



Mountain Views-Observer

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

Week Ending February 1, 2008 Volume 2, No. 4

Cell Phone Tower Goes On Line

Wrought Iron Fence a Sticking Point

By Dean Lee

In a city known for dropped calls, a new cell phone tower should be a welcome relief. Although the actual timeline for completion of the tower is past due, it is up and temporarily using power from the Sierra Madre Rose Float Association building.

The new tower is disguised as a pine tree and located in the city's maintenance yard behind Sierra Vista Park.

The fence was just one of many things that delayed the project. A T-mobile spokesperson had told the

some kind of oversight he said.

"When the plans were submitted to the city, you know, nothing was ever said about it," Thompson said. "That's why the points were put there because that's the way they are called for in the plans."

He said the city was worried that someone playing nearby could be hurt.

"Removing the points, the idea is a good one because it is city property," he said. "With all the ball fields around, we don't want one of the small kids climbing up there and getting impaled."

He said the fence can be easily fixed.

"I built the fence myself here in my shop," he said. "If it called for a square top I would have done that. We are going to go and cap the fence so the points are removed."

The cell tower has a three mile, 360 degree signal radius and is receiving signals according to Thompson.

He also said the tree was made of exactly the same material as artificial Christmas trees, but it is "beefed up" for industrial use and has special UV protection. It has a 20-year life span he added.

Thompson indicated that most of the expressed concern had initially been on the appearance of the artificial tree.

Thompson praised city staff saying they were some of the nicest people he had ever worked with.

"Chris and all the guys over at that yard, you couldn't ask for a better bunch of people to work with," he said. "Helpful and informative, just pleasant all around."

city council last year that the tower would be up by September. The delay, according to Bruce Inman Director of Public Works was also the result of issues over what carriers would be using the tower.

Before the project's final inspection, a wrought iron fence put up Thursday presented a last minute problem.

WFC Construction CEO Bill Thompson said Friday the city has an ordinance that does not allow spiked fences although he was not told before the fence went up. City hall was closed Friday and the accuracy of his statement could not be verified at press time.

Thompson said the plans submitted to the city clearly showed a protective fence with pinch points. There had been



The pointed edges on this fence pose a potential hazard to children.

A Sierra Madre Sized Thank You

Friends & Family Celebrate The Life of John Grijalva



Hundreds of people turned out to pay tribute to civic leader John Grijalva

Photo By Hood

On Saturday, hundreds of friends and family members came out to celebrate the life of one of Sierra Madre's most beloved volunteers, John Grijalva (inset). Grijalva, who passed away in December, exemplified the spirit of volunteerism that this city is known for.

Speaker after speaker came forth with accounts of the many selfless hours of community service and acts of kindness given to Sierra Madre by Grijalva.

The memorial, which was held at Hart Park House near Grijalva's beloved Veterans Memorial Wall. Despite what would have been insurmountable physical challenges, he raised thousands of dollars for civic projects and devoted countless hours to the betterment of Sierra Madre. It was a surprise to no one that knew him that attendance exceeded the limits of the Hart Park House and extended well into Memorial Park.

Elections 2008

Tuesday's Primary Kicks-Off A Busy Election Year

By Susan Henderson

Tuesday's Presidential Primary is just the beginning of a long election year. On Tuesday, voters will be faced with a number of important decisions. In addition to selecting their party's nominee for President, Californians will be asked to vote on seven ballot measures, and in Pasadena and Los Angeles, User Utility Taxes.

All registered voters should have received two voter guides. The principal guide has propositions 91, 92 and 93. The second, supplemental voter guide has Propositions 94, 95, 96 and 96, all of whom qualified for the ballot after the principal guide was printed.

Most voters will decide which way to vote on the propositions based upon who is supporting them. And as usual, voters need to be careful as to the true meaning of a 'Yes' or 'No' vote.

Propositions currently on the ballot:

	<u>funds raised*</u>
Proposition 91	\$89,000
<i>Prohibits certain motor vehicle fuel sales and use taxes, that are earmarked for the Transportation Investment Fund, from being retained in the General Fund</i>	

(continued on page 3)

Sierra Madre's April Ballot

City Council Races:

John Buchanan, Incumbent

Enid Joffe, Incumbent

Mary Ann McGillivray

Kevin Paschall

Bill Tice

City Clerk:

Nancy Schollenberger, Incumbent

Karma Bell

City Treasurer

George Enyedi

Salvatore Tesoro, III

BALLOT MEASURES:

Measure P

Measure U

Measure UA

Police Initiative

User Utility Tax

UUT Advisory

EDUCATION AWARDS OFFERED BY CIVIC CLUB

Sierra Madre Civic Club announces sponsorship of its Education Award 2008, a main philanthropy for the group. Eligible to apply are seniors in high school, plus one of the following: the senior is a resident of Sierra Madre, has a relative who is a member of Civic Club, has worked in Sierra Madre for the last twelve months, or has a parent who works in Sierra Madre.

Key points about each student to be considered by the Awards committee include: volunteer activities, interests, talents, hobbies, accomplishments or recognition, plus educational or career plans. Two letters of reference - one from a teacher or school administrator and one from an adult leader in the applicant's volunteer activity or an employer - must be attached to the application.

Applications are available from counselors at local high schools, by contacting Amy Chambers, Chair of the Awards Committee, at 626-355-4198, or from a member of Civic Club.

To qualify for the award, applicants must submit their applications postmarked no later than March 1, 2008. Monetary awards will be presented to those chosen at Civic Club's general meeting on May 8, 2008, 7:30 pm, at Memorial Park Hart Senior Center.

The Education Awards are consistent with the club's long tradition of supporting young people in their educational and career pursuits.

(Application on page 3)



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THIS WEEK

- 1So Long John Grijalva Cell Tower On Line Election 2008
- 2Community Calendar Senior Happenings
- 3Rich Johnson: Vice Presidents Scholarship Application
- 4Pasadena Sped Limits Crime Rash Measure D Controversy
- 5SMEAC: Did You Know? Fire Safe Council Police Blotter
- 6One Of A Kind: 700 Oakcrest It's Just Business
- 7PUSD Exit Exam Scores Improve Trish's Truth:The Dress
- 8Tolchin: So Who Won? Hail on Prop 93
- 9Legal Notices
- 10Legal Notices
- 11Looking Up: Asteroid Flyby Clymer: Extraordinary People 2
- 12Jeff's Pics Puzzle For You Inside Out
- 13Peter Dills: Table For Two You're Out of What?
- 14Eastland: Underappreciated Weird Weather



UPCOMING MARCH EVENTS

- 7Travelers & Collectors
- 7Walk With Mayor
- 8Sierra Madre Social
- 17Rep. Drier Field Visit

For more information call: 626-355-7135 or go to www.cityofsierramadre.com

Sierra Madre Community Calendar
February 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7Coordinating Council Noon YAC Senior Commission 3:00 CC Planning Commission 7pm CC	8Travelers & Collectors 7:30 CC Rafael Mirasol presents his program "April in Paris with Kids".	9Walk With The Mayor 9:00 am Kersting Court
10	11	12Chief Lowe Retirement Party 5:00 CH City Council 6:30 pm CC	13Community Arts Commission 6:30 CC	14	15	16YAC UCLA Campus Tour Time To Be Determined
17	18Author's Night Marsha Carrington 7:00 SEM	19	20Tree Advisory 7:00 pm CC	213rd Thursday Book Club 11 am LB Senior Adventure Griffith Park 11:30 am HPH Planning Commission. 7 CC	22Friends Of The Library Wine & Cuisine 7 pm Alverno	23HFF Kickball Sierra Vista Park 9:00 am
24	25Community Services Commission 6:30 CC	26AARP Senior Driving Program 9 am YAC City Council 6:30 pm CC	27AARP Senior Driving Program 9 am YAC Library Trustees 7 pm CC	28	29Open Studio Tour Applications Due YAC	

Legend: CC = Council Chambers CH = City Hall HPH = Hart Park House YAC = Youth Activities Center SEM = SM Elementary School

COMEDY TALENT FUN EVENING FOR CIVIC CLUB

By Phyllis Chapman

Sierra Madre Civic Club invites you to enjoy an evening of entertainment at The Ice House Comedy Club in Pasadena. For over 40 years, The Ice House has been in the forefront of showcasing comedic talent.

"It is a hoot of an evening you can enjoy with spouses, friends and adult children 18 and over," says Ways and Means Co-chair, Jean Coleman. You make your own reservations for a date of your choice, except for 9:00 p.m. Saturday show and some special shows.

The show schedule is on their website, or call 626-577-1894. There is a two-drink minimum, including non-alcoholic ones, and a limited food menu, but no limit on laughter.

Tickets are \$20 each purchased from Coleman. You then call The Ice House and make your own reservations. On your chosen night, you turn your tickets in at the ticket office.

For tickets and more information, call Coleman at 626-355-9216. Proceeds support club philanthropies.

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Pasadena Farmer's Market

Every Saturday to 12:30 p.m.
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 Sierra Madre (626) 355-1596

Lucky Baldwin's

21 Kersting Court Sierra Madre (626) 355-1140

Mary's Market

561 Woodland Drive Sierra Madre (626) 355-4534

New Day!

The Harvey Hyde Show

Every **Thursday** 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Hard-hitting, high impact sports talk radio KSHP Las Vegas - 1400 AM
Live! from **BURGER CONTINENTAL** 535 South Lake Avenue Pasadena



Weather Wise

5-Day Forecast
Sierra Madre, Ca.

Longitude W118.0, Latitude N34.2

Saturday:	Sunny	Hi 50s	Lows 40s
Sunday:	Rain	Hi 50s	Lows 40s
Monday:	Rain	Hi 50s	Lows 40s
Tuesday:	Cloudy	Hi 50s	Lows 40s
Wednesday:	Cloudy	Hi 50s	Lows 40s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service



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SENIOR HAPPENINGS...By Pat Birdsall

FYI: Cardiovascular diseases, including stroke, are our nation's No. 1 killer. To urge Americans to join the battle against these diseases, since 1963 Congress has required the president to proclaim February "American Heart Month."

FREE HEALTHY HEART FAIR

Methodist Hospital of Arcadia
Saturday, February 23 9 a.m.- 12 p.m.

Free heart healthy screenings, physician speakers, important medical education, prizes and fun! General reservations are **not** needed. Reservations **are** needed for the cholesterol panel test. The fee for this test is \$20.00 and is by appointment only, prior to the heart fair on February 19 and 20. Call (626) 574-3692 to register for the cholesterol panel test *only*.

Special Alert...We are currently in the Medicare open enrollment period, which began January 1, 2008, and ends March 31, 2008. During this period you can make changes to your Medicare insurance with the exception of your Medicare D (prescription) plan. For information or to make changes, call the community insurance info line at (626) 574-3733.

~Helpful Hints~

You may substitute up to 50% applesauce or fruit puree in place of oil when you bake to reduce fat content, i.e.: 1 c. oil called for in recipe, use ½ c. applesauce or fruit puree.

Recipe of the Month:
Corn Chowder

- 1 Tbs Vegetable oil
- 1 small onion, coarsely chopped
- 2 packages (16 oz. each) loose- pack frozen whole-kernel corn thawed, *divided*
- 2 cups water
- 3 chicken flavor bouillon cubes
- 1 can (12 fluid oz.) Evaporated milk
- 1/2 cup chopped red bell pepper
- ½ tsp chopped fresh rosemary
- 1 Tbs chopped fresh basil (optional)

Directions:

Heat oil in large saucepan. Add onion; cook, stirring occasionally, until tender. Add *4 cups* corn; cook, stirring occasionally until tender. Add water and bouillon; cook, stirring frequently, for 15 minutes or until corn is very soft.

Place corn mixture in a blender or food processor; blend until smooth. Return to saucepan. Stir in *remaining* corn, evaporated milk, bell pepper and rosemary. Cook, stirring frequently, for 10 minutes or until chowder is thick and bell pepper is tender. Season with salt and ground black pepper, if desired. Garnish with basil. Note: For a Southwestern-style twist to this recipe, add 1 can (4 oz.) diced green chiles with the bell pepper. Eliminate rosemary; stir in 1 tsp chopped fresh cilantro. Garnish with cilantro leaves instead of basil Yields 4 servings (Nestle)



~ For Your Funny Bone~

My high school English teacher was well known for being a fair, but hard, grader. One day I received a B minus on a theme paper. In hopes of bettering my grade and in the spirit of the valentine season, I sent her an extravagant heart-shaped box of chocolates with the pre-printed inscription: "BE MINE." The following day, I received in return a valentine from the teacher. It read: "Thank you, but it's still BE-MINUS." *B. Wilcox, RD*

~Quote~

Love makes your soul crawl out from its hiding place. ~ Zora Neale Hurston



Activities: *Unless listed differently, all activities are at the Hart Memorial Park (Senior Center) 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre*

Lunch Program: Monday-Friday- Call (626) 355-0256 to reserve the day before.
Suggested donation \$2.00 for seniors, others - \$3.75

Monday: Free Strength Training Class with Lisa Brandley 1:00- 1:45 PM

Tuesday: Bingo: 1:30-3:30 PM .25c per card Yoga: 5:00 PM- Instructor, Andrea Walsh- \$5.25 for seniors

Wednesday: Open

Thursday: Game Day- 1:30- 4:00 PM Poker, Scrabble, Cribbage, Chess, Checkers, Backgammon, Pinochle, you name it. Yoga: 5:00-6:30 PM- For seniors and others who want to go slowly (can be done in a chair) Instructor: Andrea Walsh \$5.25 for those 50 & over- \$7.00 for those under 50. To register call (626) 355-7394

Friday: Ping-Pong- 2:00-4:00 PM- Not tournament, just for fun. **Beginning again on March 14**; Aerobics for Active Seniors- 3:00- 4:00 PM at the Community Center 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.- \$34.00 for an 8 week course Instructor: Bonnie Smithson Call 355-5278 to enroll.

