will present the proposed scope of services for the RFP to the Energy and Water Committee of the Environmental Advisory Commission on Tuesday, Oct. 30, at 5 p.m. at 150 S. Los Robles, Suite 200. An updated scope of services for the RFP will be presented to the full Commission on Tuesday, Nov. 13, at 6 p.m. at 175 N. Garfield Avenue. A draft scope of work for the RFP is posted on [www.pwpweb.com/irp](http://www.pwpweb.com/irp).

The IRP is Pasadena Water and Power’s roadmap for ensuring reliable, environmentally responsible electric service at competitive rates for its customers over the next two decades. The IRP takes into account future energy demand, advances in renewable energy resources and technology, energy efficiency, conservation, environmental legislation, regulatory requirements and the need for energy independence, among other considerations. A revised draft IRP will be made available for public review and comment in 2008.

To reserve a seat at the upcoming meetings, please call Gloria Acevedo at (626) 744-3715. Written comments from the public should be directed to:

Steve Endo  
Pasadena Water and Power  
150 S. Los Robles Ave., Suite 200  
Pasadena, CA 91101  
Phone: 626-744-7599  
Email: [sendo@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:sendo@cityofpasadena.net)

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

There were 15 fires burning in seven southland counties this past week. Those were the ones that had location names as of this writing. Each came with many spot fires associated with them. Sierra Madre Fire Safe Council was on Red Flag Alert patrol. We want all of the city residents to consider themselves members of this patrol.


While other communities burned and homes were lost and people killed or injured as a result of these fires, the residents of Sierra Madre need to mentally prepare for an evacuation. You cannot perform what you do not practice.

Where were your family members, your pets? Was your car facing out for the drive to safety? Were you prepared to leave early with the photos and computer hard drive and mementos important to your family? Do you have an old phone that plugs directly into the phone jack and is not dependent on electricity to pick up the phone signal?

Have you managed the brush on your property to provide a defensible space for the fire fighters? Have you photographed the contents of your house and left this information with someone far from our "Very High Fire Hazard Frequency Zone?"

If you have bought Thermo-gel pretreatment for your home, have you put it outside the entrance to your property in a clearly marked container? If you do not have the advanced time to apply it yourself--leave it out--the fire department MAY have time if you have provided them defensible space.

The next Fire Safe Council meeting will be Monday, November 12, 2007 at 7 P.M. in the City Council Chambers. Fire Marshall Snyder will be showing a film entitled: The Science Behind Brush Clearance. For more information contact the Sierra Madre Fire Safe Council at 355-0741 or 355-9350. [smfiresafecouncil@hotmail.com](mailto:smfiresafecouncil@hotmail.com) or [c.brown@mobserver.com](mailto:c.brown@mobserver.com)



*Environmentally Speaking,*

**"Did You Know?"**

***The Greening of Trick-or-Treating***

There *are* ways to green your trick-or-treating. Halloween night is made for energy conservation. If there's one day of the year where you don't want to crank lots of lights in your house, it's Halloween. Rely on portable lighting such as glow sticks, flashlights and backlights, which will conserve energy while also setting a scary mood for the night.

Your candy may come in difficult-to-recycle wrappers, but what about the bag you keep it in? There are plenty of eco-friendly options that are recyclable, made of recycled products or are reusable.

Costumes usually get about as much use as wedding dresses, but that doesn't have to be the case. Certain parts of a costume can be reused over and over again with just a little creativity.

Chances are that you are going to have leftover candy. (Unless of course you live in the vicinity of Alegria) In Sierra Madre there are options for donating your excess treats. They can be given to the Senior Center lunch program and Meals-on-Wheels, at the Hart Memorial Park House, 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Call (626) 355-0256 for more information. Also, the Center for Living Independence for Multi-Handicapped Blind (C.L.I.M.B.) at 171 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. might be happy to take the surplus tidbits off your hands. Call them at (626) 355-1447.

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SIERRA MADRE POLICE BLOTTER

*During the week of Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, to Saturday October 20<sup>th</sup>, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 265 calls for service.*

Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>:

11:03 AM – Arrest, 500 block West Sierra Madre Blvd. A driver was stopped for a minor traffic violation. A records check revealed that the driver did not possess a valid driver's license. The driver was arrested and transported to the police station, booked and released on a written promise to appear.

12:32 PM – Vandalism, 222 West Sierra Madre Blvd. Graffiti was reported in the men's restroom of Memorial Park. The bathroom walls and toilet seat were damaged. A check of the area revealed a damaged city sign and additional graffiti in the bandshell. No estimate for repair was available.

1:32 PM – Arrest, 600 block Mariposa Ave. A driver was stopped for a minor traffic violation. A records check revealed the driver did not possess a valid driver's license. The driver was arrested and released on a written promise to appear.

Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup>:

12:01 PM – Arrest, Baldwin Ave and Orange Grove Ave. A car was stopped for a minor traffic violation. A records check revealed the passenger had an outstanding arrest warrant. The passenger was arrested and issued a written promise to appear and released.

Friday, October 19<sup>th</sup>:

2:28 PM – Vandalism, 500 block North Canon Ave. A resident called to report that three new car tires were flattened. She said the first tire punctured was on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, the next on October 14<sup>th</sup>, and the third on October 18<sup>th</sup>. The vandalism occurred between 3:00 pm and 6:30 AM. The loss was estimated at \$130.00 per tire.

Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>:

12:34 AM – Brush fire, Santa Anita Canyon Road. Officers were dispatched to the area regarding a brush fire reported by Southern California Edison workers. Upon arrival, fire equipment from the Sierra Madre Fire Department was en route. Arcadia, Monrovia, Pasadena and L.A. County fire engines were dispatched to assist. A command post was established at Santa Anita Canyon Rd and Arno Dr. The fire was contained and extinguished by 2:52 am. The cause of the fire has not been determined and is under investigation by the Sierra Madre Police Department.

3:02 AM – DUI arrest, Foothill Blvd and Merry Oaks Ave, Arcadia. Officers stopped a car for a minor equipment 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.

ARCADIA POLICE BLOTTER

*For the period of Sunday, October 14, through Saturday, October 20, the Police Department responded to 964 calls for service of which 132 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.*

**Sunday, October 14:**  
Between 5:00 p.m. on October 13 and 9:00 a.m. on October 14, a commercial burglary occurred in the 400 block of West Norman. Unknown suspect(s) stole about 300 feet of copper plumbing from within the wall framework and attic area of a house that was under construction.

During an extra patrol of the wash area by Foothill and First, officers saw three juveniles loitering under the bridge around 2:24 p.m. As they approached the juveniles, a 14-year-old male Asian attempted to dispose marijuana from a plastic baggie, a glass-smoking pipe, and 2 packs of cigarettes. The male juvenile was arrested and later released on a citation to his aunt.

**Monday, October 15:**  
A residential burglary occurred between 5:00 a.m. on October 12 and 1:57 a.m. on October 15 in the 500 block of South Fifth. Unknown suspect(s) made forced entry into the house and stole a safe containing expensive watches and jewelry.

Around 1:24 p.m., a traffic stop was initiated at Myrtle and Live Oak for a broken windshield. Investigation revealed that the 24-year-old male Hispanic driver was on parole for grand theft auto. A consent search of the vehicle revealed two baggies containing a green leafy substance resembling marijuana and a baggie containing an off-white rock substance resembling rock cocaine. The driver was taken into custody for possession of a controlled substance

**Tuesday, October 16:**  
A traffic stop was conducted at Huntington and Holly around 6:58 p.m. for an equipment violation. A 52-year-old male African-American passenger was arrested for 2 outstanding misdemeanor warrants totaling \$50,000

**Wednesday, October 17:**  
A residential burglary occurred in the 400 block of West Norman between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. An elderly female victim advised that a male Caucasian suspect, described to be in his 30's, 6', 170 pounds, told her that he was working on her neighbor's wall and needed to examine the wall separating the two homes. He stayed for about 10 minutes, but she later discovered that drawers in her bedroom were open and money missing.

**Thursday, October 18:**  
Between 8:00 p.m. on October 17 and 7:00 a.m. on October 18, a grand theft auto and residential burglary occurred in the 400 block of Monte Vista. A victim advised that two male Hispanics have been working for him at the construction site for over two months, and he has always left his 1983 white Chevy pickup work truck at the location. He also gave them the resident's house key so they could stay at the location. Today, he returned to the site to find the two employees had stolen his truck and the resident's Bose system, flat screen television, and cook top.

A commercial burglary occurred at Arcadia Congregational Church, 2607 South Santa Anita. Between 3:05 p.m. and 3:23 p.m., unknown suspect(s) smashed a window with a rock to gain entrance into the church. Once inside, the suspect(s) broke into an office and stole a computer.


**Friday, October 19:**  
Shortly before 4:00 p.m., a traffic stop was made at Live Oak and Peck for an excessively loud booming stereo and expired registration. A record check revealed that the 27-year-old male Hispanic driver was on probation for drugs and his license expired in 2003. A consent search of his vehicle revealed a baggie containing a white crystalline substance resembling methamphetamine, and he was taken into custody without incident.