Saturday: Senior Club for those 55 and older- Brown bag lunch at 11:30AM Meeting at Noon. Bingo: 12:30 PM .25c per card

Meals-On-Wheels: Meals are delivered to homebound seniors through the YWCA Intervale lunch program M-F with frozen meals for the weekend. \$2.00 suggested donation per day. **New Number:** Call Susan Garcia at (626) 960-3773

Monthly Excursions:

February 21 Griffith Observatory- \$12.00 per person 11:15-5:00 PM

March 20 Palm Springs Follies- open until filled or Feb 21st, whichever comes first \$53.00 per person 8:30 AM- 6:30 PM

April 17 Los Angeles Zoo & Autry National Center 9:00 AM- 6:00 PM
Cost being estimated at press time

For reservations call Susan Clifton at (626) 355-7394 or stop by and see her at the Hart Memorial Park House- 9:00 AM- 5:00 PM- Monday-Thursday

Blood Pressure Clinic Returns! *The Sierra Madre Paramedics will do blood pressure readings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 10:30-11:30 AM*

Free Consultation with Pasadena attorney Geoffrey Chin- 2nd Thursday of the month- 10:00 AM- Noon-Appointments are a must. Call Susan Clifton at (626) 355-7394. Conflicting court schedules can occasionally cause cancellations.

Ode To A Cumquat

By Rich Johnson

Vice Presidents

The presidential candidates are dropping like flies. Is your favorite still in, or on the sidelines? Surprised? I'll tell you what really surprised me. The Rudy Giuliani campaign. What happened?

Imagine Mayor Giuliani leading the Republican pack throughout 2007, then bypassing New Hampshire, Iowa and South Carolina in early 2008. Dumb, dumber, dumbest? Hello!!!

I think the happiest ex-campaign manager in the country right now is Susan Estrich. If the name doesn't sound familiar, she is the person who managed the Michael Dukakis campaign in 1988. Remember, Governor Dukakis riding around in the tank? The helmet? He lost to George H. W. Bush. Well, Ms. Estrich, I think you may not hold the title of numero uno botched presidential campaign manager much longer.

Not much more to talk about regarding the presidential candidates. Maybe we should start taking a look at the potential Vice Presidents. My choice for greatest Vice President ever? He was V.P. from 1837 through 1841 under President Martin Van Buren. His name? Richard Johnson of course. Duh! But enough about him.

Maybe we could have two coin tosses during halftime at the Super Bowl. First, we could square off Hillary and Barack. Hillary could call it (after all, ladies first. Oh, unless she objected?). John Edwards could toss the coin. And the winner gets to be the presidential candidate for the Democrats and the other gets to be VP. Does this work for you so far?

Next up the Republicans. John McCain could square off with Mitt Romney (Mitt... whatta name). Let's let Senator McCain call it. Either Mike Huckabee or Ron Paul could toss the coin. Maybe they could arm wrestle for the privilege. The winner of the coin toss gets to be the Republican candidate for president, and the loser the Veep.

If we do it this way, the four major candidates can stop telling the country how horrible their parties "other" candidates are, and start hammering the real opposition.

Five sitting Vice-Presidents became Presidents. John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Martin Van Buren, and George H. W. Bush. Richard Nixon was elected President 7 years after leaving the Vice Presidency.

And, just in case you are interested, nine Vice Presidents have succeeded to the presidency following the death or resignation of the incumbent. Four from the 19th century:

John Tyler replaced William Henry Harrison in 1841. Millard Fillmore replaced Zachary Taylor in 1850. Andrew Johnson replaced Abraham Lincoln in 1865. And Chester A. Arthur replaced James Garfield in 1881.

And five in the 20th century:

Teddy Roosevelt replaced William McKinley in 1901. Calvin Coolidge replaced Warren G. Harding in 1923. Harry Truman replaced Franklin Roosevelt in 1945. Lyndon Johnson replaced John Kennedy in 1963. And Gerald Ford replaced Richard Nixon in 1974.

My candidate didn't even try. I wanted Condoleeza Rice to become the next president. Why? I'll tell you. The delicious irony of having the Republicans elect the first black AND woman to the presidency. Well, it's as good a reason as any. Isn't it?



The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library Invite you to "Celebrate Good Friends" at The 38th Wine and Cuisine Tasting



By Sierra Madre artist Susan Wallis

February 22, 2008 from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. at the Alverno Villa

Ticket Price: \$60.00

Silent Auction	Tickets available at:	To order by mail, please make
World Famous Magic Castle Magicians	Sierra Madre Public Library	checks payable to:
	Angels Everywhere	
Music by Eric Byak	Arnold's Frontier Hardware	The Friends of the
	The Bottle Shop	Sierra Madre Library
Domestic and International Wines	Savor The Flavor	P.O. Box 334
Many Local Restaurants	Sierra Madre Books	Sierra Madre, CA 91025-0334

38th ANNUAL WINE & CUISINE TASTING

"Celebrate Good Friends" is the theme for the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library Cuisine and Wine Tasting at Alverno's historic Villa. Scheduled for Friday, Feb. 22, 2008, 7pm-9: 30 pm, guests have the opportunity to mingle with old and new friends, and celebrate our local library.

The Cuisine and Wine Tasting is one of the Friends' major fund-raisers. Annually, the Friends contribute in excess of \$50,000 to support library services and programs, add new acquisitions and additions to collections, and make improvements to the building and grounds.

Tickets are available at the Sierra Madre Library, and these local businesses: Savor the Flavor, Arnold's Frontier Hardware and Gifts, Angels Everywhere, and Sierra Madre Books.

Priced at \$60.00 in advance, tickets make a wonderful holiday gift for family, friends, businesses, and clients. Tickets can also be purchased at the door for \$65.00 on the day of the event, and include wine and cuisine tasting choices from over 20 restaurateurs and 50 vintners, as well as live entertainment by Eric Byak. Gourmets will love the new introductions from vintners while enjoying featured artwork by local artists.

Please plan to join us for this exciting "sell out" event!

ELECTION (cont. from page 1)

Proposition 92 **\$944,000**
Establishes in state constitution a system of independent public community college districts and Board of Governors. Generally, requires minimum levels of state funding for school districts and community college districts to be calculated separately, using different criteria and separately appropriated.

Proposition 93 **\$4.8 million**
Reduces the total amount of time a person may serve in the state legislature from 14 years to 12 years. Allows a person to serve a total of 12 years either in the Assembly, the Senate, or a combination of both.

Proposition 94 **\$38 million***

- *Ratifies amendment to existing gaming compact between the state and Pechanga Band of Luiseño Mission Indians; amendment would permit tribe to operate 5,500 additional slot machines;*
- *Omits certain projects from scope of California Environmental Quality Act; amendment provides for Tribal Environmental Impact Report and intergovernmental procedure to address environmental impact;*
- *Revenue paid by tribe to be deposited into General Fund; tribe would make \$42,500,000 annual payment and pay percentage of revenue generated from the additional slot machines to the state.*

Proposition 95

- *Ratifies amendment to existing gaming compact between the state and Morongo Band of Mission Indians; amendment would permit tribe to operate 5,500 additional slot machines;*
- *Omits certain projects from scope of California Environmental Quality Act; amendment provides for Tribal Environmental Impact Report and intergovernmental procedure to address environmental impact;*
- *Revenue paid by tribe to be deposited into General Fund; amendment requires tribe to make \$36,700,000 annual payment and pay percentage of revenue generated from additional slot machines to the state.*

Proposition 96

- *Ratifies amendment to existing gaming compact between state and Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation; amendment would permit tribe to operate 3,000 additional slot machines;*
- *Omits certain projects from scope of California Environmental Quality Act; amendment provides for Tribal Environmental Impact Report and intergovernmental procedure to address environmental impact;*
- *Specifies where revenue paid by tribe pursuant to amendment deposited; amendment requires tribe to make \$20,000,000 annual payment and pay percentage of revenue generated from the additional slot machines to the state*

Proposition 97

- *Ratifies amendment to existing gaming compact between the state and Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians; amendment would permit tribe to operate 3,000 additional slot machines;*
- *Omits certain projects from scope of California Environmental Quality Act; amendment provides for Tribal Environmental Impact Report and intergovernmental procedure to address environmental impact;*
- *Revenue paid by tribe to be deposited in General Fund; tribe would make \$23,400,000 annual payment and pay percentage of revenue generated from the additional slot machines to the state.*

* Information as reported by Cal Access at press time.

McKernan Joins S.M. Foundation

An inveterate Sierra Madre volunteer has become the newest member of the Sierra Madre Community Foundation as of January, 2008. Colleen McKernan, who has been giving her time to a plethora of nonprofit groups since moving to town in 1981, will begin serving her three-year term this month.

The Foundation is an affiliate of the California Community Foundation.

Mary Katherine Kelley, chair of the Foundation, said, "We are looking forward to having Colleen on our Board. She has a wealth of experience with various organizations here in Sierra Madre, and we are happy to have her knowledge and judgment working on behalf of the Foundation and the community of Sierra Madre."

McKernan said, "It is exciting for all the right reasons to be a part of an organization such as the Foundation that has the pulse of Sierra Madre."

McKernan is a partner, with Adrienne Bolger, of Foothill HomeCare Partners.

Her acceptance to serve on the Foundation adds to her lengthy list of volunteer opportunities in Sierra Madre. She's been Little League president after having been on the board for eight years, was

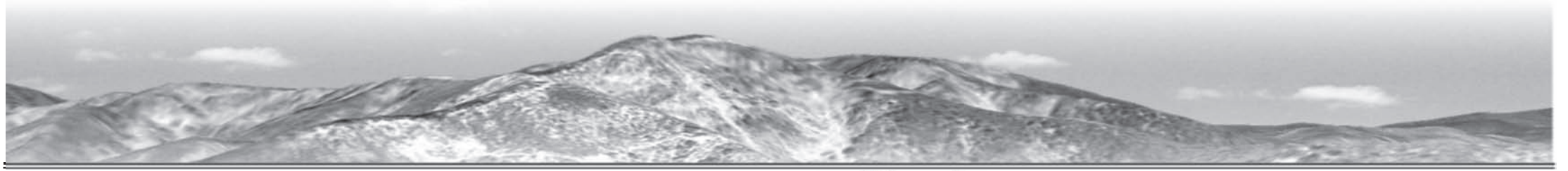


president of St. Rita's School Parent-Teacher Organization, has been on committees for Relay for Life, the Wistaria Festival and the Centennial Committee. She also worked for Meals on Wheels and assisted in writing the Senior Master Plan Update. Colleen belongs to several other civic organizations.

Colleen and Kevin's son, Patrick, is a freshman at the University of Arizona. Colleen also has two daughters, one of whom, Theresa, works at Foothill HomeCare. Another daughter, Rachelle, is a Long Beach Police Officer. Colleen has three granddaughters. Kevin's brother, Steven, lives with Colleen and Kevin.

Colleen is a niece of Marilyn McKernan and the late Bill McKernan, both Citizens of the Year.

EDUCATIONAL AWARD APPLICATION SIERRA MADRE CIVIC CLUB
<p>The applicant <u>must be a senior</u> in high school. Please check one of the following:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Resident of Sierra Madre <input type="checkbox"/> Relative of a Sierra Madre Civic Club Member <input type="checkbox"/> Has worked in Sierra Madre within the last 12 months <input type="checkbox"/> Place of employment in Sierra Madre <input type="checkbox"/> Has one parent who works in Sierra Madre</p> <p>Please complete application in <u>no more than three</u> pages. You are required to attend the Sierra Madre Civic Club General Meeting on Thursday, May 8, 2008 to receive your award.</p> <p>1. Student's Name: _____</p> <p>2. Address: _____</p> <p>3. Age: _____ Telephone Number: _____</p> <p>4. E-mail address (if applicable) _____</p> <p>5. Names of parents _____</p> <p>6. School: _____</p> <p>7. How did you hear about the Educational Award? _____ School _____ Newspaper _____ Civic Club Member</p> <p>8. Please list your volunteer activities for the past two years. Specify type of service and approximate number of hours per month.</p> <p>9. Describe your other interests, talents and hobbies.</p> <p>10. List accomplishments or recognitions of which you are proud.</p> <p>11. Briefly describe your educational plan and career interests.</p> <p>12. Write about a person, place, event or combination of these which has made an impact on your life or which make you a special or unique person.</p> <p>13. Please attach TWO letters of reference: one from a teacher or administrator of your school, and one from an adult leader of your volunteer activity or an employer.</p> <p>To qualify for the award, you must have the application postmarked no later than March 1, 2008. Send to:</p> <p>Amy Putnam 630 Oak Crest Drive Sierra Madre, CA 91024 626-355-4198 amyputnam@adelphia.net</p>



MountainViews-Observer PASADENA

Mayor's Wife Among Those Opposed To Proposed Speed Limit Hikes

By Dean Lee

Narrowing a list of 28 Pasadena streets down to eleven still out of compliance with state law, the city's Transportation Advisory Commission (TAC) spent most of Tuesday night listening to opposition to raising speed

on these streets, and only after these traffic calming measures are put in place should we do the traffic surveys and studies." TAC later agreed and voted on similar concerns.

Others told horror stories about living on Pasadena Avenue and other nearby streets, including South St. John Ave., not on the



Madre Boulevard; Villa Street between Altadena Drive and Sierra Madre Boulevard, and East Mountain Street between North Altadena Drive and Hill Avenue.

Above Washington Boulevard, Hill Avenue is also included. All these streets are all set to be raised by five mph.

In other parts of the city West Glenarm Street, Colombia Street and Pasadena Avenue, north of California Boulevard, would also be raised five mph. South of that, Pasadena Avenue would go up the highest of any proposed street to 45 mph.

Only West Drive adjacent to the Rose Bowl would be reduced by five mph and 14 streets throughout the city will remain the same speed.

After voting in favor of sending recommendations studying traffic calming measures before rising any speed limits TAC also asked that the police bring back traffic data on the Pasadena Avenue area something they said was not done. Riddle said the street had been out of compliance for at least 10 years.

Calming measures could include road narrowing, different surface materials, crosswalks and unsynchronized signal lights among other things they said.

TAC also voted unanimously in favor of notifying all residents in the effected areas. Their recommendation was to see if there was feedback, and if not, to changes the limits to the recommended higher speeds.

Commissioner Julianna Delgado said she thought telling drivers to "go faster," was saying pedestrians were unimportant and was a slap in the face to the city's push to make Pasadena a walking friendly town.



Pasadena Avenue next to Huntington Hospital

limits on one of the eleven streets before sending their recommendations to the city council.

Police said they cannot issue seeding tickets using radar or LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) on out-of-compliance streets until speed limits have been re-established.

Residents opposed to increasing current limits included Claire Bogaard, Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard's wife, who is outraged at raising the speed limit by 10 mph, from 35 mph to 45 mph, along Pasadena Avenue next to Huntington Hospital, a number of schools, a park and the Ronald McDonald House at 763 S Pasadena Ave.

Bogaard said she was against "the consideration of raising any speed limits anywhere in the city of Pasadena, especially along Pasadena Avenue."

She also said "there are many traffic calming measures that can be used

list, which was said to be also affected.

"Until you've lived in this area, you really don't realize how bad the traffic is and I believe the premise of what you're saying, that the traffic should be whatever the traffic can bear, is incorrect," said a homeowner on South St. John Ave.

She also said she, along with her neighbors, have had their cars sideswiped a number of times. Pasadena police Lt. Phlunte Riddle, of the city's traffic section, said there had been 13 accidents in that area last year. None of them resulted in fatalities, however, she noted that most of them were caused by drivers running red lights.

None of those that spoke were from East Pasadena, where the majority of the speed limit increases would be increased, including East Washington Boulevard and Riviera Drive, both north of Sierra

Controversial Blogger Thrown Out Of Informational Meeting on Measure D

Dean Lee

Pasadena Public Information Officer Ann Erdman walked into the City Hall Council Conference Room Tuesday afternoon for a media briefing on the city's controversial Utility User Tax Measure D and simply said "this meeting is not open to the public."

She then gave members of the press two choices, saying those not reporters could leave, or cancel the whole meeting giving both Pasadena Pundit blogger Wayne Lusvardi and political consultant Martin Truitt no choice.

Both left but not before Lusvardi handed out stacks of copied literature opposing the measure.

Copies including the city's own staff reports, a letter from Mayor Bill Bogaard to Barbara Boxer opposing

an extension on the federal moratorium on internet fees, and the transcripts from a lawsuit filed against their group Citizens for Responsible Government that challenged rebuttal arguments for the measure to be placed on the Feb. 5 ballot.

Pasadena Weekly reporter Andre Coleman apologized saying he invited them. He also said neither they nor he meant any trouble and that the two only wanted to hear what was being said. Erdman said she was faithful that what was said in the meeting would get reported fairly through the press.

In a media blast sent Jan. 23 Erdman wrote "There is plenty of speculation, and a fair share of misinformation, about Measure D on the Feb. 5 local ballot, which would update the text in the

Pasadena Municipal Code related to Utility Users Tax."

Lusvardi later said he thought he had a right to stay being a "para-professional blogger"

"Bloggers should be granted access to press briefings as para-professional journalists." He said. "That right will have to be gained another day however." He then said measure D was an internet tax something Erdman and other city staff said was untrue.

City staff also handed out information saying measure D only updates the city outdated codes. "Nothing changes and people would not see any immediate change even if the measure did not pass," they said.

They also said \$10 million collected in UUT fees is needed for police and fire.

Federal Funds Wish List includes Parks, Gold Line Extension

By Dean Lee

The Pasadena city council Monday night approved a three part 2008 federal priorities list that includes, among other things, asking the federal government for \$13.5 million for soundwalls along the 210 freeway and \$15 million for a water system improvement program.

Other earmarked part one city priorities include requesting \$1 million for a transit maintenance facility, \$650,000 for Robinson Park rehabilitation and renovation; and \$700,000 to fund the new Pasadena Healthcare Link.

"We share copies of this with our representatives in Washington," said assistant City Manager Julie Gutierrez. "So it goes to Congressman Adam Shiff, Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer and, as they look at what committees they're on, they know where our priorities are."

She said Carolyn Chaney and Associates has been the legislative liaison services with the federal government for years and provides the information working with those representatives.

Gutierrez said the second part of the priorities included a long list of regional projects including the second phase of the Gold Line extension, possibly out to the Ontario Airport.

She said the extension would ease anticipated traffic buildup in East Pasadena.

Pasadena is also involved in long-term water supply projects, including recharging the Raymond Basin. Recent drought conditions have dropped the groundwater table three to six feet, city staff said. The city has backed efforts by the Raymond Basin Management Board in asking for federal assistance.

The Arroyo Seco Watershed is also on the list, as eight miles of it extends through Pasadena and is considered to be the largest open space area in the city. The city is supporting a feasibility study to look at restoring water resources and an environmental restoration plan for the Arroyo.

Gutierrez said the federal government

had not given money for open space in the past five years, but they hoped to get assistance with the Arroyo through a Master Plan that proposes a number of upgrades to existing Robinson Park. She said the improvements are a part of ongoing efforts to curb youth violence.

"We're hoping that a funding source that has been available, although not in the last five years, but previously, may be coming up again," she said about all city parks. "We want to make sure that is a priority for us."

She also said they backed JPL as one of the most important federally-funded economic engines in the area which provides many jobs, although the last part of the federal priorities include legislative concerns about suing NASA regarding Perchlorate contamination of drinking water at the city's Sunset Wells. They proposed creating a trust fund at the Environmental Protection Agency to provide grants to communities affected.

The city's fire and police departments are also currently joining other agencies in a common radio network called the Interagency Communications Interoperable System, and they need money for the large capital costs for the program, according to staff.

Other legislative concerns read like a list of the city positions on the presidential debates, including immigration, homeland Security and taxation among other hot political topics.

On immigration, "The city of Pasadena strongly believes that immigrants strengthen the community economically and culturally, and welcomes their contributions to society," the report reads. It also stated that having the Rose Bowl, Rose Parade and JPL all in Pasadena presented, "unique challenges in protecting its citizens from terrorist threats."

During Monday night's meeting, councilmember Chris Holden asked that all the priorities, both state and federal, be put on the city's website, something not yet being done. Everyone agreed it was a good idea and staff said it would be done by the end of the week.

Crime Rash Spins In A Different Direction

By Teresa Baxter

The PRstore, a relatively new business in Pasadena's Playhouse District is taking a novel approach to a recent rash of burglaries of local businesses that have unfortunately resulted in the latest trend of throwing a brick through the glass of a store front in order to pilfer valuable goods.

Recently, a drug store as well as a Starbucks in the heart of Pasadena has fallen prey to this tactic. While these burglaries have seemingly gone under the radar to the public eye, it may be of benefit to potential victims that the last target happened to be a public relations store that specializes in media coverage, offering an opportunity to make lemonade out of lemons.

Apparently, the PRstore was robbed in the early morning hours last weekend, according to a consultant for the store, Craig Valine.

"Since we are in Pasadena, home of the world famous Rose Parade...the owner figured she could capitalize on a captivated audience of those literally camped outside her door waiting for the parade," he said. "She put a wide-screen plasma TV up in the store with marketing messages for all to see...so the Rose Parade has come and gone and the TV did catch the attention of many—including a burglar."

The store owner, Alice DiPirro was sickened by what she had to face while



The PR Store owner, Alice DiPirro

receiving phone calls as she assessed the damage to her store and the loss of property the morning after.

"After the tears and the nausea passed I decided to do what any red-blooded marketer worth her salt would do," she said.

"I am pleased to announce the 'Break-in Sale and Contest' in which customers are invited to come in and guess how far the farthest piece of glass entered the store."

The PRstore is a national franchise chain touted as a marketing super-store designed to service small business. The idea is there hasn't really been a good resource for small business and we're bringing that to the community, she said.

Currently, the front door of the business is boarded up and DiPirro intends to keep it that way for a few weeks to coincide with the promotion. She has also posted a letter to the thief which ends with her giving thanks to her loyal customers for letting her rant in this creative way.

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Sierra Madre Fire Safe Council

TIP OF THE WEEK

From Caroline Brown


I recently reviewed some e-mails that I was trying to delete and came across the following: August 28, 2005 to a cousin in Louisiana, 120 miles west of New Orleans. Subject line: Danger to you from Hurricane Katrina? My note to him: “I am sitting in 103 degree temperature, waiting for our disastrous brushfire season to start, watching the news of the impending natural disaster for you all.” We all know what came within a few days of this date. Why am I mentioning this in a column on fire safety? Every sector of this country faces some reoccurring natural disaster and each individual needs to be ready at all times.

We are sitting tight after two weeks of winter rains, some mud slides but less than expected, and snow in our local mountains. If you could not get out the door and out to buy supplies, how would you fair for the next 10 days?

Our next Fire Safe Council meeting will be February 4, 2008 in the City Council chambers. We will meet each first Monday of the month throughout 2008 as we expand our program to include multi-hazard preparation.

For more information contact us at 355-0741 or 355-9350. Please e-mail us at smfiresafecouncil@hotmail.com as we want to have contact with as many Sierra Madre residents as possible.

We have a palette of Thermo-gel fire protection kits available on consignment via a distributor in Arizona. It arrived during the height of the fire storms in October/November. Call 355-0741.



Environmentally Speaking,

Did You Know?

“Drink to me Only With Thine Eyes...”

That sounds so romantic, but let’s get real...Sharing a glass of wine with your valentine while enjoying a special meal is more like it. The wine is to be savored during dinnertime conversation while enhancing the tastes of your dishes. Seek out products with a sense of place that use minimal or no inputs and let the vineyards speak for themselves. Fine wines will taste of summer rain on the grapes, the sunlight that fell on the vines and the warm minerals of the soil. Organic and Biodynamic vintages are particularly adept at bringing out this sense of place. Labels to look for:

Organic- Organic vineyards help preserve soil quality, enhance biodiversity and conserve water, ensuring harvests for generations. Note that “100-percent organic” wines must be made entirely from organically produced ingredients, while “organic” wines must be made of 95-percent organic ingredients. Neither of these two varieties may have added sulfites. Wines made with organic grapes have at least 70 percent organic ingredients and can include sulfites.

Biodynamic- Even though biodynamic vintners pay attention to astrological cycles, you won’t have to worry that your star sign might not match your wine. Biodynamic standards are older than organic, but very closely allied in their promotion of sustainable practices and elimination of pesticides and synthetic fertilizers. Biodynamic wines, however, can be pricey. (www.demeter-usa.org)

LIVE/Salmon Safe- The Low Input Viticulture and Enology label was put in place to ensure that Oregon vineyards remain disease-free, as they have been historically, while limiting the use of chemical pesticides. LIVE promotes planting of species appropriate to local conditions, reliance on beneficial insects, fungi and plants, and increased biodiversity. (www.liveinc.org) (www.salmonsafe.org/wine/winelist.cfm)

So this Valentine’s Day, enjoy a bottle with your valentine over dinner (cooked with organic and local ingredients, of course). Also, as a rule of thumb, the lower the alcohol content the easier the wine is to pair with food.

~Reduce, Reuse, Recycle~

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SIERRA MADRE POLICE BLOTTER

During the week of Sunday, January 20th to Saturday January 26th the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 247 calls for service.

Sunday, January 20th:

4:45 PM – Suspicious Circumstances - A resident reported that his daughter and a friend were walking close to their home when an older model yellow car began following them. At one point the car stopped and man described as a male white with dark hair, approximately 6 ft., wearing a green tee-shirt, got out of the car, but the girls ran home. Officers responded to Olive Av an Baldwin Av and conducted an extensive area check. Neither the car nor a man was found.

7:05 PM – Annoying phone calls, 100 block East Alegria Ave. A resident reported receiving annoying phone calls and text messages from her ex boyfriend. No prosecution was desired, only documentation.

Monday, January 21st:

6:58 PM – Warrant arrest, 100 block North Michillinda Ave. A vehicle was stopped for a traffic violation. A records check revealed the driver, a resident of Temple City, had an outstanding warrant for her arrest. The driver was arrested and transported to the Arcadia Jail for remand.

Tuesday, January 22nd:

2:45 PM – Arrest, 400 block West Sierra Madre Blvd. Officers stopped a car for an equipment violation. A records check revealed the driver, a resident of Baldwin Park, was unlicensed. The driver was arrested and released on a written promise to appear.

Wednesday, January 23rd:

11:52 AM – Arrest, Fairview Ave and Grove St. Officers stopped a suspicious man walking in the area. During the investigation the man fought with the police officer, resulting in the man’s arrest for resisting arrest, possession of narcotics, marijuana, and violation of his probation. He was transported to the Pasadena Jail for remand.

7:16 AM - Arrest, 110 West Sierra Madre. Officers stopped a car for a blown out brake light. A records check revealed the driver, a resident of Pasadena, was unlicensed. The driver was arrested and released on a written promise to appear.