Officers were called to the San Gabriel Medical Center around 7:14 p.m. in reference to a possible battery that occurred in the 1400 block of Linden. A 76-year-old female victim advised that her daughter became angry and twisted her arms and threw her onto a couch. The woman sustained lacerations and skin burns to her arms.

**Saturday, October 20:**  
A traffic stop was conducted around 4:58 a.m. for a code violation at Santa Anita and California. A record check revealed that the 20-year-old male Caucasian driver had an outstanding warrant, and an inventory search of the vehicle revealed a glass-smoking pipe and a baggie containing a white powdery substance resembling cocaine. The man was arrested at the scene for possession of a controlled substance and outstanding misdemeanor warrant.

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# Arts & More



## Sierra Madre Pioneer Cemetery

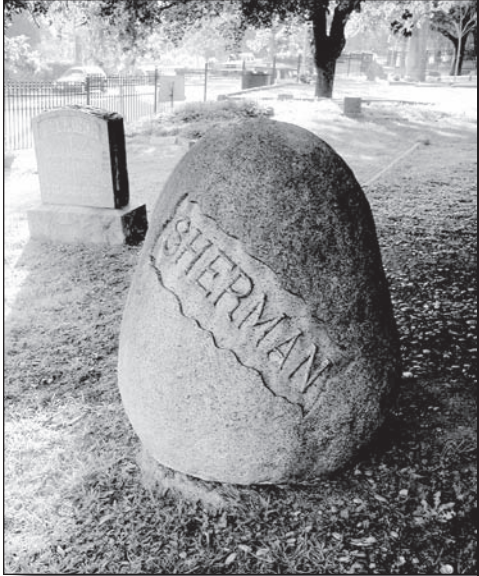
By Virginia Olive Hoge

Sierra Madre's Pioneer Cemetery sits on 2.32 acres towards the east end of the city. The old cemetery, founded in 1884, is old enough to contain the graves of 15 Civil war vets, including the grave of at least one 20-year old soldier who died in that war. The cemetery has the requisite over-grown charm and carries the important element of mystery to it. None of the markers are of the large, showy variety the wealthy leave to commemorate themselves. The markers speak of a more humble, immigrant farming community – like the one film director Frank Capra's Sicilian father moved to in order to work the orange orchards, eventually saving enough money to buy his own small plot of land.

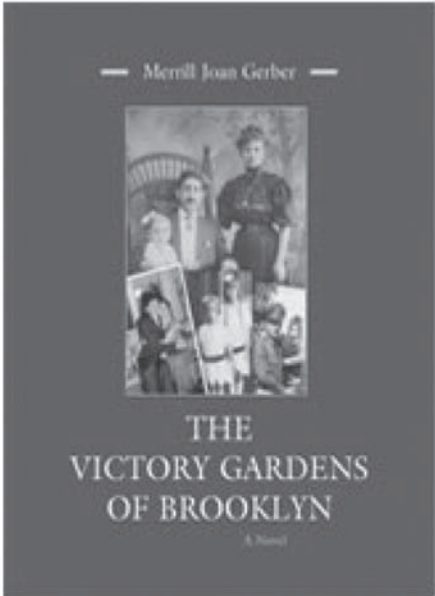
There is a great deal of variety and beauty in the headstones. One that stands out is a literal "stone" – a large bolder really – with the name "Sherman" carved across it. There are several pairs of headstones, some laid out in the ground in an eternal full-sized "bed", others stand, slightly tilted, holding their eternal post, side-by-side.

The bright California sun gives a magical light show there every afternoon, as long, dark shadows grow and stretch across the plain.

Are there any ghosts there? Well, several important people, including Abraham Lincoln, seemed to believe there was a possibility of them, and since every possibility holds promise of true, the statistics are in favor of ghosts being there – especially on Halloween night – wandering through the graveyard, ghostly figures of a Sierra Madre long gone.



## Sierra Madre Author Showcases 27<sup>th</sup> Publication



In November, Sierra Madre resident and Prize-winning novelist and short-story writer Merrill Joan Gerber, will be discussing her new novel, "The Victory Gardens Of Brooklyn" at The Huntington Library on November 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 pm in the Overseas room. She will also be at Vroman's on November 8<sup>th</sup>. Gerber, who has lived in Sierra Madre for almost 40 years, teaches Fiction Writing at Caltech. She also taught at Pasadena City College. Her list of accomplishments and awards is impressive. She's published many stories in magazines--The New Yorker, Atlantic, Redbook, and Her novel, The Kingdom of Brooklyn, won the Ribalow Award from Hadassah Magazine.

### The Victory Gardens of Brooklyn

A Novel by Merrill Joan Gerber  
Paper \$24.95 978-0-8156-0892-9

"In pursuit of illumination and understanding, Gerber maps the human condition in all its web of troubled desire. Its manifold voices linger."  
Cynthia Ozick

## Singers / Songwriters Serenade Old Town Monrovia Coffee Drinkers

Local folk-pop artist and award winning songwriter, Andrea Hamilton, will headline at a free evening of Indie music at Monrovia Coffee Shop on Friday, November 2nd. Described as "simply honest", she is said to "sing from the depths of her soul. Even more stunning than her voice is her inner light." Impressing so many people of late and playing so many events each week, her fan base may be reaching a tipping point and Flat Cat Radio says they see Grammy's in her future. After touring more broadly, Andrea generously returns close to her old Azusa Pacific neighborhoods to keep delighting her local fans, hence her planned free event in Monrovia. As always, the sparse keyboard and strings will highlight her powerful and introspective vocals and riveting song writing. She brings to the antique wooden stage at the quaint coffee shop a friend and solo singer/songwriter, Jacob Blaze, who may be a familiar entertainer to the Coffee Shop crowd. Opening the evening will be another Andrea (Davis-Griffin), who is an Altadena resident. She is also a Pasadena psychologist in private practice and consultant to Pasadena and Glendale public and private schools for the past two decades. Davis-Griffin heads up a large autism treatment program funded by the local Regional Centers for the Developmentally Disabled. Specially trained psychology graduate students provided intensive play therapy for the social and emotional development of children with autism in their homes and schools. Dr. Davis integrates psychological insight and theology as lead singer for the group Prayer/Life. This new quartet has developed an acoustic kind of folk-rock music reflecting on the personal side of the life of faith. With no guitars, the group surprises with a keyboard-front sound that features the prodigious talent of 21-year old John Stallworth at the piano. The 4 musicians seem quite proud of spanning 4 age-decades and 4 ethnicities. Musicians, downtown strollers, and coffee drink-connoisseurs will be serenaded by the three acts starting at 7:30. 425 S Myrtle Ave – Northwest corner of Myrtle & Lemon Monrovia, CA 91016.



Andrea Davis-Griffin and pianist John Stallworth

# The Art of Coffee



By Teresa Baxter

An enticing aroma blanketed the Pasadena Convention Center last weekend as coffee and tea drinkers, coffee roasters, baristas, musicians, artists, and anyone else dedicated to coffee, tea and the coffeehouse lifestyle convened to promote their caffeine-fueled passion at the 1st Annual "Coffee, Tea & Me Expo".

"For the first time on the west coast there was an event about the coffee and tea industry, open to the public, designed with the enthusiast in mind," said Lorren Repton, Event Organizer. "This is truly a feté of the coffeehouse lifestyle."

The event drew participation from as far north as Vancouver, WA, focusing on the latest trends in the burgeoning industry of a sub-culture that seemed dormant until an unnamed Seattle-based company exposed a market willing to pay \$4, for what was once a morning staple, to face the day.

Repton, Publisher of the *Coffee House Digest*, initiated the exposition as a place for the finest in the field to come together and share and integrate ideas with the consumer's best interests in mind. There was also an underlying theme that recognized the importance of embracing the growing popularity of fair trade principles.

Repton chose the venue to present the unofficial debut of the documentary "Strong Coffee" in the United States. The documentary focuses on the plight of Peruvian women and children that have been abandoned by their husbands overwhelmed by the over-exploited coffee industry. "Unable to manage the farms, the husbands often walk away from their obligations,

leaving family behind," said Gay Smith, Founder of the Café Femenino Coffee Project. "Peru also has one of the highest instances of domestic abuse. The documentary shows that once women are given esteem they are empowered to make life-changing decisions."

Local brewers were also on hand to represent Pasadena's place in the market. Chuck Jones of Jones Coffee Roaster's presented the art of roasting coffee from green beans.

"I am always a great supporter of trying to bring the consumers into the market, especially in our industry," said Jones. "We started a new consumer category to get people interested in taking the next step and it's exciting that these regional shows are gaining more interest about specialty coffee."

Monrovia based Caffè D'Amore, which melded an award-winning concept of uniting the love of coffee and chocolate together, was one of the most visited booths. Honored in 2005 as Best New Food Product by the prestigious Specialty Coffee Association of America, their "Sipping Chocolate" is a luxuriously rich dessert chocolate, which Caffè D'Amore describes as being "to the lover of fine chocolate what espresso is to the lover of fine coffee."

The highlight of the day was the appearance of two-time U.S. Barista Champion, Heather Perry. Perry is the only Barista in the United States to hold the distinction of representing the United States against competitors from 45 countries at the 2007 World Barista Championships in Tokyo, Japan. She took second place at the WBC; it is the first time an American has finished this high, and the highest finish ever for a woman.



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

## Alverno's Zena Brown is Rose Princess



Alverno senior Zena Brown has been tapped as a 2008 Rose Court Princess--the only Princess on the Rose Court from a private or Catholic high school.

For Zena, being on the Rose Court is a dream come true. "I've wanted this every since I was little," she says. "And being a Princess is even better than I imagined. The people are wonderful. I already feel like the other Princesses are my sisters."

Zena has been an active member of the Alverno community since freshman year. She is an Honor Roll student, a member of the California Scholarship Federation, a fourth year Ambassador, a Eucharistic minister, and a member of the Christian Service Club. She has twice earned Alverno's Teresa of Calcutta Christian Service Award for performing more that 160 hours service to others during the school year. Zena also volunteers at her former school, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Pasadena, as well as giving time to the Planetary Society and Huntington Hospital.

She attributes her experience in a variety of branches of Alverno student government with helping her prepare for the Rose Court. "Alverno has given me many opportunities to grow into a stronger, more confident person," she says. "Being on student government gave me the chance to lead."

Alverno's Head of School, Ann Gillick, calls Zena a great role model. "She is the young woman of conscience and conviction described in our Philosophy, as well as a fine student, and a delightful person. We are very proud of her."



2008 Rose Court (l to r): Princess Courtney Rubin, San Marino HS; Princess Chloe Ghoogassian, Pasadena HS; Princess Gaelen Stanford-Moore, So. Pasadena HS; Princess Katie Merrill, Pasadena HS; Rose Princess Zena Brown, Alverno HS; Queen Dusty Gibbs, Arcadia HS; Princess Kelsey MacDougall, La Canada HS  
Photo Courtesy PTR

## Sierra Madre Elementary Earns Best Marks PUSD District Wide Facility Assessment Results

By Teresa Baxter

A representative from Bunton Clifford Associates (BCA), contracted by the Pasadena Unified School District, presented an update regarding the necessary measures that are vital to meeting the PUSD Facilities Master Plan. This plan is one of the seven priorities for the Board's "Approach to Excellence" template to transform the District. BCA, a highly regarded architectural firm, provided the results from their "District Wide Conditions Assessments" that took place over the summer. 38 school sites were visited with the goal of identifying high priority projects, said BCA Project Manager, Joe Flatley. Room by room evaluations took place regarding mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems as well as structural review and roofing inspections. The assessment provided pertinent

information about the levels of importance for schools to receive modernization and seismic retrofits. Sierra Madre Elementary School earned the best marks from the inspection, while the 1930's-era McKinley showed to be the most critical of improvement.

Some schools had accessibility issues while others had incomplete construction projects. "There's some unfinished work that needs to be addressed and a lot of these sites need serious seismic updates," said Flatley.

The generalized findings of the BCA assessment concluded that Measure Y funding, intended to finance renovations, was inadequate to address the requirements of all sites, and significant work remains to achieve parity throughout the district. Approximately \$700 million would be considered necessary to complete the process of the recommended changes identified by the

BCA. It was acknowledged by Flatley that not all the work regarding miscellaneous modernizations call for immediate attention, but when it comes to infrastructure, code, health and safety, at least \$350 million should be prioritized to complete the task.

"In some ways this information seems so overwhelming, but in other ways I think it's a real opportunity," said Edwin Diaz, PUSD Superintendent. "Because now we have a body of information about the condition of our facilities and we can start making decisions based on real in-depth analysis."

Superintendent Edwin Diaz created the cornerstones for improvement by addressing the challenges that include a focus on academic achievement, accountability, communication, system capacity, human capacity, guiding coalitions and strategic planning.

## The Art Of Coarse Acting Opens at La Salle

The La Salle Visual and Performing Arts Department presents Michael Green's inspired work, The Art of Coarse Acting, a hilarious treatise of stage disaster and inadequacy, celebrating the many mistakes and calamities that live theatre is prone to. The six short and silly playlets that comprise the production - from a French farce to a Shakespearian epic - are chock full of lame lines, ridiculous roles, daft direction and awful acting.

The inspiration of the play, The Art of Coarse Acting, is an actor's primer of those facets of a fine dramatic performance that an audience may take for granted and an actor must struggle to perfect. The text teaches the positive traits of fine acting by highlighting the negative traits of coarse acting. According to Green, a coarse actor is "one who can remember his lines, but not the order in which they come. One who performs . . . amid lethal props. The Coarse Actor's aim is to upstage the rest of the cast. His hope is to be dead by Act Two so that he can spend the rest of his time playing cards with the crew. His problems? Everyone else connected with the production.

Schadenfreude may not be the most attractive of human sentiments, but it is undoubtedly one of the most universal. When the politician trips and falls on his way to the podium, the supermodel falls off her stilettos or the actor fluffs his lines, we're always ready to laugh.

The Art of Coarse Acting recognizes this wrong, but the actors heroically go on, in strict accordance with the script. If there is such a thing as Fine Acting, then Coarse Acting would be the opposite. This is a series of six one-act plays that parody the art of theatre, acting, etc., by breaking every faux pas in theatre.

Take in an evening of great student performances featuring Arlo Brooks, Eleanor Reitzel, Chad Robinson, Madisyn Stone, Luke Sciavaffa, Rose Sears, Scott Braaten, Courtney Little, Ian Fehring and a cast of 30 plus. Enjoy sets, lights and the atmosphere of the evening created by our technical theatre students. The play runs:

Nov. 3rd	8:00 pm.
Nov. 4th	6:00 pm
Nov. 10th	8:00 pm
Nov. 11th	2:00 pm and 6:00 pm
Nov. 17th	8:00 pm
Nov 18th	2:00pm only.

Tickets prices are \$9.00 for students and \$12.00 for adults. For information and reservations please call the Linda M. Grinstead Theatre box office at 626.696.4415. The School is located at 3880 East Sierra Madre Boulevard. Parking is free.

## SCHOOL DIRECTORY

**Alverno High School**  
200 N. Michillinda Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024  
(626) 355-3463  
Head of School: Ann M. Gillick  
E-mail address: agillick@alverno-hs.org

**Arroyo Pacific Academy**  
41 W. Santa Clara St. Arcadia, Ca,  
(626) 294-0661  
Principal: Phil Clarke  
E-mail address: pclarke@arroyopacific.org

**Bethany Christian School**  
93 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024  
(626) 355-3527  
Principal: James Lugenbuehl  
E-mail address: jml@bcsllions.org

**The Gooden School**  
192 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024  
(626) 355-2410  
Head of School: Patty Patano  
website: www.goodenschool.org

**LaSalle High School**  
3880 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Pasadena, Ca.  
(626) 351-8951  
Principal: Patrick Bonacci  
website: www.lasallehs.org

**Norma Coombs Alternative School**  
2600 Paloma St. Pasadena, Ca. 91107  
(626) 798-0759  
Principal: Dr. Vanessa Watkins  
E-mail address: watkins12@pusd.us

**Odyssey Charter School**  
725 W. Altadena Dr. Altadena, Ca. 91001  
(626) 229-0993  
Head of School: Lauren O'Neill  
website: www.odysseycharterschool.org

**Pasadena High School**  
2925 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Pasadena, Ca.  
(626) 798-8901  
Principal: Dr. Derick Evans  
website: www.pasadenahigh.org

**Pasadena Unified School District**  
351 S. Hudson Ave. Pasadena, Ca. 91109  
(626) 795-6981  
website: www.pusd@pusd.us

**St. Rita Catholic School**  
322 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024  
(626) 355-9028  
Principal: Joanne Harabedian  
website: www.st-rita.org

**Sierra Madre Elementary School**  
141 W. Highland Ave, Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024  
(626) 355-1428  
Principal: Gayle Bluemel  
E-mail address: gbluemel220@pusd.us

**Sierra Madre Middle School**  
160 N. Canon  
Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024  
(626) 836-2947

Principal: Gayle Bluemel  
Contact person: Garrett Newsom, Asst. Principal  
E-mail address: gbluemel220@pusd.us

**Weizmann Day School**  
1434 N. Altadena Dr.  
Pasadena, Ca. 91107  
(626) 797-0204  
Lisa Feldman: Head of School

**Wilson Middle School**  
300 S. Madre St. Pasadena, Ca. 91107  
(626) 449-7390  
Principal: Ruth Esseln  
E-mail address: resseln@pusd.us

**Pasadena Unified School District**  
351 S. Hudson Ave.  
Pasadena, Ca. 91109  
(626) 795-6981  
Website: www.pusd@pusd.us

## TRISH's TRUTH



## Trick - or - Treat... A "Thing" Of The Past?

By Trisha Collins

The last day of October happens to land on a Wednesday. You think, "What's the big deal, just another day, right?, wrong. Because everyone knows that October 31st is more than just a school/work day. It's Halloween, the one night out of the year when kids all over can dress up and stuff their faces with candy without getting in trouble. Halloween is a time for fun, tons of treats and hopefully, not that many tricks. The one out of three-hundred and sixty-five nights where you can look out your window and see everything, from a Disney Princess to Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, without even a question of confusion.