Thursday, January 24th:

12:55 AM – Arrest. Officers received information regarding the suspects to a residential burglary that occurred on January 15th in the 200 block of W. Carter Ave. Officers went to a hotel in the City of Claremont where they developed probable cause to obtain a search warrant to search two motel rooms and a vehicle. The investigation resulted in the recovery of property stolen in burglaries in Sierra Madre and Alta Loma. Officers arrested seven suspects, including three gang members from Pomona. The investigation is continuing.

Friday, January 25th:

6:38 PM – Tampering or injuring a vehicle, 600 block Alta Vista Drive. A resident reported her car tire damaged by a large metal nail. The damage was discovered Thursday, 1/24.

Saturday, January 26th:

12:58 PM – Vandalism, 700 block West Sierra Madre Blvd. A resident reported her car was keyed, leaving a 10” scratch. The car was parked at her residence. The damage occurred between 7:00 pm Friday, 1/25 and 9:30 am Saturday, 1/26. The damage was estimated at \$100.00.

EPIC SILENT ADVENTURE FILM PRESENTED BY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

By Phyllis Chapman

Grab your cutlass and climb aboard for a night to swashbuckle. The Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society is presenting the sixth in its silent film series, featuring the 1926 “The Black Pirate” starring Douglas Fairbanks. This will be held Sunday, March 2, 6:30 pm, at the Masonic Lodge, 33 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., in Sierra Madre.

Filmed on Catalina Island, and one of the first films to feature Technicolor, it was a great success for the talented Douglas. He paved the way for later swashbucklers such as Errol Flynn and the very successful Johnny Depp and his “Pirates of the Caribbean.”

Beautiful silent film star Billie Dove is the love interest, with famous character actor Donald Crisp playing MacTavish. He was a 1942 Academy Award winner for best supporting actor in “How Green Was My Valley.” An extra was Nino Cochise, grandson of famous Apache Chief Cochise.

Legendary musician Bob Mitchell, 94 years young, will accompany the film’s action on the Wurlitzer organ, just as he did in silent movie days. His exciting performances never miss a beat.

Tickets are \$20 each, with \$15 being tax deductible. For tickets and more information, please call 626-355-3905. Proceeds support the Society’s book project - publishing a history of the City of Sierra Madre. Free refreshments will be served.

Don’t Forget The 2008 Mount Wilson Trail Race

It is time to start training for the 2008 Mount Wilson Trail Race on Saturday, May 24, 2008. This is your chance to achieve an impressive athletic feat and celebrate the 100th anniversary of the race, which started in 1908, making this the second oldest trail race in California.

The race, which starts and ends in Kersting Court, is run along the Mt. Wilson Trail to Orchard Camp, which used to serve as the rest point between Sierra Madre and the top of Mt. Wilson. Participants will climb over 2,100 vertical feet along the single-track trail and then come back down again, for a total distance of 8.6 miles.

To help you get started, Coach Eric LeClair and Elite Fitness Bootcamp/TEAM Crossfit will be offering free Saturday morning Trail Training beginning January 19, 2008 and continuing up until the race. Training begins in Kersting Court each Saturday at 7:00 a.m.

Register for the 2008 Mount Wilson Trail Race beginning January 21, 2008. Get your 2008 entry form at the Sierra Madre Community Recreation Center, City Hall, Run With Us-Pasadena, Lucky Baldwin’s Delirium Café and Café 322. All entries are due by Monday, May 12, 2008. This race will be sold out, so get your entry in early!

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Chris Bertrand

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Photos and Story By Chris Bertrand

Gated Tudor Estate High Atop Sierra Madre

Oak Crest Drive winds up and up along the east edge of Bailey Canyon. Near the top, at about 1400 feet altitude, this 1990's custom home provides an intimate feeling with rich dark woods, yet opens to stunning views to the LA valley floor below.

Automatic wrought iron gates open to a parking court shaded by mature sycamores that will help naturally cool the home in the summer. Tudor-style post and beam detailing plus diamond, leaded glass windows set the stage for a traditional, upscale interior... with a few twists.

The foyer was constructed around a magnificent tree which grows (outside) in the center of the home, so the entry and stairs enjoy views of this specimen from glass walls that surround it. The formal living room intricate boasts beamed



700 Oak Crest is offered by Reni Rose of Prudential Real Estate, and was just reduced from \$2,250,000 to \$1,988,000. For more information, you can visit www.700OakCrest.com or call Rose directly at 626-355-8400.

ceilings. Extensive use of arroyo stone, especially in the two main floor fireplaces, plus the use of slate flooring, softens the formality of the Tudor exterior, reminiscing a Tahoe mountain retreat.

With five bedrooms, six baths and over 5000 square feet there is ample room for a large household, including a main floor bedroom and bath perfect for guests or live in accommodations. The formal and casual living spaces are expansive, yet a few steps up or down here and there bring the spaces down to a human, intimate scale, while maintaining a separation of use that's critical for a household with several simultaneous activities.



I can envision grand dinner parties or large family gatherings in the huge dining room. The expansive built-ins under the leaded glass windows are perfect for buffet service and the butler's pantry can accommodate caterers and intricate meal staging.

Extensive updating took place in 2004-5, including bathroom updates, hardwood flooring and an infinity edge pool that seems to drop right off dramatically into the valley below. The kitchen appointments are high end, with Viking appliances, slab granite and custom cabinetry. An expansive second floor room, with beamed cathedral ceilings, could become a fabulous home office, a wonderful billiard room or play room. Extensive use of rosewood flooring creates a stunning look, and is quite practical for those with allergies or animals.

The master suite feels like it is set in an elegant tree house, as it's up in the branch level of a mature back yard oak. Leafy, filtered views of the valley are mesmerizing from indoors, or out on the balcony overlooking the pool. The master closet, the size of a small bedroom, will be the delight of any clothes hound. The remodeled master bath is both stunning and sleek with the oversized tub looking out to the views.

This Sierra Madre custom home exudes a sophisticated yet eminently practical personality. Indoor to outdoor entertaining, important to the SoCal lifestyle, is easy as French doors open several places to the yard, pool and views.

New! Sierra Madre Coordinating Council

The goal of the BRAND-NEW Sierra Madre Coordinating Council is to foster and facilitate, coordinate and promote programs and events in Sierra Madre. This is a chance for representatives from clubs, non-profit organizations, schools, city departments, and businesses to meet once a month and share upcoming programs, projects and events.

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday February 7th from 12 noon - 1:00 pm at the Youth Activity Center, 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.

Subsequent meetings are scheduled for the first Thursday of every month

\$10/ person, includes lunch.

Bring your calendar and flyers about your upcoming programs and events!

For more information, please contact the Community & Personnel Services Department at 626-355-5278.

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Fat Tuesday Celebration Methodist Hospital Prepares for Mardi Gras 2008

The Methodist Hospital Foundation invites you to ring in Mardi Gras 2008 by sipping on fine wines and mojitos while savoring the culinary delights of the finest restaurants in town. Festive entertainment and the sounds of "Cheap Sax" will add to the splendor of the event but no doubt the most important thing to celebrate surrounds who will benefit.

The event put together by the Methodist Hospital Foundation and the Women's Leadership council is dedicating this year's proceeds to benefit future nurses by providing nursing scholarships. The need to invest this year's proceeds towards such a cause seemed easy to come by since medical facilities throughout California and beyond are experiencing a shortage of nurses. The shortage is attributed to a variety reasons. One of which is the financial hardship of tuition which may hinder some students in pursuing a rewarding career in nursing. Methodist Hospital hopes to alleviate some of the difficulty in finances for nursing students with the proceeds of Mardi Gras 2008.

"We hope to assist nursing students to accelerate their learning and be available for patient care in a timelier manner, said Carolyn Tadeja, vice president and chief of nursing.

Mardi Gras will be celebrated at Sirona's at the Santa Anita Park (race track) from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m on February 5. The event calls for business attire but feathers are encouraged and welcome. Tickets for this anticipated event are on sale now. For more information, please call (626) 821- 2340. Methodist Hospital, founded in 1903, is a 460 bed, not-for-profit hospital serving the community. Services include comprehensive acute care such as medical, surgical, perinatal, pediatrics, oncology, intensive care (neonatal and adult), and complete cardiovascular services, including open heart surgery. Methodist Hospital is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. For more information please call (626) 898 - 8000 or visit www.methodisthospital.org.

It's Just BUSINESS

Dissecting The California Deficit

By La Quetta M. Shamblee

The enactment of Proposition 13 in 1978 is considered to be the starting point for California's budget pendulum swinging in and out of balance during the modern era. This legislation resulted in a major overall reduction in revenue from local property tax revenues, which local governments had formerly relied on for a variety of civic services including schools, social services, health and mental health care and law enforcement. After two decades of the economic pendulum swinging from the extremes of strong growth to a series of recessions, the state's budget seemed to stabilize by 1998.

Unprecedented gains in income from stock options and capital gains during a four year stretch from 1998 to 2000 resulted in a 23 percent increase in the state's revenue. This set the stage for trouble when the legislature approved permanent budget increases based on this brief window of robust economic growth. The problem became apparent when the dot-com bubble was deflated in 2001 - the party was over, resulting in one of the worst deficits in California history. Additional factors that have contributed to the trail of deficits include major commitments to new programs, formula funding for many state programs that calculate automatic budget increases based on caseload and population growth, cost of living increases, provider rate increases and court ordered allocations and payments. Budgets for these factors aren't adjusted downward even when revenue is insufficient (projected or actual), resulting in deficits.

More than \$5 billion was borrowed to resolve the prior year's deficit with the 2003-2004 budget, which still resulted in a deficit of some \$14 billion the following year.

The Governor's Budget Proposal for 2004-2005 included the refinancing of the debt coupled with plans to put the brakes on increased spending. The goal - to provide time for revenue increases to catch up with spending, thus setting the stage for sustained fiscal balance. However, this plan was never fully implemented. It was designed to resolve the deficit that existed at that time and to eliminate the type of structural deficit that currently defines our state's fiscal infrastructure. Another stretch of economic growth provided the means to balance the 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 budgets without any major program reductions. Rather than deal with the harsh realities of spending restraints that would have required our legislators to reign in spending, the Legislature decided not to enact statutory changes needed to slow down the rate of increased spending over the long-term. This established pattern of spending in the face of a slowdown in revenue growth was also indicative of last year's budget, which has now resulted in the re-emergence of a deficit which was anticipated.

The current process that leads to our recurring budget deficits has two primary culprits: First, spending every dollar of revenue or reserves during years of economic boom; and secondly, neglecting to reign in spending to coincide with realistic projections of revenue. The Budget Stabilization Act proposed by the Governor for the upcoming 2008-2009 year is a key component in a comprehensive plan to establish long-term stability by reforming our state's budget system. Learn more so that you may weigh in with your state representatives. "Building A Better California" is recommended reading to get an overview of the proposed plan at <http://gov.ca.gov/issue/state-budget/>.

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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

PUSD: Exit Exam Scores Improving

By Teresa Baxter

A presentation provided by Younghee Jang, the Pasadena Unified School District director of student assessment and evaluation, showed slight to notable improvement among high school students' scoring on the California High School Exit Examination, also known as CAHSEE.

Improvement in scores is one of the requirements for additional funding from CAHSEE, which is intended to support intensive instruction and services for eligible students in the classes of 2008 and 2009, which are required to pass the exit exam, and so far have failed one or both parts of the examination. As a condition of receiving funds, each local education agency must meet certain obligations to ensure that each student receives intensive

instruction and services that may include counseling, individual or small group instruction and the hiring of additional teachers.

"Behind this data are individual kids whose futures depend on them passing the high school exit exam," said Superintendent Edwin Diaz. "I wanted the Board to be assured that each high school and their staff have thought about the consequence of kids not graduating."

Diaz noted that each high school has identified strategies within, and outside, the instructional day with intensive focus and commitment to providing the right type of instruction that needs to take place in order for the students to pass the exit exam. At this point several PUSD principals were given an opportunity to share strategies for student success.

"We're working on five things right now," said Blair High School Principal Rich Boccia. "Building relationships with the kids, targeting who the students are, embedding our strategies in a regular structural program...with CAHSEE courses throughout the day. This will include one day CAHSEE boot camps that build on skill base and confidence."

Data showed that in the comparison of cumulative CAHSEE passing rates from Nov. 2006 to Nov. 2007, the district wide passing rate for juniors and seniors was increased by 4 percent and 8 percent, respectively. Juniors at Muir High School showed the biggest gain with an 11 percent increase passing the CAHSEE. Blair High School placed highest among seniors, with a gain of 17 percent passing the exit exams in 2007.

SCHOOL DIRECTORY

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E-mail address: agillick@alverno-hs.org

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Norma Coombs Alternative School
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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

“You Can Make a Difference” La Salle High School’s Teen Issues Day

By John Blackstock



Filmmaker J.C. Pohl conducts Q&A period after the showing of Teen Truth

"You can make a difference!" was the theme of La Salle High School's 4th Annual Teen Issues Day held Wednesday, January 30, 2008. Part of La Salle's Catholic Schools Week activities, Teen Issues Day examined the different ways students make a difference, both positively and negatively in other peoples lives. Instead of going to regular classes on that day, students attended four presentations in the gymnasium and dining hall.

Morning session began with J.C. Pohl and his award winning video, *Teen Truth*. The movie is an inside look at bullying and school violence and how even just one student can be a difference maker and prevent bad things from happening. Pohl made a dynamic presentation to the students followed by a question and answer period.

The next session: "Dr. Iven: You Can Make a Difference" was by the rock musical group "Dr. Iven" who brought their M3 workshop to La Salle. This workshop combined original rock music, motivational speaking and in-depth stories to help students attain the drive to realize and achieve their goals and dreams.

Before lunch the Student Life Council presented a student film that showed how La Salle students make a difference in the lives of others today.