I can remember countless Halloween costumes I had throughout my childhood. One year, I was a bride, the next I was a Hippie from the seventies, and once, I was a cross between Tina Turner and a witch from The Wizard of Oz. Despite whatever my Halloween costume was, I almost always went trick or treating in my neighborhood. Now that I have been a teenager for a couple years, I'm kind of unsure if maybe I'm getting a little old for this kind of thing. Judging by the numerous advertisements received in the mail displaying kids costumes, I've come to the conclusion that "just maybe" their target audience is children. Typically meaning that children are generally the only ones going trick or treating. Haven't seen too many teenagers on the cover of flyers saying in orange and black spooky letters "Hot Halloween Costumes". Perhaps

this is one of those things that your Life Skills teacher tells you is apart of being a teenager, apart of growing up. You're stuck in between wanting to be treated like an adult (minus the responsibility, of course) and still yearning the benefits of childhood.

Imagine me, a 5ft 5in teenage girl amongst a crowd of under 4 feet mermaids and ghosts crowding around a door, a hand open for candy. That's a kind of weird and clearly awkward situation to be in, on a Halloween night. This is why I am going to come up with a conclusion for me, and maybe for other teens with similar views as I. Instead of asking yourself "Why go trick or treating???", ask yourself, "Why not?". Why not? It could be fun and plus, there's all that free candy involved! If you're concerned about how it "looks" , invite some of your friends to come along, and make it a night to remember! I'm slowly learning that just because your growing up, doesn't mean you have to forget all you've grown up with.

So come Wednesday night, when all you hear is laughter and candy wrappers being opened (hopefully not on your lawn), don't stay inside and sulk. Grab a funky hat, a pillowcase, and that seven-year-old spirit in you and join in on the fun, the one thing you never grow to old for.

(Next week is going to be a "Strictly 4 Teens" advice article, so if any readers have any comments, questions, or concerns, please e-mail me at t.collins@mvoobserver.com!!!)



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# Mountain Views-Observer

## MountainViews-Observer

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280 W. Sierra Madre Bl. #327  
Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024  
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Fax: 626-604-4548  
email: mvobserver@aol.com



## 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.

## OPINION

### True Colors

By Susan Henderson

**true** (*adj.*): being that which is the case rather than what is manifest or assumed; **colors** (*n*): an outward show



A little less than five years ago, my family and I moved to what we believed to be a wonderful little town. One that seemed to be at least a thousand miles from Los Angeles or any other big city. One where our neighbors actually greeted us with pies, cakes and offers of friendship. That's the way it was then and it is still that way now. However, beyond the boundaries of the street where we live, it sometimes appeared that the story was a little different. In the time I've been in this town we have had two council elections and two and a half controversial ballot issues. Somewhere along the way, many of us lost sight of why we live in this town. While we were arguing about stop signs, zoning codes, taxes, etc., some of us forgot where we really are. Our outward persona was not of a quiet, small town, but more like an urban war zone. That was what we led others to assume about our town.

However, if you had the opportunity to go the the Centennial closing picnic last week, you were reminded of why we are all here and how wonderful it really is.

Yes, we have had a year full of celebrations - and hats off to Judy Webb-Martin ,Toni Buckner, and the entire Centennial Committee for a great job. We have celebrated a lot of historic events over the last twelve months, but nothing compared to the last event - the picnic.

It wasn't that it was held at the Passionist Father's retreat which has all the ambience of paradise. It wasn't even the numbers of neighbors that gathered - at least one thousand. No, it was that, we were all there as one. Yes on V, No On V, Yes on F, No of F, ideological opposites and forensic adversaries all in one place. The young, the old, male, female, democratic, republican, green and independent. There we were, showing our true selves and the true spirit of this city. There we were, one big, diverse family having a great time and proud to be a Sierra Madrean.

That was a wonderful feeling. It was especially reassuring to me, having been on the front lines of battle and as publisher/editor of this newspaper. Too bad Enid was no longer mayor to enjoy the moment (Huell Howser filled her shoes for the event). But I know she recognized that for those four or five hours, we all came together as one big happy family.

And, now that I think about it, that is what we really are. One big happy family. One big family complete with the stubborn uncles, crazy aunts, noisy children, know it alls, brain dead cousins, etc. But one family none the less.

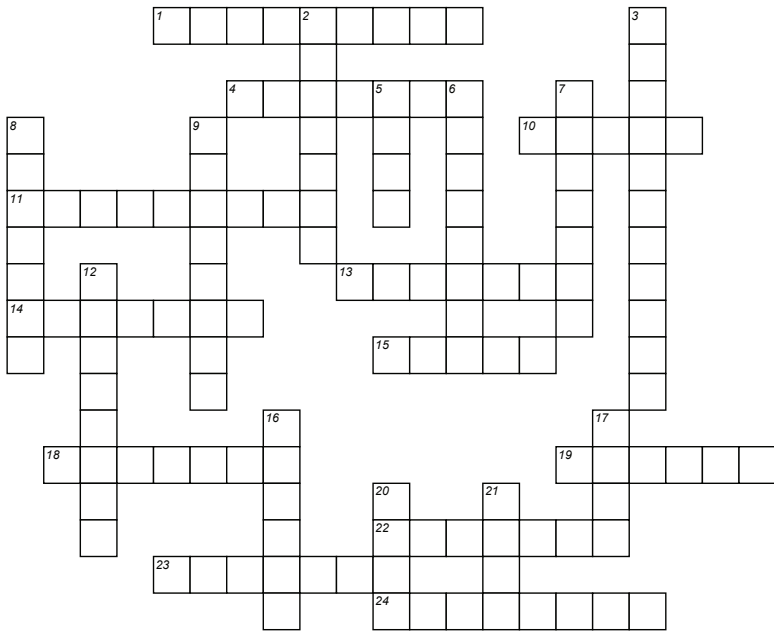
I know that some of you reading this may not understand it. But stop and think. Isn't that the reason you live in this town, because you desire an environment that isn't like other places? If you lived in even the best neighborhoods in larger cities, would it be like Sierra Madre? This is an incredible town and, despite our varied opinions about how we stay that way, we all love it. They say there is strength and unity in numbers, and although a thousand people represents only 10% of the town, the presence of so many was very moving. If you missed it, you missed seeing the real Sierra Madre at its best.

Looking ahead to the challenges we have to face regarding the financial stability of this town, I hope we can keep in mind that we all have a common love. I hope we keep in mind what it was like up on the hill with so many enjoying the true treasure of Sierra Madre.....us.....all of us.

There is only one thing we forgot to do. While Huell was mayor, we forgot to give him our wish lists of things to be done. You know, things like fix the budget, put more money in the city's coiffers and hook us up with royalties from our council meeting feeds!

## Happy Halloween Sierra Madre

*Interesting Facts About Halloween and The City*



### ACROSS

- 1 *All Hallows Eve*
- 4 *The ladies of Eastwick*
- 10 *Halloween Treats whose Flavor you will*
- 11 *Elm Streets' 5th one was here*
- 13 *What An Outfit*
- 14 *This street is all lit up*
- 15 *It's so sweet to give away*
- 18 *Lots of Decorating Goodies and Moss*
- 19 *Along with the Market there are some goblins in the*
- 22 *Brooms, witches, hammers and nails are at this Frontier store*
- 23 *You may walk into their handywork anytime of year*
- 24 *The court of this Bell Tower*

### DOWN

- 2 *The red car's last ride was in this month*
- 3 *These dogs should watch out for vampires*
- 5 *What wolves do or the sounds you sometimes hear coming from the Buccaneer*
- 6 *The key to the haunted house*
- 7 *Hope your house is not*
- 8 *Before Sierra Madre Blvd it was*
- 9 *Mr. Switzer carves a lot of these*
- 12 *Sierra Madre Pioneer*
- 16 *Downtown Sierra Madre Blvd will be closed for this*
- 17 *They fly in the dark*
- 20 *Don't wear this to the bank*
- 21 *The last ones brought invaders to Kersting Court*

### Letters To The Editor

October 23, 2007

I have consistently read your newspaper from its beginnings and have not always been pleased with what I have encountered. It has often proven more an irritant than a reliable source of information.

I have noted, however, in the last several issues, a remarkable and positive change in tone and character. Your coverage of local news has become more accurate and objective – the editorial comment more moderate and well reasoned. I look forward to reading the columns of some of your contributors, in particular the charming and informative articles by Bob Eklund.

I do hope that you will continue on this path. The Mountain Views-Observer now begins to appear a reasonable reflection of the town I am proud to live in. Count me as a subscriber.

My commendation and best wishes,

Paul Neiby

So many people to thank. A lot of help was required for Pioneer Treasure Days. They are mentioned in no special order. Ladislav Czernak, a local custom furniture maker, that put up a directory sign that helped those that came from out of town to find their loved ones on our photo memorial. Suzi McConnell, Steve Grijalva and Sandy Smith, who set up the projector so that we could show videotapes of Jim Dunnagan, his plane went down in Hawaiian waters with a crew of 12. They all got out safely. The video was shown on the Discovery Channel. Val Marriotti, during WWII he flew 30 missions overseas and received the Distinguished Flying Cross. On a lighter note, we showed a video of Loren Janes, born and raised in town and became a world famous stuntman. Loren and his father are on our wall along with Jim and Val.

Again many thanks to Pat Birdsall, Nancy Walsh, Theresa Daly, Dr. Paul Nieby, Bill Robinson, Mignon Grijalva, Margaret LaLone, Marsha Ingrao, Earl Lalone, Buddy Switzer and Ann Luke. Pleas forgive me if I have forgotten anyone. A few that came from out of town – Sylvia Worthington of Brunet Florida, Tom Schwartz of Vacaville, Burt Embree of Vacaville, Dottie Smith of Sacramento and Rita Belohlavek Marshall of Quincy.

How great it is to see these old friends from out of town and all you locals too – I feel it best said in a poem by a past local – Bill Spargur.

It is best to enjoy what you have and your friends.

John Grijalva

### Classifieds

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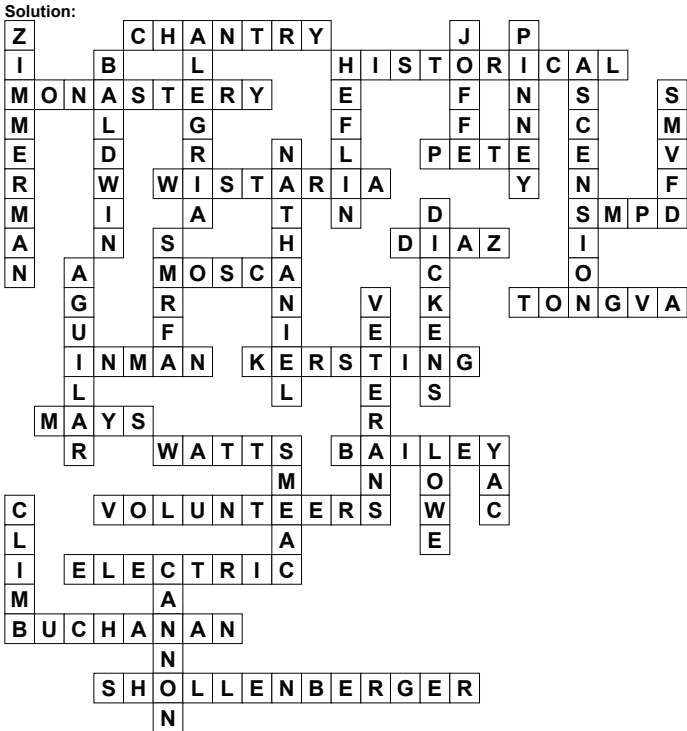
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### Answers To Last Week's Puzzle

#### Happy Birthday Sierra Madre

100 Years Of Progress





or common law (See section 14411 at seq.  
Business and Profession Code) First filing:  
10/13; 10/20; 10/27 and 11/03, 2007  
410703DV



# LEGAL NOTICES

## City of Sierra Madre

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

To: Property Owners within a 300-foot radius  
From: The City of Sierra Madre  
Subject: VARIANCE 07-04, 294 Old Ranch Road  
Applicant: Byron Banks  
1422 Palm Street Altadena, CA 9001

The City of Sierra Madre gives notice, pursuant to State of California law, that the Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing to consider a request to construct an addition of 84 square feet to an existing residence at 294 Old Ranch Road, which will cause the residence to further encroach into required front and rear setbacks. The proposed front yard of zero feet, is less than the twenty-five required by Section 17.20.050 of the Municipal Code. The proposed rear yard of seven feet is less than the fifteen required by S.M.M.C Section 17.20.057. The proposed side yards are existing nonconforming, and the remodel of the house will occur up to the easterly property line, and within three feet of the westerly property line.

### DATE AND TIME OF HEARING

City of Sierra Madre  
Planning Commission meeting  
Thursday, November 1, 2007  
(meeting begins at 7:00 p.m.)

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

PROJECT LOCATION: 294 Old Ranch Road; in the City of Sierra Madre, County of Los Angeles, State of California.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The project qualifies for a Class 3 Categorical Exemption, pursuant to Section 15303 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

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

By Order of the Planning Commission

Anne Browning McIntosh, AICP  
Interim Development Services Director

## City of Sierra Madre

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

To: City-wide  
From: The City of Sierra Madre  
Subject: FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 1272, AMENDMENT AND ADOPTION OF THE 2007 EDITION OF THE CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE AND THE 2006 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE.

The City of Sierra Madre gives notice, pursuant to State of California law, that on November 12, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. or soon thereafter, the Sierra Madre City Council will conduct a Public Hearing, to hear testimony regarding the proposed adoption of Ordinance 1272, an amendment to Section 15.24 of the Sierra Madre Municipal Code regarding the amendment and adoption of the 2007 addition of the California Fire Code and the 2006 International Fire Code.

### DATE AND TIME OF HEARING

City of Sierra Madre  
City Council meeting  
Tuesday, **November 13, 2007**  
(Meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.)

All interested persons may attend this meeting and the City Council will hear them with respect thereto.  
Posted: October 27, 2007

By Order of the City Council

Elaine Aguilar, City Manager

#### 410704DV File No. 06-20072288713 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: COMERCIAL DE SEGUROS AND PROFESIONAL SERVICES, 9901 Paramount Blvd #105 Downey, CA 90240. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Adela Figueres, 9901 Paramount Blvd #105 Downey, CA 90240. 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 Oct 01, 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: 10/13; 10/20; 10/27 and 11/03, 2007 410704DV

#### 410705MG File No. 06-20072295779 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: ESPINOZA'S AUTO BODY, 1516 Hayes Ave Long Beach, CA 90813. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Luis Espinoza 1516 Hayes Ave Long Beach, CA 90813. 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 Oct 05, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 09/05/2007.

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#### 410706MG File No. 06-20072295311 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: MDR PAINTING, 3728 E. 14<sup>th</sup> St Long Beach, CA 90804. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Michael Dominic Ray 3728 E. 14<sup>th</sup> St Long Beach, CA 90804. 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 Oct 05, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 10/01/2006.

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: 10/13; 10/20; 10/27 and 11/03, 2007 410706MG

#### 410707DV File No. 06-20072295698 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: FAMILY CARE, INC. 31587 Alta Vista Dr Redlands, CA 92373. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Amador M. Molina 31587 Alta Vista Dr Redlands, CA 92373. 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 Oct 05, 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: 10/13; 10/20; 10/27 and 11/03, 2007 410707DV

#### 400701MM File No. 06-20072252481 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: NEW GOLD FLOW PUBLICATIONS, 424 N. Lake #304 Pasadena, CA 91101. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) GLOBAL REALITY ENTERPRISES, INC., 424 N. Lake Ave #304 Pasadena, CA 91101. 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 Oct 01, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 02/09/2000.

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 400701MM

#### 400702MM File No. 06-20072252481 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: EMPRESARIO GROUP, 424 N. Lake #304 Pasadena, CA 91101. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) EMPRESARIO ENTERTAINMENT, 424 N. Lake Ave #101 Pasadena, CA 91101. 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 Oct 01, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 02/06/2006

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 400702MM

#### 400703MM File No. 06-20072252485 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: EMPRESARIO ESTATES, 424 N. Lake #304 Pasadena, CA 91101. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) EMPRESARIO ENTERTAINMENT, 424 N. Lake Ave #101 Pasadena, CA 91101. 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 Oct 01, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 02/06/2006

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 400703MM

#### 400704MM File No. 06-20072252481 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: EMPRESARIO LIVING, 424 N. Lake #304 Pasadena, CA 91101. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) EMPRESARIO ENTERTAINMENT, 424 N. Lake Ave #101 Pasadena, CA 91101. 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 Oct 01, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 02/06/2006

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#### 400705MM File No. 06-20072252483 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: EMPRESARIO PRINTING, 424 N. Lake #304 Pasadena, CA 91101. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) EMPRESARIO ENTERTAINMENT, INC 424 N. Lake Ave #101 Pasadena, CA 91101. 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 Oct 01, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 02/06/2006

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#### 400706MM File No. 06-20072252481 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: EMPRESARIO DESIGNS, 424 N. Lake #304 Pasadena, CA 91101. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) EMPRESARIO ENTERTAINMENT, 424 N. Lake Ave #101 Pasadena, CA 91101. 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 Oct 01, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 02/06/2006

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#### 400707MM File No. 06-20072252480 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: ALTAMEDIA, 424 N. Lake #101

## 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](http://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

## City of Sierra Madre

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

To: Citywide  
From: The City of Sierra Madre

Subject: FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 1273 OF THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING VARIOUS BUILDING CODE AMENDMENTS.

The City of Sierra Madre gives notice, pursuant to State of California law, that the City Council will conduct a public hearing to review an ordinance amending the UNIFORM ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, 1997 EDITION and adopting by reference the 2007 CALIFORNIA BUILDING CODE, and amendments thereto; the 2007 CALIFORNIA ELECTRICAL CODE, and amendments thereto; the 2007 CALIFORNIA MECHANICAL CODE, and amendments thereto; the 2007 CALIFORNIA PLUMBING CODE, and amendments thereto; the UNIFORM SWIMMING POOL, SPA AND HOT TUB CODE, 2006 EDITION, and amendments thereto; the CALIFORNIA ENERGY CODE, 2007 EDITION; the 2007 CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE, and amendments thereto; and amending portions of TITLE 15 of the Sierra Madre Municipal Code.