The afternoon session was "Safe Teen Driver", a program that steers teens and young adults toward responsible driving by Bruce Mirakami and Justin Cabeza.



Organizers of La Salle's Parent Education Series, that featured Bruce Mirakami and Justin Cabeza, third and fourth from left, were Dr. Susan Keens, Guidance and Counseling Director at La Salle, far left, and Parent Association President, Yolanda Valadez

On November 16, 1998, a most unspeakable tragedy befell Bruce Murakami: His wife and daughter were killed in a fiery car crash when a young man named Justin Cabezas chose to street race at nearly 90 mph down one of Tampa's busiest roads. Later, Justin was charged in the deaths of Cindy and Chelsea Murakami and faced 30 years in prison for the crime. But just prior to his sentencing, Bruce Murakami did something truly amazing. He chose to forgive Justin, and instead of pushing to send him to jail for three decades, Bruce asked for leniency and for Justin to work in a new program he was forming: Safe Teen Driver. "I love speed. I've always loved speed," said Justin "but one day, my fascination with going fast killed two innocent people and changed my life forever." Bruce Murakami triumphed over a devastating loss and transformed his anger and grief into Safe Teen Driver, a powerful program designed to save lives. La Salle students witnessed this amazing presentation that encouraged young drivers to, "Get real behind the wheel!" The day ended with a Safe Teen Driver presentation slanted toward, and presented to parents and adults in an evening session.

TRISH'S TRUTH

The Dress

By Trisha Collins

A major dance is happening at my school. No, it's not prom, but for an underclassman, you could say it's the next best thing. It's a formal, the Winter Formal, and rumor is it'll be the best yet. After I bought my ticket, I only had one thing on my mind: the perfect dress. I had only a week and all my money to find a dress that would stand out and blow everyone away. I had only a week, seven days, 168 hours to find "The Dress".

The weekend steadily approached and I was determined to find The Dress on Saturday, hopefully in no time at all. Saturday came, and my friends and I found ourselves outside of the mall, prepared with slip-on flats (to avoid the hassle of untying and retying shoelaces), combs and brushes (trying on numerous dresses does take a toll on a girl's hair, you know), money, and determined expressions.

Finding this perfect dress turned out to be no easy task. I can't count how many times I would try on dress after dress and come show my friends, only to receive looks of uncertainty. "Oh... it's cute but..." and "Well, its *okay*, I guess..." and not to leave out just plain "...huh?" I was practically exhausted after only the first store, but I knew I had to press on. The Dress was out there somewhere; it was just a matter of me finding it. So I dragged my friends from store to store, explaining to them The Dress was *here*, I just knew it. We continued our quest, stopping only for restroom breaks. Evening was approaching and I couldn't come home without something to show my parents. I had been out all day searching for this dress; I was going to have *something*.

Ever seen those movies where a character is looking for something and when they finally have given up, they find it just in time? Well, that's not what happened to me. My friends and I practically tore every dress store in that mall to pieces in search of The Dress. We had been steadily shopping for almost 5 hours (talk about determination!) and nothing. No dress. Nada. So, I gave up. I'm human. I was tired and irritable; I just wanted to go home for goodness sake. My parents called me letting me know they were on their way to pick me up.

As I waited outside with my friends, I thought, "Man, this really stinks." I got home and thought the same thing until I was searching through the pictures of my phone, reviewing all my shots I had taken that day. I had taken pictures of every dress I had tried on, and one in particular looked like it was The Dress! I zoomed in and turns out; I looked really great in it! Great enough to stand out and blow everyone away! "How could I have missed this dress?" I thought. "There's just no way!" I had tried on so many dresses that day that I almost didn't even remember putting it on. It just goes to show that it's really okay to give up...for a little while. It's okay to take a break when you're tired, just as long as when you've recovered, you get back up and keep trying. And was I tired! My friends and I really took the saying "shop till you drop" to heart that day, but I still knew that I *had* to find The Dress. Even if all I could do was look through all my previous choices to find the best. I kept trying and I finally found The Dress. Now I just hope nobody at the formal has the same one!

STUDENTS NEEDED TO VISIT PASADENA'S SISTER CITY IN ARMENIA

Students ages 17 to 24 have an opportunity to participate in an approximately four-week summer exchange program with Pasadena's sister city in Vanadzor, Armenia. To qualify, students must be attending high schools or colleges in the communities served by Pasadena Unified School District or be residents of those communities.

This is a cultural exchange only; Armenian language skills are helpful but not required. Students will stay with host families and visit local attractions.

Applications must be postmarked no later than Saturday, Feb. 16, and interviews will take place the week of Feb. 18. To download an application, visit www.pasadenasistercities.org and click on Exchanges.

ALVERNO'S ANNUAL Black and White Ball
Saturday, March 8, 2008 5:00 p.m.
Elegance and sophistication are the setting for the "Black and White Ball" hosted by the Alverno Parents' Association. Held in the historic Villa del Sol d'Oro on the Alverno campus, this annual gala will provide a live and silent auction. Ticket prices: \$85 each, or \$750 for a table of 10 (on or before February 8, 2008). After February 8, 2008: \$95 each, or \$850 for a table of 10.
For information or to order tickets, please contact Wendy Finch, Director of Development at (626) 355-3463 x227 or wfinch@alverno-hs.org.

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MountainViews-Observer

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MountainViews-Observer

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MountainViews-Observer

Mission Statement

The traditions of the community newspaper and the concerns of our readers are this newspaper's top priorities.

We support a prosperous community of well-informed citizens. We hold in high regard the values of the exceptional quality of life in our community, including the magnificence of our natural resources. Integrity will be our guide.



Member



California Proposition 93: Too Much “Con” Not Enough Pros and Cons

By Hail Hamilton

Why not make truth-in-advertising laws apply to political campaigns? Probably because if truth-in-advertising laws did apply to politics, the Federal Trade Commission would have time to regulate nothing else. Take Proposition 93, for example: there's more “con” in the Feb. 5 ballot measure than pros and cons—indeed, you can find more truth in circus side show!

Our state operates on the proposition system. Measures receiving the minimum number of signatures are put on the ballot along with the primary candidates and the people have access to direct democracy. While I'm not much of a populist, I think having a limited direct democracy is fine, if not very interesting to talk about.

Proposition 93 is officially billed as “Limits on Legislative Terms in Office.” A more accurate title would be, “Expansion on Term Limits for Incumbent Legislators.” The limit for most legislators is now 14 years—three two-year terms in the Assembly, plus two four-year terms in the Senate.

Proposition 93 reduces the term limit of legislators from a total amount of 14 years to 12 years. This is 14 and 12 years regardless of which legislative chamber. Then, as a matter of routine, after 14 years in the Legislature, our lawmaker runs for statewide office or moves across the street in Sacramento and becomes a lobbyist. That's the downside of term limits, which helped inspire Proposition 93, the measure that sets the career limit in the Legislature at 12 years, but allows all 12 to be served in either house.

By default, I'm against term limits. I like professionalization in state legislatures. However, I would also like to kick our current legislators out the door, particularly the corrupt leadership of Fabio Nuñez and Don Perata. California just can't afford these

two bozos any longer.

Proposition 93 would also end what the pro-93 ads call the “revolving door” in the Legislature, by “limiting” legislative service to 12 years in either the Assembly or Senate or a combination of years in either as long as they don't surpass 12. Or is it 12 years in the Assembly and then 12 more in the Senate? The language of the measure is vague on this point.

Extending terms limits from six years to 12 in the Assembly and eight years to 12 in the Senate is a worthy idea, but look at the unsavory baggage that goes with it: Forty-two incumbent legislators who are now term-limited out would be allowed to remain in office beyond the current term limits.

That means legislators approaching their limit (e.g. Fabian Nuñez and Don Perata), get to start over. They will then enjoy 12 more years in the legislature. While this bill appears to decrease the terms of legislators, it actually increases them—some to as much as 18 to 20 years in office!

California has consistently been overwhelmingly pro-term limits. All attempts to overturn term limits have failed miserably, much to my displeasure. Therefore, many voters are probably going to be drawn in by this measure. What many of them are going to miss is that this proposition basically resets the number of years each legislator has served, as if they were just starting.

In my ideal world, we would vote this bill down (one that actually increases the terms of legislators, something I would normally support) and then in the future overturn term limits. I also realize the odds of that happening are astronomical. For now I must be content with voting **NO ON PROPOSITION 93**. The thought of 12 more years of Señor Nuñez and his compadre Don Perata is just too much to contemplate. It's time to say: enough is enough!



Stuart Tolchin On...LIFE So, Who Won?

By the time you read this column you will may very well know who California selected as Presidential candidates for the upcoming November election. I do not know who is to be (or, from your view, who already has been) selected. Strange isn't it? We all know that when we look at the stars in the sky what we see happening right now is something that actually happened thousands of years ago. These celestial events have taken that long to get to us-- it's a very long dial-up time. Anyway, the point is that often what we take as “reality” is actually only our individual and unique immediate perception-- often quite different from the event perceived by others. (Yes, we are participant-creators of our own universe and all that.) This recognition, I think, has helped me to better understand the Presidential selection process and maybe get a better handle on the factors behind human decision-making. (Maybe, there's a future for me in advertising?)

Let me try and share my insight. John Edwards has projected himself as a Populist candidate emphasizing the needs of the poor and expressing a willingness to combat the corporate rulers of this country for the purpose of eliminating at least a little of the huge economic disparity that exists in this Country today. His message was not well-received and after he withdrew from the race polls were taken which discovered that Senator Edwards simply was not very popular with economically disadvantaged but was quite popular with upper middle-class Democrats. What goes here? Why do voters consistently make selections contrary to their own economic self-interest. Contrary to most “educated” people, I do not think the decisions stem from ignorance. I think the answer is found by discovering what perceptions influence the final choice. For educated and fairly comfortable voters John Edwards rhetorical message simply made them feel good. His words created in these people a warm and fuzzy as he spoke of an America that was compassionate and fair and not beholden to its corporate overlords. To some of us that feels good and that good feeling is enough to determine our choice whether it's good or bad for us economically; it's more important that we feel good about our country and ourselves.

Other people, less economically comfortable people, hear a different message. Edwards keeps talking about the poor and their deprivations and the unfairness inherent within our greedy materialistic society-- who wants to hear this stuff-- life hard enough without focusing on tis negativity. Let me, at least imagine myself being rich and think like a rich person. After all, thinking like a rich person is pretty muck like being a rich person--even if it isn't, it still feels better than thinking of myself as poor and deprived. It's not only the poor who allow themselves to be influenced this way--it's most of us and it's most of the time. Democrats of my age like to think back to the days of JFK WHEN WE WERE PROUD TO BE AMERICANS (not like now). It was Camelot and the best and the brightest and most valiant knights were venturing forth to do good-- not much good actually happened--you know, the Bay of Pigs and all-- but we all felt good anyhow. Under LBJ lots of good thing happened; important civil-rights legislation happened largely through the efforts of this powerful an consummate deal-maker; but were we happy? No, we weren't. It wasn't just Viet Nam; it was that LBJ was large and crude and profane and that his wife and daughters were not as elegant as Jackie and the Kennedy clan. Who cares what LBJ actually accomplished--we simply were not as happy.

NOTICE OF PREPARATION AND PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING NOTICE

Project Title: STONEHOUSE PROJECT EIR

Lead Agency: City of Sierra Madre
Development Services Department

Address: 232 West Sierra Madre Boulevard
Sierra Madre, CA 91024

City Contact: Donna Butler
Phone: (626) 355-7135

The City of Sierra Madre (City), as the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has determined that it will prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Stonehouse Project described below. The City will prepare the EIR in accordance with CEQA, implementing guidelines (“Guidelines”), and City procedures. The purpose of this notice is to advise and solicit comments and suggestions regarding the preparation of the EIR, environmental issues to be addressed in the EIR, and any related issues, from interested parties other than potential Responsible Agencies, including interested or affected members of the public.

The City of Sierra Madre prepared an Initial Study for the proposed project on January 15, 2008 and is currently available for public review. The Initial Study was prepared in accordance with the City's guidelines implementing the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Initial Study determined that the proposed project may have a significant effect on the environment, and therefore, and EIR is required. Copies of available project materials may be reviewed or obtained from the City address shown above.

Project Location. The project site is located at the base of the San Gabriel Mountains within the northeastern portion of the City of Sierra Madre. The 102.56-acre project site, currently known as the Hefflin Estate, is located north and west of Stonehouse Road with approximately 400 feet of frontage on the north side of Grand View Avenue. The site is bounded on the north by the San Gabriel Mountains, on the west by residences at the terminus of Camillo Street, on the south by Grand View Avenue, and on the east by residences along Liliano Drive in the northeastern area of the City of Sierra Madre. The northern portion of the site is in natural open space and is contiguous with the undeveloped southern face of the San Gabriel Mountains. The project site is located entirely within the Hillside Management Zone (“HMZ”).

Project Summary. The proposed project involves the subdivision of 24.67 acres of the 102.56-acre project site into 22 single-family lots. The subdivision proposes to use only the lower one-third of the property to create 22 residential lots ranging in size from approximately 15,000 square feet up to 2 acres, two private roads, and a debris basin within the 1989 Hillside Management Zone (“HMZ”) boundary. Over two-thirds of the property would remain open space. No homes are currently proposed, however it is expected that the subdivision would eventually be developed on a lot-by-lot basis. Twenty-one new dwelling units will be constructed on the site, resulting in a net increase of 18 units. The project would also require the construction of an earthen debris basin within the 1989 HMZ boundary. It is proposed that the combination debris/detention basin would be constructed in the canyon east of lot 12 and north of lot 13. This basin would be sized to store a debris potential volume of 18,600 cubic yards, the volume required for detention.

The Hefflin House and its associated grounds would be retained and would continue to be accessed from the terminus of the Camillo Street in the west-central portion of the property while the three rental units located downslope near Grand View Avenue would be demolished.

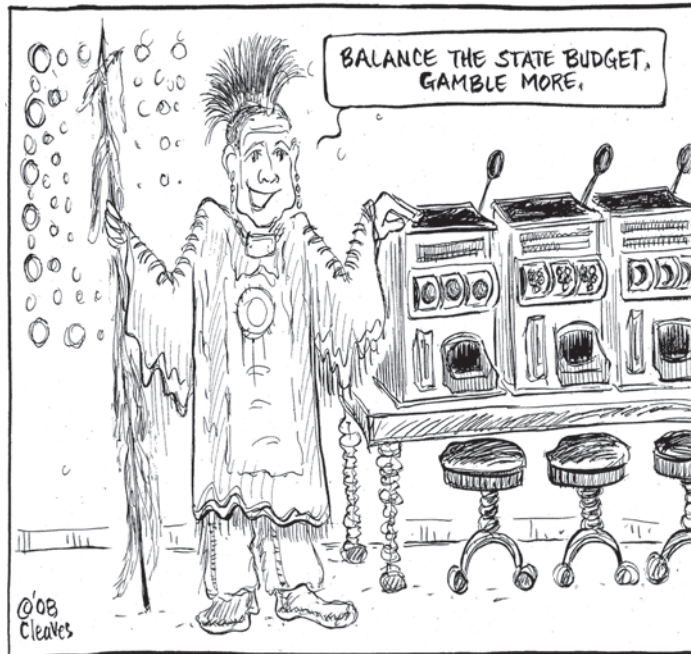
NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP) PROCESS

The purpose of this notice is to advise and solicit comments and suggestions regarding the preparation of the EIR, environmental issues to be addressed in the EIR, and any related issues, from interested parties other than those noted above, including interested or affected members of the public. The Notice of Preparation and Initial Study are available at: City of Sierra Madre Development Services Department, 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA 91024, City of Sierra Madre Public Library, 440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA 91024, and the City website: www.cityofsierramadre.com.

All parties that have submitted their names and mailing addresses will be notified as part of the current project's CEQA review process. If you wish to be placed on the mailing list or have any questions or need additional information, please contact the person identified above. The City will accept written comments from Agencies and interested parties regarding this notice through the close of business on **March 7, 2008**. These comments should be submitted to: **Donna Butler** at the City address shown above.

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

A Public Scoping Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, February 19, 2008**, to address the project identified in the Notice of Preparation. One meeting will be held at 6:30 PM in the City Council Chambers at the above address. Any interested parties may attend to gain a better understanding of the project and to identify additional environmental issues of concern.



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LEGAL NOTICES

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: 01/24; 01/31; 02/07 and 02/15, 2008 030804JJ

030805DS File No. 20080092213 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as:
TAPIOCA & PHO
1425 W. Artesia Blvd #19
Gardena, CA 90248.

Full name of registrant (s) is (are) BOBA FOR YOU, INC.. 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 Jan 16, 2008. 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: 01/24; 01/31; 02/07 and 02/15, 2008 030805DS

030806 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as:

J & J INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENTS, INC., JJII
8538 Wilbur Ave
Northridge, CA 91324.

Full name of registrant (s) is (are) J & J INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENTS, INC., 8538 Wilbur Ave Northridge, CA 91324. 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 Jan 16, 2008. The registrant (s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 11/15/2007.

NOTICE-The Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 at seq. Business and Profession Code) First filing: 01/24; 01/31; 02/07 and 02/15, 2008 030806

030807SD File No. 20080093251 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as:

MEDRANO ASSOCIETES SHAKLEE DISTRIBUTORS
492 N. Garfield Ave
Montebello, CA 90640.

Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Martir Medrano 492 N. Garfield Ave Montebello, CA 90640. 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 Jan 16, 2008. The registrant (s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above 12/13/2007.

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030808 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as:

PRIME ESTEEM COMPANY, PRIME ESTEEM ELECTRONIS
19811 E. Colima Rd Ste 610
Walnut, CA 91789.

Full name of registrant (s) is (are) William P.Chan and Jocelyn M. Tantoco 19811 E. Colima Rd Ste 610 Walnut, CA 91789. The business is conducted as: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. 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 Jan 16, 2008. 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: 01/24; 01/31; 02/07 and 02/15, 2008 030808

030809DS File No. 20080091364 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as:

EPIC DETAIL
1901 E. Amar Rd #15
West Covina, CA 91792.

Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Epifanio Zamora 1901 E. Amar Rd #15 West Covina, CA 91792. 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 Jan 16, 2008. 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: 01/24; 01/31; 02/07 and 02/15, 2008 030809DS

030810M File No. 20080100518 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as:

B & K MGMT.
10623 Pangborn Ave
Downey, CA 90241.

Full name of registrant (s) is (are) B & K MGMT. 10623 Pangborn Ave Downey, CA 90241. 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 Jan 16, 2008. 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: 01/24; 01/31; 02/07 and 02/15, 2008 **030810M**

020801RC File No. 20080024669 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as:

GEEKS
6747 Greenleaf Ave #4
Whittier, CA 90601.

Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Salvador Felix 6747 Greenleaf Ave #4 Whittier, CA 90601. 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 Jan 04, 2008. 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: 01/17; 01/24; 01/31 an 02/07, 2008 020801RC

020802RC File No. 20080024554 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as:

FOUR SEASONS AIR CONDITIONING AN HEATING
1353 Friar Ln
Pomona, CA 91766.

Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Timothy Yong Lee 1353 Friar Ln Pomona, CA 91766. The business is conducted as: AN INDIVI-DUAL. 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 Jan 04, 2008. The registrant (s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/04/2008.

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: 01/17; 01/24; 01/31 an 02/07, 2008 020802RC

020803RC File No. 20080034619 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as:

JOSE A. PEREZ CLEANING
3577 Sanborn Ave #N
Lynwood, CA 90262

Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Jose A. Perez 3577 Sanborn Ave #N Lynwood, CA 90262. 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 Jan 07, 2008. The registrant (s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/07/2008.

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: 01/17; 01/24; 01/31 an 02/07, 2008 020803RC

020804RC File No. 20080051985

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as:

EASY CLEANING
11421 Belcher St
Norwalk, CA 90650.

Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Maria D. Garcia 11421 Belcher St Norwalk, CA 90650. The business is conducted as: AN INDIVI-DUAL. 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 Jan 09, 2008. The registrant (s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above 01/09/2008.

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: 01/17; 01/24; 01/31 an 02/07, 2008 020804RC

020805RC File No. 20080051988 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as:

ANGELES LOCOS BODY CARE
11916 E. Firestone Ave
Norwalk, CA 90650.

Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Alexandra Lee 11916 E. Firestone 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 Jan 09, 2008. The registrant (s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/09/2008.

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: 01/17; 01/24; 01/31 an 02/07, 2008 020805RC

020806RC File No. 20080058690 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as:

FELIX & SON
651 E. Lambert Rd Ste B
La Habra, CA 90631.

Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Felix R. Nunez 651 E. Lambert Rd Ste B La Habra, CA 90631. 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 Jan 10, 2008. The registrant (s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/10/2008.

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: 01/17; 01/24; 01/31 an 02/07, 2008 020806RC

020807MG File No. 20080060861 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as:

METRO PROVISIONS
1442 E. 3rd St
Pomona, CA 91766.

Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Miguel Gonzalez Almaraz 1442 E. 3rd St Pomona, CA 91766. 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 Jan 08, 2008. 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: 01/17; 01/24; 01/31 an 02/07, 2008 020807MG

020808 File No. 20080060022 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as:

SHADOW EYEWEAR
16021 Arrow Hwy #H
Irwindale, CA 91706.

Full name of registrant (s) is (are) OCEAN EYEWEAR, INC., 16021 Arrow Hwy #H Irwindale, CA 91706. 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 Jan 10, 2008. The registrant (s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 10/16/2006.

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: 01/17; 01/24; 01/31 an 02/07, 2008 020808

020809ED File No. 20080032915 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as:

ASAP VALET PARKING, INC.

9560 Karмонт Ave
South Gate, CA 90280.
Full name of registrant (s) is (are) ASAP VALET PARKING, INC., 9560 Karмонт Ave south Gate, CA 90280.

The business is conducted as: A CORPORA-ION 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 Jan 02, 2008. 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: 01/17; 01/24; 01/31 an 02/07, 2008 020809ED

02810ED File No. 20080032914 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as:

UGALDE RECYCLING, INC.
13252 16th St
Chino, CA 91710.

Full name of registrant (s) is (are) UGALDE RECYCLING, INC., 13252 16th St Chino, CA 91710. 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 Jan 07, 2008. 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: 01/17; 01/24; 01/31 an 02/07, 2008 020810ED

020811ED File No. 20080058817 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as:

PALETERIA LA REYNA DE MICHOCAN, INC
3560-P Santa Anita Ave
El Monte, CA 91731.

Full name of registrant (s) is (are) PALETERIA LA REYNA DE MICHOCAN, INC., 3560-P Santa Anita Ave El Monte CA 91731. The business is conducted as: A COR-PORATION. 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 Jan 10, 2008. 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: 01/17; 01/24; 01/31 an 02/07, 2008 020811ED

020812AN File No. 20080059036 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as:

ALVARADO AUTO REPAIR
7524-22 Avalon Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90001.

Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Anibar Alvarado 7524-22 Avalon Blvd Los Angeles, CA 90001. 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 Jan 10, 2008. 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: 01/17; 01/24; 01/31 an 02/07, 2008 020812AN

02813AN File No. 20080059412 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as:

CHACON PRINTING
13023 Los Nietos Rd #C
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670.

Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Uris Chacon 13023 Los Nietos Rd #C Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670. 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 Jan 10, 2008. 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: 01/17; 01/24; 01/31 an 02/07, 2008 020813AN

020814MU File No. 20080060434 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as:

PACIFIC DENT REMOVAL
7512 Phlox St
Downey, CA 90241.

Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Efrén Martin 7512 Phlox St Downey, CA 90241. 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 Jan 10, 2008. The registrant (s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above 01/01/2008.

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: 01/17; 01/24; 01/31 an 02/07, 2008 020814MU

020815RC File No. 20080024564 STATEMENT OF WITHDRAWAL FROM PARTNERSHIP OPERATING UNDER FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

The following person (s) has (have) withdrawn as a general partner (s) from the partnership operating under the fictitious business name of **BAHIA FASHION**
1117-B Maple St

Los Angeles, CA 90015. The fictitious business name statement for the partnership was filed on 08/27/2007. Current File No.20072002136. The full name of registrant(s) is (are) Candelaria Barrales 320 W. 79th St Los Angeles, CA 90003. The business was conducted by: A PARTNER-SHIP. 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 Jan 04, 2008. The registrant (s) has (have) ended transacting business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/04/2008.

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: 01/17; 01/24; 01/31 an 02/07, 2008 020815RC

ICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: ISABELLA S. PAEGEL CASE NO. GP013487

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of ISABELLA S. PAEGEL.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by MARIA N. HAWKINS AKA MARIA BOYDEN in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that MARIA N. HAWKINS be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on 02/15/08 at 10:00AM in Dept. A located at 300 E. WALNUT ST., PASADENA, CA 91101.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate



Photo by Aaron Dominguez

Asteroid Made Rare Close Flyby of Earth On January 29

An ASTEROID approximately 800 feet in diameter flew past Earth on Jan. 29, with its closest distance being about 334,000 miles.

Asteroid 2007 TU24 was discovered by the NASA-sponsored Catalina Sky Survey on Oct. 11, 2007. Scientists in NASA's Near-Earth Object Program Office at JPL have determined that there is no possibility of this asteroid ever impacting Earth in the foreseeable future.

"This will be the closest approach by a known asteroid of this size or larger until 2027," said Don Yeomans, manager of the Near Earth Object Program. "As its closest approach is about one-and-a-half times the distance from Earth to the Moon, there is no reason for concern," Yeomans added. "On the contrary, Mother Nature is providing us an excellent opportunity to perform scientific observations."

Asteroid 2007 TU24 reached an approximate apparent magnitude of 10.3 on the night of Jan. 29-30, before quickly becoming fainter as it moved farther from Earth. On that night, the asteroid was observable in dark and clear skies through amateur telescopes with apertures of at least 3 inches. An object with a magnitude of 10.3 is about 50 times fainter than an object just visible to the naked eye in a clear, dark sky.

Just before the flyby, JPL scientists were able to obtain images of the asteroid using high-resolution radar data. Their data indicated that the asteroid is somewhat asymmetrical in shape, with a diameter of roughly 800 feet.

Steve Ostro, JPL astronomer and principal investigator for the project, noted that the radar observations enabled his team to guarantee that the Jan. 29 approach is the closest this particular asteroid will come to Earth until at least the end of the next century.

The first radar detection of the asteroid was made on Jan. 23, using the Goldstone 230-foot-diameter antenna. The Goldstone antenna is part of NASA's Deep Space Network Goldstone station in Southern California's Mojave Desert. Goldstone's 230-foot antenna is capable of tracking a spacecraft traveling more than 10 billion miles from Earth. The surface of this antenna must remain accurate within a fraction of the signal wavelength, meaning that the precision across the 41,400-square-foot surface is maintained within 0.4 inch.

Ostro and his team plan to make further radar observations of asteroid 2007 TU24 through Feb. 4, using the National Science Foundation's Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico.



The illustration from an amateur astronomer shows the asteroid's track on the sky for 3 days near the time of the close Earth approach as seen from the city of Philadelphia. Image courtesy: Dr. Dale Ireland, Silverdale, WA.