### DATE AND TIME OF HEARING

City of Sierra Madre  
City Council meeting  
Tuesday, **November 13, 2007**  
(Meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.)

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

PROJECT LOCATION: Citywide; in the City of Sierra Madre, County of Los Angeles, State of California.

By Order of the City Council

Anne McIntosh,  
Interim Director of Development Services

Pasadena, CA 91101. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) EMPRESARIO ENTERTAINMENT, 424 N. Lake Ave #101 Pasadena, CA 91101. 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 Oct 01, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 11/25/1996

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 400707MM

#### 400708DS File No. 20072252405 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: MASTINO CLOTHING, 424 N. Lake Ave #304 Pasadena, CA 91101. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) GX INDUSTRIES, INC., 575 E. 238<sup>th</sup> Pl Carson, CA 91101. 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 Oct 01, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above 09/10/2007.

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#### 400709DS File No. 20072252404 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: MASTINO GRAPHICS, 424 N. Lake Ave #304 Pasadena, CA 91101. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) GX INDUSTRIES, INC., 575 E. 238<sup>th</sup> Pl Carson, CA 91101. 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 Oct 01, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above 09/10/2007.

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#### 400710DS File No. 20072252403 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: AL SON DEL MARIACHI, 1330 W. Whittier Blvd Whittier, CA 90640. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) GX INDUS-TRIES, INC., 575 E. 238<sup>th</sup> Pl Carson, CA 91101. 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 Oct 01, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) commenced to transact business

under the fictitious business name or names listed above 08/08/2003.

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 400710DS

#### 400711SJ File No. 20072245990 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: BHE MOTORS, BRUTALLY HONEST ENTERTAINMENT, GROUP DIVISION EXCEL GDEI, 16209 Paramount Blvd #D95 Paramount, CA 90723. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Jeffrey M. Tate 5050 Linden Ave #69 Long Beach, CA 90805. 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) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above 06/1999.

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#### 400712MM File No. 20072243809 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: PROFESSIONAL AUTO GLASS, Michael Van Nguyen 2574 Pepperdale Dr Rowland Heights, CA 91748. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Michael Van Nguyen 2574 Pepperdale Dr Rowland Heights, CA 91748. 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.

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#### 400713MM File No. 20072243532 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: PATAGONIA TRAVEL, 2900 W. Ramona Rd #2 Alhambra, CA 91803. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Argentina Garatti 2900 W. Ramona Rd #2 Alhambra, CA 91803. 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.

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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 400713MM

#### 400714MM File No. 20072243615 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: CRDLINK GROUP, 12123 Gard Ave Norwalk, CA 90650. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Ricardo F. Cobar 12123 Gard Ave Norwalk, CA 90650. 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.

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#### MVO001001 File No. 20072422399 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: LOTUS HENNA, 2888 E. Walnut No. 12, Pasadena, CA 91107. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Paula Broussard, 2888 E. Walnut No. 12, Pasadena, CA 91107. 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 October 23, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) not commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above.

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#### MVO001002 File No. 20072451203 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: QUALITY MAINTENANCE REPAIRS AND GARDENING, 620 Spring Point Drive, Bradbury, CA 91010. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Warren Taylor, Jr. 620 Spring Point Drive, Bradbury, CA 91010. 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 October 30, 2007. The registrant (s) has (have) not commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above.

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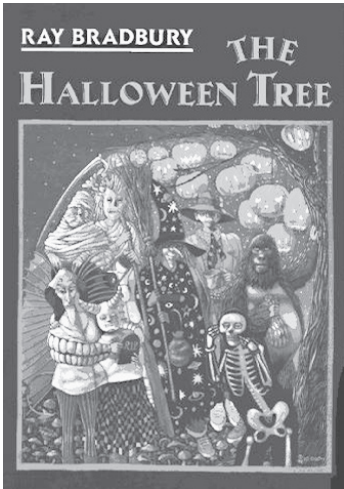


# Looking Up



Photo by Aaron Dominguez

With Bob Eklund  
**MEET MR. HALLOWEEN**



WHEN RAY BRADBURY wrote The Halloween Tree in 1972, I'm sure he never expected the book would become so popular that it would make his name almost synonymous with the October 31 holiday. It would be hard to find many writers more prolific than Bradbury, whose works include 11 novels, 23 collections of short stories, 36 screenplays and teleplays, five radio shows, five collections of poetry, three children's books, two fables, two anthologies, and four non-fiction books. This incredible output may be due, in large part, to his lifelong habit of writing every day, with no known exceptions, since he was 12 years old.

Born in Waukegan, Illinois (a small town that figures prominently in many of his novels and short stories), Bradbury moved to Los Angeles at the age of 13. After graduating from Los Angeles High School, he chose not to attend college but continued to educate himself at local libraries as he began writing science fiction stories. He sold his first paid piece in 1941 (for \$15). Nine years later, in 1950, The Martian Chronicles was published—the first in more than a half-century's output of legendary works. Bradbury notes that since he could not afford to own a typewriter, he wrote the manuscript for The Martian Chronicles by using pay typewriters in the UCLA library—one dime at a time.

In November 1971, one day before NASA's first successful Martian probe, Mariner 9, arrived at the Red Planet, Bradbury met at JPL with author Arthur C. Clarke, JPL director Bruce Murray, astronomer Carl Sagan, and N.Y. Times science editor Walter Sullivan to exchange personal impressions and thoughts about Mars. In his Foreword to a follow-up book titled Mars and the Mind of Man, Bradbury writes, "I have always looked on myself as some sort of Martian. My affinity for the planet is immense and prolonged and most affectionate-fine." Looking beyond Mars, he adds, "So man, in our times, goes a journey, and the destination is very far and at present has no name, and we indeed travel alone, for mankind is the lone thing; nothing like him exists in our part of the universe, and our thoughts are long and sometimes filled with that joy which brims itself to terror."

WANT TO MEET THIS LEGENDARY AUTHOR IN PERSON? Bradbury will be signing copies of The Halloween Tree at Vroman's Bookstore, 695 E. Colorado Blvd. in Pasadena, at 12:00 noon on Halloween Wednesday, October 31. The occasion should be a festive one—so come, buy a Ray Bradbury book, and chat with the author. You might even want to give your Halloween costume an early try-out!

\*\*\*\*\*  
VISIBLE IN THE HALLOWEEN SKY—Planet Jupiter has slipped far to the west and will be setting in late dusk by Halloween Night, but the Earth is now approaching a close encounter with Mars (which happens every two years). We'll be closest to Mars on Christmas Eve, but already the planet can be seen rising in the east-northeast sky by about 10:00 p.m. Never "as large as the full moon," as some erroneous reports have claimed, Mars is still an interesting object, bright and ruby-red. Another denizen of the Halloween late-night sky will be the rather eerie, misshapen old moon, nearly third-quarter and rising at 12:19 a.m.

Your young trick-or-treaters may not be able to stay out late enough to see Mars and the moon, but here's an earlier sky show for them: An Iridium flare (a communications satellite whose polished surfaces reflect a flash of bright sunlight for a few seconds) should be brightest at exactly 7:18 and 53 seconds. Look in the north-northeast, 49 degrees above the horizon. But as the "flare" only lasts for a few seconds before and after its maximum brightness, you'll need a watch that's correct to the second or you may miss the show. For info on future Iridium flares and Space Station sightings, check out the web site [www.heavens-above.com](http://www.heavens-above.com).

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

# The Wild West

With Kyle McClure

## Hallowgreen

Because you are such an environmentally conscious individual (you worry about rising sea levels and shrinking ice caps and where all of the amphibians are disappearing to), you have been thinking a lot about how best to approach the upcoming pagan pumpkin holiday.

Soon there will be small pirates, bunny rabbits, hockey players, princesses and high school kids, with no costume other than a plastic bag and an apologetic smile on your front porch, asking you for treats. You want to give them treats. I know you do. But you are concerned about environmental impacts. You can't stop thinking about them. You imagine yourself dropping a small handful of Snickers bars and Jujubees into the outstretched plastic pumpkins, and all you can think about is the amount of fossil fuel burned to produce, package and transport these lipids just so you can put them into the hands of minors in disposable plastic costumes.

You don't feel good about this. You are looking for help. Who can you turn to? Well, there is

always google. Do a search for "Halloween" and "environment" and you'll find a bunch of advice on what types of utensils (reusable) and invitations (electronic) to use for your Halloween party. Carry a canvas goody bag. Use your decorations from last year. Blah blah blah. Instead of following practical advice, why not employ some of the following (cue fanfare)...  
M o u n t a i n V i e w s -  
Observer Tips to Green your Halloween!

Tip One: Instead of passing out candy, distribute carbon offsets. Go to a website like carbonfund.org and pay money for someone somewhere to do something environmentally worthy. They'll plant trees or invest in green energy or build a windmill just for you. But, make, like, 200 donations of 25 cents each. This may take a while. And, your Visa bill will require so much paper that you'll have to buy an offset just for that. But think of how grateful those trick-or-treaters will be when you present them with a receipt for a future happy eco-groovy earth. They will love it.