Scientists working with Ostro on the project include Lance Benner and Jon Giorgini of JPL, Mike Nolan of the Arecibo Observatory, and Greg Black of the University of Virginia.

NASA detects and tracks asteroids and comets passing close to Earth. The Near Earth Object Observation Program, commonly called "Spaceguard," discovers, characterizes and computes trajectories for these objects to determine if any could be potentially hazardous to our planet. The Arecibo Observatory is part of

the National Astronomy and Ionosphere Center, a national research center operated by Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., for the National Science Foundation.

For more information, visit <http://neo.jpl.nasa.gov>

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

LEGAL NOTICES (cont.)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: HELEN MODD

CASE NO. GP013440
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of HELEN MODD.
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by THERESE OTTO in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that THERESE OTTO be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A HEARING on the petition will be held on 03/14/08 at 10:00AM in Dept. A located at 300 E. WALNUT ST., PASADENA, CA 91101
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of

the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code Section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner
DOUGLAS J. FARRELL
LAW OFFICE OF DOUGLAS J. FARRELL
37 W. SIERRA MADRE BLVD.
SIERRA MADRE, CA 91024
2/2, 2/9, 2/16/08
CNS-1271422#

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
CASE NO. TS011130
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner ALBERT URIAS RODRIGUEZ,
1925 W. 126th Street, Compton, California, 90022, has filed a petition in the Superior Court of Los Angeles for a decree changing names as follows:
Present Name: Albert Urias Rodriguez
Proposed Name: Jose Alberto H. Rivera;
Present Name: Albert Rodriguez
Proposed Name: Albert Rivera.
THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before the court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If not written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without hearing.
A HEARING on the petition will be held on 3/6/08 at 10:00 AM in Department G located at 200 W. Compton Blvd., Compton, Ca. 90220.
1/26, 2/2/08, 2/9/08. 2/16/08

ORDERED JANUARY 23, 2008 BY ROSE HON, JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

WANTED

Contributors of the following political persuasions to participate in periodic coverage of the upcoming Presidential Election:
1 Republican
1 Democrat
1 Green
1 Libertarian
1 Independent
Contact: s.henderson@m vobserver.com

STARTING A NEW BUSINESS ?
FILE YOUR DBA HERE
Doing Business As, Fictitious Business Name Filing
MAIL BOX & POSTAL 280 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre 626-836-6675
Obtain Street Address - Business Stationery - Flyers Rubber Stamps - Business Cards - Mailing Service



The Mountain Clymer

By Kim Clymer-Kelley

Extraordinary People Extraordinary Places (Part 2)

When I have told others about my blind friend, Daniel Kish, and his outdoor adventure school for the blind, the story has been repeatedly met with curiosity about what it is that he and his students could appreciate about the beauty of the mountains. To many who frequently venture out into nature and spend time close to the Earth, the answer to this question is obvious. But there are those who have seldom ventured far from the comforts of the man-made world, or those who have spent time in the outdoors and, for some reason, have never had the joy of experiencing the power of such places...who have never sat and opened themselves up to feel the energy that flows in and around everything in the natural world. Vision is but one sense that is affected by this kind of beauty...the beauty of nature fills all of the senses completely, as well as the soul. If one of the senses is lacking, then the others just have that much more to absorb. Though I am sighted and am a very visual person (my educational and occupational backgrounds were focused primarily in the visual arts), I also tend to be very aware of what I am feeling and touching, and hearing, and smelling when I am out in nature. There are certain places I have visited that have had a profound affect on me...ones to which I had an immediate and strong connection...places that, once I had experienced them, I have carried with me always...places like the Grand Canyon, Table Rock in Sequoia, Muley Point in Utah, Andrew Molera State Beach in Big Sur, the Palm Canyon in Palm Springs. I could go on forever. These are magical places...places of incredibly powerful energy and beauty.

One such place in our local mountains is Manzanita Ridge... While not as majestic and stunningly visually beautiful as some of our grand National Parks, it is a place of a great yet subtle beauty and one of an intense energy that is hard for me to put into words. Manzanita Ridge is the ridgeline that connects the San Olene area at the top of the mountain above the Pack Station (and just to the north of Sierra Madre) to Mt. Harvard (the peak just in front of Mt. Wilson). There is a wide grassy area that runs along the top of this ridge that is filled with wildflowers in the spring. Descending the northern slope of the crest there are towering old pines that densely cover the hillside all the way down to the Winter Creek at the bottom of the canyon. The south-facing slope dips into the thick chaparral of the Little Santa Anita Canyon...from the ridge you can see the Mt. Wilson Trail winding through the brush coming up out of Sierra Madre, and then in the distance, the entire L.A. basin all the way to the ocean. On really clear days in the late afternoon, you can catch the last golden sunlight glinting off of the distant water and can actually see, quite clearly, the twin peaks of Catalina Island and large freighters passing by just off shore. Depending where on the ridge you are, you can either see the peaks of Harvard and Wilson with their impressive collection of towers and telescopes to the northwest, or, if you are on the eastern end of Manzanita Ridge, your can take in a view of Newcomb Pass at the end of the Big Santa Anita Canyon.

At almost any given moment on Manzanita Ridge the sky is filled with red tail hawks and ravens and sometimes if you are lucky, you may even catch a glimpse of the golden eagle who lives somewhere in rocky ledges of the surrounding terrain. The cry of the hawks and the caw and melodic clucking of the ravens fill the air. The breeze is rich with a perfect blend of seasonal scents, green or slightly woody dried grass, the sweet essence of the lupine flowers and Spanish broom, the fresh pine scent from the northern canyon and the scent

of sage wafting up from the chaparral of the southern slope.

On most days the ridge is sun-drenched and breezy. Once, though, I was blessed enough to have ridden my horse up there in a snow squall. We took the San Olene Fire Road up from the station to the eastern end of the ridge. As we headed out the ridge, I looked back at the "Clamshell" area of Monrovia Peak. The dramatic lighting of the storm made the clamshell (or more accurately, a scallop shell) that is carved into the side of the mountain strikingly clear. It was, for the first time, apparent to me how it had gotten its name.

I have often wondered if such places actually were extraordinary places, or if for some reason they just affected me in a special way. I had some light shed on this puzzle by my friend Daniel. He visited the station one day and in the course of conversation, asked me if I had any suggestions for a hike. Having just paid a visit to Manzanita Ridge, and with its tranquility and beauty still resonating in my soul, I asked if he had ever made the journey up there. He told me that he had not and that he was not even sure where it was or how to get there. I expressed to him how imperative it was that he visit the ridge and told him that the easiest route from the station was to head out either the Upper or Lower Winter Creek Trails to where they meet to form the Winter Creek Trail which then heads up out of the canyon. About a quarter mile up the trail from the junction, the trail begins to climb through a series of switchbacks that winds through the pines for a little over a mile and eventually spills out onto the ridge. He decided to go with my recommendation and asked my friend, Dave to accompany him to help him navigate one of the turns I had described, with which he was not familiar. They decided to fit a visit to Manzanita Ridge into a longer hike that they had been wanting to take to Mt. Wilson. My son, Patrick, and Dave's friend, Mick, accompanied them on the journey. The trip was more than 15 miles round trip, and took them the entire day. They returned to the station after dark and totally exhausted. We sat in the store on the front porch of the house and I listened as they told me the whole story of their adventure. Many weekend days ended like this at the station. It was one of my favorite parts of life there...finally getting to sit back and relax on the porch as the weekend visitors headed home and the peace and quiet of the night settled in. I loved the bustle of the station on the weekends, but the mountains always let out an almost audible sigh when the last of the happy hikers drove off the mountaintop.

When they had finished recounting their day, it occurred to me that Daniel had finally gotten to visit Manzanita Ridge, so I asked him what he had thought of it. He told me what an amazing place he thought it was...and how the energy and the beauty of it was palpable and that he planned on hiking there again soon so that he could spend more time on the ridge. This was just the confirmation I was hoping to get from him...proof that what I had been feeling all along was real...that the beauty of all of these extraordinary places is not just in the eyes of the beholder...or even in their ears and their noses...it is something that the heart, soul and spirit behold as well. It is a glorious energy that permeates an entire living being...and remains within forever. A beauty so intense and apparent, a blind man could see it...an extraordinary blind man.

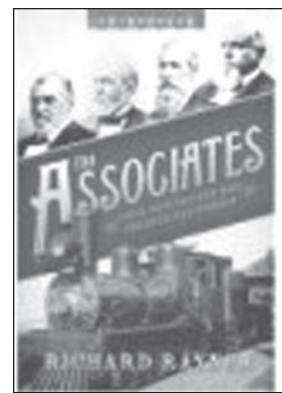
To read more about Daniel Kish's organization, "World Access for the Blind" visit his website: <http://www.worldaccessfortheblind.org>

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Jeff's Pics

The Book Reports

By Jeff Brown



unlimited possibilities to The Associates. Regarding the four men the author says “On the one hand they are utterly rapacious buccaneers who just want to lay their hands on as much money as possible and keep it, they became very rich but on the other hand they did remarkable things and changed the face of America and created California as we know it today. Their personalities and what they did was very intriguing.”

Free Lunch: How the Wealthiest Americans Enrich Themselves at Government Expense (and Stick You with the Bill) by David Cay Johnston (2007)

This Pulitzer Prize winning author states in his book that government hidden subsidies and new regulations have quietly funneled billions from the poor and the middle class to the rich and politically connected. This reality is at the core of our financial society. For instance, Wal Mart’s sales tax is not given to the public but goes right into their pockets. It is not market capitalism as we think, but controlled as the rich get richer. Also government has radically cut back consumer and worker protection measures! One way to fight this is to insulate members of government from the rich donor class. Rather sad and eye opening information!!!



Recommended by Bill Moyers as the “Best Political Book Of 2006”

Thomas Paine and the Promise of America by Harvey J. Kaye

Kaye argues that Thomas Paine is America’s founding father of the revolutionary spirit and his essays have had lasting effects. “He not only turned America’s colonial rebellion into a revolutionary war but also articulated an American identity charged with exceptional purpose and promise.” Well documented and insightful book.

Recommended by Lazarus Long

Red Mars, Green Mars, Blue Mars (Mars Trilogy) by Kim Stanley Robinson

Wonderful science fiction series from the 90’s!!!

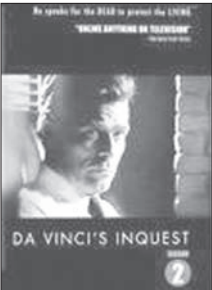
Book pics are available at Sierra Madre Books (836-3200)

Email recommendations or comments to jeffspics1@gmail.com

Scene One - Take One DVD Review

Da Vinci’s Inquest: Season 1 & 2 (1998-99)

Nicholas Campbell stars as cop-turned-coroner Dominic Da Vinci in this popular and sophisticated Canadian police forensics series. He uses his sleuthing abilities to solve crimes along with a team of police, pathologists, forensic scientists and criminologists at his disposal. We also get a look at the political environment of Vancouver. A cross between “Quincy,” “CSI” (without the gore) and “Law & Order,” it has been heralded by audiences and critics for its lifelike and realistic portrayal of crime fighting. It is a breath of fresh air in the pantheon of crime series. It ran for 7 seasons and is now in its second stage called Da Vinci’s City Hall.



Groundhog Day (1993)

In this unusual comedy from director Harold Ramis, self centered unhappy TV weatherman Phil Connors (Bill Murray) is sent to Punxsutawney, Pa., to cover the groundhog day annual event. Hating the event, Connors unleashes his unhappiness on his producer (Andie MacDowell) and cameraman (Chris Elliott). The next day, however, Connors finds he’s doomed to repeat Groundhog Day over and over again until he learns that his actions can affect the outcome of his life. It’s basically a comedy but also about redemption and that change is possible!!!



Recommended by Jack Reacher

The Professional (1994)

Leon (Jean Reno) is the top hit man in New York . When his next door neighbors are killed by a loose cannon DEA agent (Gary Oldman), Leon becomes the unwilling custodian of a 12-year old girl named Mathilda (Natalie Portman). Very good dramatic action movie!



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Sunday Jan 27
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Friday Feb 1
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Saturday Feb 2
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Sunday Feb 3
2:30pm

Friday Feb 8
8:00pm

Saturday Feb 9
8:00pm

Sunday Feb 10
2:30pm

Friday Feb 15
8:00pm

Saturday Feb 16
8:00pm

Sunday Feb 17
2:30pm

(partial listing)

Friday Feb 22
8:00pm

Saturday Feb 23
8:00pm

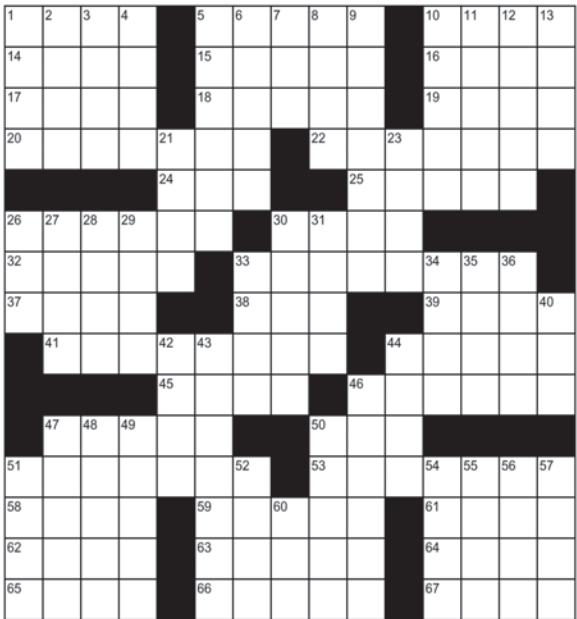
English actors Jack and Leo are down to doing Shakespeare on the Pennsylvania Moose Lodge circuit when they hear that a dying matron is seeking her two long-lost English relatives to inherit her fortune. The opportunity is perfect-until they learn the relatives are her nieces.