Tip Two: Retrofit

your jack-o-lanterns with scrubbers that will bring the point source pollution emitted by your smoking pumpkin to within acceptable limits.

Tip Three: Create a brief climate change PowerPoint presentation that you can project onto your living room wall. Have a laser pointer handy. Whenever someone rings your doorbell you have a whole new audience and you can launch into a down-to-earth, witty, yet bone-chilling description of what life will be like on our planet if we don't change our evil ways. This is (believe it or not), way creepier than a stupid graveyard of plastic headstones. You can still use the fog machine if you must.

Tip Four: Do not open a cyanide leach-heap mine in your backyard.

Tip Five (the best tip of all): Turn off your porch light. In fact, turn off all of your lights. Sit in your darkened living room and yell, "THERE'S NOBODY HOME!" if any punks come knocking on your door. This will conserve energy and save you money as well. Good for you. Good for the environment.

# The Mountain Clymer

By Kim Clymer  
**A Shiny New Beginning**

I am firm in my belief that whatever you need in life will always come to you. Needs come in many different forms. Sometimes one of the greatest needs a person can have is to simply be reassured. Reassured that a problem is not insurmountable, reassured that everything will turn out alright, reassured that a task is not beyond their ability, or reassured that they have taken the right stand or have made the right decision. Once you have the confidence to turn over your life to the powers that be and to trust that what you need will always be there for you, it is still nice, in times of crisis or uncertainty, to be sent reassurance if that is what is needed to help get you through a challenge. This is where it is necessary to really keep your eyes open. Once you ask to know that everything will be fine, it is important to keep your eyes and mind open to receive the message you need to hear so badly. There have been many times I have received such messages, but one occasion stands out far above all of the rest.

In July of 2000, I moved to Chantry Flat and took over the pack station there. It was a very exciting time. I was going to be living in the mountains, I was going to have my own horses and my own business, and I finally had a real home for me and my boys. The apartment life that I had been living for the year prior to this was not at all suited to three teenage boys who did not get along. I was to be sharing my home also with my partner at the time, Xoxa Hunut, a Native American man who I had been seeing for the last 8 months and who shared my excitement of running the station. Certainly I would never have taken on such a monumental task on my own...it had to be a responsibility shared with another. We hit the ground running. It was as if the cabin owners felt that they had to throw us some major challenges to initiate us to packing. We woke up on the first day to our first packing assignment....a full load of stuff to be packed into one of the cabins. We saddled up all of the animals and headed into the canyon. Proud of ourselves when we returned without incident, we showered and headed into town to celebrate the successful completion of our first pack. When we returned to the station we had quite a surprise waiting for us in our "loading dock"...a little three sided building where people dropped off the "freight" they needed hauled into the canyon. There was a twin size mattress and box springs, and a 300 gallon plastic water tank that was not much smaller than a VW Bug (but weighed less than 75 pounds). We were totally shocked. With it was a note that told where it had to go and when it had to be there. Since we had nothing else to do the following day and because we felt that we had to prove ourselves, we decided to get it in the next day. We got up early, threw it all in the back of the truck and drove it into the canyon as far as we could, and carried it in the rest of the way on foot (fortunately it had to go to one of the cabins that was not far from the furthest point to which you could drive.) Mission accomplished. While this was not a typical load, it was seemingly necessary to frequently have two people to to the packing...just for safety if for no other reason.

It was sometime in mid September that things took an unexpected turn. Because of circumstances that I will not get into here, I had to ask Xoxa to leave the station. There were issues. I had left the station that morning for a meeting, and on the way home I had come to the conclusion that I had no choice but to ask him to leave when I returned. We had a packing job to do that afternoon...not a

huge one, but it was our first "top-load"...a difficult pack to do, and one that took two people. We had to take some plywood into one of the cabins. I pulled into the parking lot to find Xoxa saddling one of the donkeys with the top-load saddle and the plywood that was to be taken in leaning against the side of the loading dock. As I parked the car, I asked for the strength I needed to tell him of my decision. I had been crying most of the way home, so he could tell that something was wrong when I approached. I explained to him what I had decided and why. He was angry, but said nothing. He yanked the uncinched saddle from the animal's back and threw it and the blanket beneath it to the ground as I stood there and watched. I began to cry again. He stormed into the house. When he came out again he was carrying some of his things which he threw into his old primer-red Ford truck. He made several more trips in and out with more stuff. I sat on the ground near the donkey and watched sobbing. What was I going to do??? How was I ever going to run this place alone??? I felt very scared, very sad, and very alone and desperately asked for reassurance that everything would be okay, and that I was right in doing what I had done. He finished loading his truck, got in and sped off angrily down the driveway, leaving behind a huge cloud of dust.

No sooner than the dust had cleared and the sound of the truck's engine had faded in the distance, I became aware of the sound of a vehicle coming up the hill. I feared it was Xoxa and that he had turned around and was returning to argue the issue. Not wanting to appear defeated or phased by his tantrum, I stood, picked up the saddle and blankets that had been thrown in the dirt of the parking lot, brushed them off, and started to resaddle the donkey. In the distance, I heard the approaching vehicle pass through the middle parking lot, round the corner into the far end of the upper lot, and head toward the pack station's dirt driveway. I turned to see a red pick-up coming down the driveway in a cloud of dust. Thinking it was Xoxa, I kept my back to the parking lot entrance and continued with the task at hand. The truck entered the lot and turned and stopped in front of me. It was not Xoxa. Instead, it was a shiny red new Chevy truck. The driver turned off the engine, got out of the truck and came over to me. He was obviously of Native American decent, long dark hair and younger than Xoxa. He approached me with his hand extended.

"Hi. I'm John," he offered. "I was a friend of the old owners, Dennis and Jody," he continued, "You must be the new owner. I just wanted to stop by and welcome you guys and see if you needed anything."

I hesitated for a moment, stunned by the significance of his arrival. It was so instantly apparent to me what the purpose of his arrival at that moment was meant to tell me. I was so grateful for that message. "Well, hello!" I replied. "I'm Kim Kelley, the new owner. It's so nice to meet you. Thank you for stopping by. Any friend of Dennis' is a friend of mine."

"I just came up to get quick hike in... you'll be seeing a lot of me. I come up quite a bit."

"Well stop by anytime. It's been so good to meet you." I stood with my mouth hanging open for a moment as I watched him stroll down the driveway to the trailhead. "Thank you.....thank you so much." I whispered as I returned to my work with a newly founded sense of confidence and enthusiasm, and the firm knowledge that everything would work out just fine.



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# Jeff's Pics

## The Book Reports



Each year, the Horror Writer's Association presents the Bram Stoker Awards for Superior Achievement, named in honor of Bram Stoker, author of the seminal horror work, *Dracula*. The Stoker Awards began in 1987. The award itself is an eight-inch replica of a fanciful haunted house.

The award is voted on by member horror writers. To find some quality writing just pick from the following past 7 year Bram Stoker Award winners.

2006		
Novel	<i>Lisey's Story</i> by Stephen King	 <i>Bram Stoker</i>
First Novel	<i>Ghost Road Blues</i> by Jonathan Maberry	
2005		
Novel	<i>Creepers</i> by David Morrell & <i>Dread in the Beast</i> by Charlee Jacob	
First Novel	<i>Scarecrow Gods</i> by Weston Ochse	
2004		
Novel	<i>In the Night Room</i> by Peter Straub	
First Novel	<i>Covenant</i> by John Everson & <i>Stained</i> by Lee Thomas	
2003		
Novel	<i>lost boy lost girl</i> by Peter Straub	
First Novel	<i>The Rising</i> by Brian Keene	
2002		
Novel	<i>The Night Class</i> by Tom Piccirilli,	
First Novel	<i>The Lovely Bones</i> by Alice Sebold	
2001		
Novel	<i>American Gods</i> by Neil Gaiman,	
First Novel	<i>Deadliest of the Species</i> by Michael Oliveri,	
2000		
Novel	<i>The Traveling Vampire Show</i> by Richard Laymon	
First Novel	<i>The Licking Valley Coon Hunters Club</i> by Brian A. Hopkins	

### Scene One - Take One DVD Review

#### Psycho (1960)



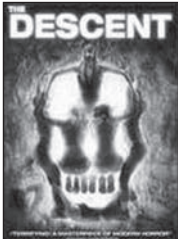
Alfred Hitchcock's shocking masterpiece, starring Anthony Perkins and Janet Leigh, was something new because it changed the emphasis of horror films from the supernatural to the psychological. When larcenous real estate employee Marion Crane (Janet Leigh) steals a wad of cash and is off to start a new life, she ends up at the notorious Bates Motel, run by weird manager Norman Bates (Anthony Perkins) who cares for his housebound mother. The place seems fine at first until Marion takes a shower!! When I first saw the movie, the ending froze my blood!!

#### The Exorcist (1973)



William Friedkin's horrifying tale of demonic possession of the little girl (Linda Blair) has terrific special effects and amazing makeup work. Movie actress Chris MacNeil (Ellen Burstyn) believes an evil spirit may have possessed her daughter (Linda Blair). Two priests (Max von Sydow and Jason Miller) try to exorcise the demon. The original is better than the updated version.

#### The Descent (2006)



A pleasure trip becomes nightmarish when six girlfriends, led by thrill seeker Juno (Natalie Mendoza), go caving a year after a tragic event. When they get trapped in the cave, all rationale escapes them as they start to suffer from loss of oxygen and what they believe to be delusions. The friends then must find a way to escape the cave and the horrible creatures that seem to lie within! Very scary!!

For book and DVD comments email them to [jab3jab@verizon.net](mailto:jab3jab@verizon.net)

### BIRD'S EYE VIEW

By Pat Birdsall

## Boo!!

The Editor of this nifty little paper suggested that we all might want to write something about Halloween. As I have mentioned before I used to be employed in the banking industry when banks actually had customers and ATM machines were non-existent. Halloween was the most dreaded day of the year for us. Everyone dressed in costume was a potential bank robber. I have been robbed three times, and the memories are just as vivid now as they were 30 years ago when they happened.

The first one was a "takeover" robbery and a hard act to follow. It was like a scene from a movie. We had more people in the lobby than usual, and the noise level was pretty high. Enter 4 men with guns drawn. They came in shouting instructions for all, but they couldn't really be heard by everyone. That evidently really annoyed the leader of this wannabe "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid" bunch. In a very loud voice he called us all a name that would imply we might be doing something untoward to our mothers, and that we were stupid to boot! They were thrown off their time schedule and not at all happy. They began shoving customers and employees alike, hitting a few with the butts of their guns. The only seemingly calm one was the sentry with the sawed-off shotgun posted by the back door. They thought we would be easy pickings. We weren't, and they botched everything making off with very little cash. They did take away something more valuable however, our innocence and our trust. It was a truly terrifying experience.

My next encounter wasn't as dramatic, but more frightening for me personally.

It was a slow day, no customers in the lobby. She walked up to my window and leaned in as if to tell me the latest gossip, and like an idiot I leaned right back to hear what she had to impart. She was wearing a large pair of sun glasses, and had her hand in her purse. What she said to me next would have made the late Richard Pryor blush. She made it very clear that she was robbing me and wanted just the large bills. It was a surreal experience with time seeming to stand still. It felt like we were the only two people on earth. I could see people on either side of me carrying on business as usual, oblivious to what was happening to me. She left. A few days later a police officer came in to tell me something that he was sure would make me happy. He said when the FBI went to arrest her she shot herself in the heart. I was not happy, I thought it very sad.

If you look up "loser" in the dictionary, the picture of the final player in this trilogy would be there. He was a tall, young Korean who had first come into the bank on a blistering hot day with an overcoat over his arm. A tad bit suspicious to say the least. We had no customers at the time, so in unison we all asked if we could help him. He abruptly exited, coming back a few days later. He was in another line when I called him over to mine. He handed me a note that said he had a gun and wanted all my cash. I complied. He left in a silver VW Bug almost hitting a woman in the parking lot. The woman was a police officer's wife who got his plate number and he was easily apprehended. It turned out that he owed a large sum to the casinos in Gardena. To totally seal the identification process, the employee whose line he was in originally, went to high school with him and had his picture in her year book! Bad boys, bad boys, whatcha gonna do?.



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... By Mary Carney

### It's Halloween - Did You Know?

In the Celtic Tradition there are basically two seasons of the year, Summer - from May 1 (Beltane) to October 31, and Winter - from November 1 (Samhain) through April 30. According to the Celts, Winter begins at nightfall on the last day of October, ushering in the dark, quiet time of year. It is in the darkness that planted seeds have time to rest, to get accustomed to their environment; leisure to take root, to gather strength slowly, so that when light and heat return, they are full and ready to burst into bountiful life.

Just as the earth's tides ebb and flow in response to the pull of the moon, earth has other subtle energies shifting as the north and south poles precess from the sun throughout the year. Samhain and Beltane celebrate the times of fullest flood of earth's energy north and south flows along its ley lines. Especially during Samhain, the veil that separates spirits from humans is at its thinnest and restless spirits can affect you if you aren't looking.

Around the world we find ceremonies to honor departed spirits. Just across our southern border is a 3,000 year tradition of Days of the Dead. Originally celebrated in August (yes, an important earth energy shift occurs then, too) the Jesuits eventually moved this celebration to November 1 and 2. In the Christian tradition, there is little recognition of an afterlife, except as punishment or reward in hell or heaven. In most other cultures and religions, there is an acceptance that each soul fragment is on an educational journey from God, passing through dimensions such as Earth's, as many times as it takes to learn what it needs to learn, before going on to explore other dimensions on its way back to full unity with God - although since God created everything, and supposedly is omniscient (all-knowing), omnipotent (all powerful) and omnipresent (everywhere), we are never truly separated from Source, regardless of how it "feels" in the moment. For most Christians, and in much of Western psychology, looking at a "reincarnation" process might be described as a major heresy. For others, it is a huge relief.

For whatever reasons, Samhain has morphed into Halloween - a light-hearted time to get all dressed up for masked parties, to shiver over ghoulies and ghosties and long-legged beasties, and things that go bump in the night, and to wander about cemeteries and lost spirits ...

During parties, we often indulge in sweets ... when the earth is cooling down, try keeping your sweet tooth under control. If you must eat sugar, remember that your immune system is going to be less capable of fending off those opportunistic invaders always camped out at our gates. Stay warm, use the sauna, steam room; take hot baths; wear snuggly flannels, curl around your hot water bottle, get more sleep. Find a good energy worker to regularly replenish your supply of healing life force energies. Or watch out! Those ghoulies and ghosties may successfully take you over - and you won't be yourself until Spring comes again. Ooooohouuuoooooooooooo.

© 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@mobserver.com](mailto:m.carney@mobserver.com)

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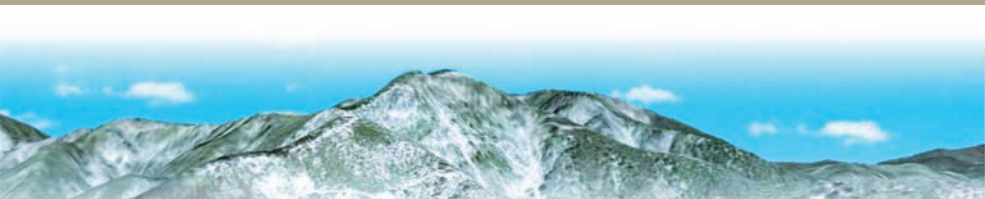
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# SPORTS



## View From The Couch

By Stanley J. Forrester

### WHAT'S IN A NAME ANYWAY?

Before the season has even ended or before the playoffs have begun, New England has been awarded the Vince Lombardi Championship Trophy, and the Championship ring. Come on now! There can be no denying that New England is off to an incredible season - 7 W 0L. But what about the Colts? To date they also have not lost a game and they are the world champs. Why has the media ignored the Colts and crowned the Patriots? Are they [the Patriots] that good? Maybe, but not only are the Colts playing well, so are a number of other teams, yet it seems that New England has gotten the media nod. Seems they have been chosen as the team to go all the way, doing what no other team has done since the 1972 Miami Dolphins, go undefeated for the entire season.

When I was pondering the possibility of that feat, the question of names came to mind. That was the era when teams had nick names. The great Steelers teams of the '70's, the 'Steel Curtain'; the Rams' 'Fearless Foursome'; Kenny 'the Snake' Stabler; 'Mean' Joe Green; Eugene 'Mercury' Morris - now that was name for a running back, and the best of all times, the name that defined the man and described his game, Walter 'Sweetness' Payton. Where have the great names gone? Not only did the players and the teams have nicknames, the fans even had them. Do you remember Franco's *Italian Army* or who could forget the New Orleans *Ain'ts* with paper bags over their heads? Perhaps the most outrageous nickname was for the towel that Steelers' fan use to wave around - remember the "*Terrible Towel*"? There were fans that claimed victory based on the power of the towel being waved.

The college teams had names that went beyond their mascot names. The Trojans were known as the 'Wild Bunch' and there was the 'Mighty Little Bruins'. What has happened to the neat names? Has Sports become such a business that we have forgotten that it is simply a game - a diversion from the real world?

Well, maybe we don't have nicknames today because, especially in this Halloween season the names might be a bit outrageous. Hmm...let me see....'Monster' T.O., that works. 'Ghostbuster' Merriman; 'Scary' Strahan or, the one that turned out be, 'Vicious' Vick. Oh, I almost forgot, 'Casper The Friendly Ghost' Manning. (Not that he's scary, he's just a good guy).

Let's get back to the fun of sports and perhaps the players will leave the drug store and play with just their God given talents and hard work. Oh, I almost forgot, perhaps New England should be called the "Assassins" and Brady "The Surgeon" because he just carves up the opposition's defense. This weekend while on the couch I will try to think of some other names.

Let me hear from you with a few names for your teams/athletes. Nice ones please. I will share them. [s.forrester@mobserver.com](mailto:s.forrester@mobserver.com)

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