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Crossword

Your Civic Duty

The California Primary is February 5th



ACROSS

- 1 Ornament
- 5 Inhale
- 10 Cowboy's legging
- 14 Toboggan
- 15 "To _ Mockingbird" (2 wds.)
- 16 Royalty
- 17 Voiced
- 18 Widely known
- 19 Realm
- 20 Biblical city
- 22 **Weekday**
- 24 Whiz
- 25 Complies
- 26 National capital
- 30 Food
- 32 Playing field
- 33 Blooms
- 37 Become limp
- 38 Sup
- 39 Father
- 41 Dozers

- 44 Jaded
- 45 **Ballot**
- 46 City in Kansas
- 47 Spring birds
- 50 Scriptural your
- 51 Work force
- 53 Loud
- 58 Attention-Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (abbr.)
- 59 Possessor
- 61 Land mass
- 62 Fibbed
- 63 Sea
- 64 Evils
- 65 Weightless
- 66 Fashionable
- 67 Bottomless

DOWN

- 1 Coalition
- 2 European monetary unit
- 3 Seaweed substance

- 4 Restaurant
- 5 Draw
- 6 Recess
- 7 Sick
- 8 Supine
- 9 Complacent stupidity
- 10 Come to an end
- 11 Sturdy
- 12 Regions
- 13 Drama
- 21 Naught
- 23 Tides
- 26 Untrained
- 27 Spring flower
- 28 Shout
- 29 Parlay
- 30 Reflection
- 31 Decays
- 33 Root vegetable
- 34 Opaque gem
- 35 Member of a boat's crew
- 36 Hurried
- 40 Hoopla
- 42 Demonic
- 43 Bridge float
- 44 Soybean
- 46 Prickly
- 47 Radiuses
- 48 Yellow pigment
- 49 Chum
- 50 Give a present
- 51 Syllables used in songs (2 wds.)
- 52 Young Women's Christian Association
- 54 Bug killer
- 55 Island
- 56 African river
- 57 Pant
- 60 Pay



From the Inside Out

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

The Eyes Have It

As I gaze deeply into your beautiful eyes ... what will I see?

The eyes are the windows of the soul, you know, and in many cultures, it is rude, or just absolutely “not done” to look directly in someone’s eyes - especially a stranger’s - when you are speaking with them. Doing that can create a “connection” that has long-term consequences-inappropriately falling in love ‘across a crowded room’, for example.

Being in eye contact in this “modern, enlightened, Western culture,” however, is almost a requirement. If we don’t look into someone’s eyes while we are talking, it is almost a given that that we have something to “hide” ... and don’t want the other to know.

So, why would I be talking about eyes right now? Well, for a bit over 20 years, I have known about the concept of iridology (eye-ri-daw-logy) providing a glimpse into an individual’s state of health. There’s a story in Dr. Bernard Jensen’s seminal book, “Visions of Health : Understanding Iridology” (available through Sierra Madre Books) about changes in an owl’s irises during a time of healing.

Anyway, in the 20 years since I first read about this, the state of the science and art of iridology has, of course, advanced - especially since Jensen’s passing. Because the iris is now understood to reflect one’s genetic inheritance, indicating areas of potential health issues, it is recognized that it is not a “diagnostic” tool. Marks in specific iris locations suggest body systems which would benefit from extra prevention, ensuring you get the right nutrients, keep stressors in balance, etc, etc, ... you’ve heard it all before. But ... an ounce (penny) of prevention may be worth a pound of cure (thousands of dollars, months/years of time and pain) ...

So if I’m looking inquisitively into your eyes, for what am I looking? Well, there’s the obvious color (blue, brown or mixed); surface texture, (fine, looser, with small ellipsoid indentations called lacunae, radii and compression furrows (or stress rings); additional overlay surface colorations / splotches of yellow, orange, or brown; or a blue or white “trim” at outer edge of the iris.

This is a subject that needs graphics, pictures and time to study what’s going on. Graphics for basic understanding, eye photos to see actual differences, and time to appreciate the beauty, compare, contrast, analyze, connect with what someone says, and time - at least until deep understanding is achieved. The more you look and correlate, the faster understanding occurs.

If my nearest and dearest would just gaze back long enough, and if I really knew what I was seeing, a simple glance could be enough. However, right now a swift glance won’t do it. I need at least a magnifying lens and small flashlight. To take photos for an “in absentia” study, one needs reasonable lighting (flashlight and steady hand), 6+ million megapixel camera with “macro lens” to capture details. Then good photo software; blowing the photo up to about 5 or 6” diameter helps a lot. Time to study, to compare what one sees against the “maps” of the iris.

Since the iris presents a genetic pattern, only the depths and colors inside the lacunae, or the overlay color splotches / colorations intensity and size might change. Thus the human iris changes very slowly; if an iridologist is already part of your health support team, having photos taken once a year ought to be enough. To see changes in ongoing chronic situations, fingernail alterations are more informative; in acute situations, watch the tongue. Tongue colors, textures and shape can change in as short a time as a day (or less) as a situation is corrected. Oops, something else that we haven’t paid much attention to either, I’ll bet. Each is a personal language offering to share their stories from the inside out, if we can only learn to ask and understand them as they are told.

So, take a chance ... as I gaze into your beautiful eyes ... what would I see?

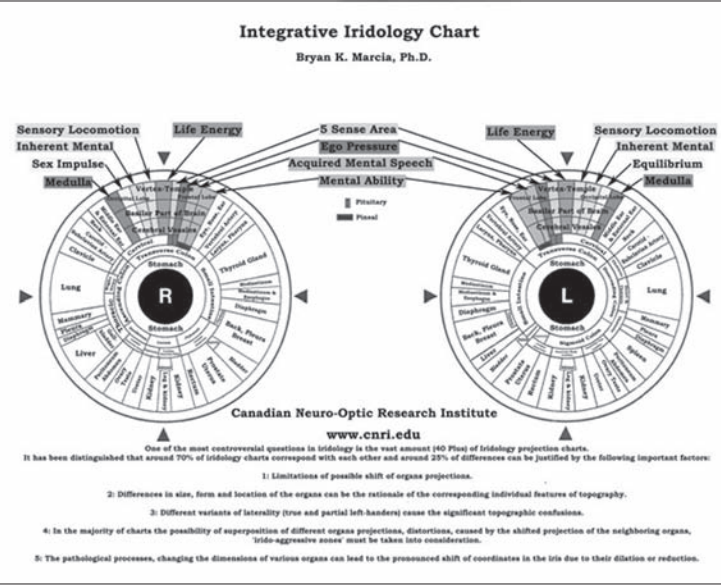




TABLE FOR TWO

By Peter Dills

You're Out Of What?

We all have our favorite restaurants. Many of us fall in love with a restaurant for a variety of reasons. Good looking staff, prompt seating, good food, a stiff drink, extensive selection. Again, you know why they're your favorite. Maybe they even put up with your screaming kids or your husband who can never make up his mind.

I know that it's very hard to run a business, maybe you work at an office...say a real estate office and you run out of paper clips. Have no fear, just head over to Staples. They pretty much have everything. Or you can go to the office next door and borrow a stapler.

Well, you know I just don't get restaurants that run out of stuff; I mean stuff!!! I mentioned a few times in this article that it might be best to avoid staying away from seafood on Sundays. You see, usually the last delivery is made on a Friday and I don't want to eat fish that has been sitting around for a few days.

Went to McCormick and Schmick's for an appetizer the other night, (just missed the happy hour) we ordered a Shrimp Cocktail, and guess what? They were out of it. Yes, a seafood restaurant that was out of the most common item on a seafood restaurant menu the Shrimp Cocktail. Now, McCormick and Schmick's is right next to CPK, couldn't they just go over and borrow some....shrimp? Well I digress... My point is that we all have our favorite dishes and drinks at our favorite restaurants. If restaurant "A" decides that they are taking Cabernet off the menu, people will notice. I know I do!!! I might not be back.

This is the second time that I have been to McCormick and Schmick's and they didn't have Shrimp Cocktail. On this night no mashed potatoes either and one of my guests wasn't informed. Hey where are my mashed potatoes?, "Oh, no one told you? We're out"!

We all make mistakes and this sounds like a b_____ session, maybe it is.

For more pleasant thoughts join me this Sunday Night at 8 PM on KJLA TV right after race replay for the Chef Knows TV Show.

Have you made it to our mailing list yet? E mail me at thechefknows@yahoo.com



Watch Peter on TV!!!! KJLA TV every Sunday Night at 8 PM Channel 57 Direct TV and 16 on Time Warner Cable.

IN YOUR KITCHEN:

Heat Up Game Day With Grain Mustard And Ale Wings

By Chef Robert McGrath

Game day get-togethers are always a blast, but serving the same old standbys can have both sidelines crying foul. Score a few extra points with your hungry fans by mixing up the traditional game plan and introducing new versions of favorite recipes. Grain Mustard and Ale Wings are the perfect twist to the ever-popular chicken wings and a great way to secure home-field advantage. This original recipe, created by award-winning Phoenix-area chef Robert McGrath, combines your favorite ale with original Tabasco® brand pepper sauce and flavorful ingredients like whole grain mustard and pepper Jack cheese. This quick and easy recipe makes 24 chicken wings but can easily be doubled or tripled to feed the entire team.

Grain Mustard and Ale Wings

- 24 ounces of your favorite ale
- 1/2 cup whole grain mustard
- 1/2 cup shredded pepper Jack cheese
- 1/3 cup original Tabasco pepper sauce
- 3 tablespoons melted butter
- Vegetable oil
- 2 dozen chicken wings
- 1/4 cup Wondra flour or rice flour

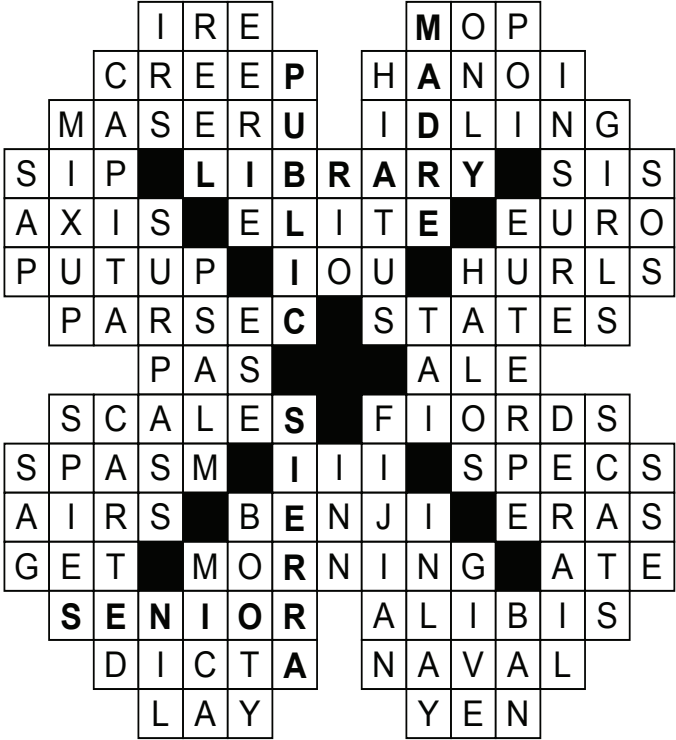


Heat ale to boiling in medium saucepan over medium-high heat. Reduce heat to low; simmer until beer is reduced to approximately 6 ounces. Allow to cool slightly. Whisk in whole grain mustard, Tabasco sauce, melted butter, and cheese. Preheat vegetable oil in fryer to 350; F. Remove and discard wing tips from wings. Separate each wing into 2 pieces at the joint; trim excess fat and skin. Toss chicken wings in bowl with flour. Fry wings for 10 minutes or until golden and crispy. Toss chicken wings with desired amount of mustard and ale sauce and serve. Makes 24 wings.

Answers To Last Week's Crossword

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SPORTS

Back Page Journal



A PAEAN TO THE UNDER-APPRECIATED

By Brad Eastland, Sports Editor

I majored in History at Berkeley. I minored in Journalism. I've passed all the teaching credential exams. Ergo, I suppose it was an unavoidable chunk of my destiny that I would one day write some sort of column with the intent of educating a large number of data-hungry sports nuts about some fascinating aspect of Sports History, in order to scratch all three itches at once....

That day is today.

I have selected, for the subject of our lecture, a discussion surrounding the most terminally unheralded, generally under-worshiped, and historically under-appreciated athletes in each of the six major sports (And no, I do not consider either soccer or hockey a major sport.).

Quiet please, pay attention. Class is now in session.

Baseball: I give you Smoky Joe Wood. You'd think with a nickname like "Smoky Joe" he'd get more love, but I bet you've never heard of him, huh? Well, in 1912 Mr. Howard Ellsworth Wood went 34-and-5, posted an ERA of 1.91, hurled 35 complete games and 10 shut-outs, and led his Red-Sox to a World Series they won mainly because of him; he won three Series games against the Giants. It might be the best year any player has ever had in any sport. Walter Johnson himself once declared Wood the fastest pitcher of them all. After his arm went dead he forged a successful second career as a part-time outfielder, with a lifetime batting average of over .280. And no, Mr. Wood is not sculpted in Cooperstown.

Football: Who could I possibly select other than the great Ken "Snake" Stabler? But rather than waste advertising space while I wax poetic over the Raiders' bearded, swashbuckling QB, just punch in my celebrated column from mid-December into your browser. <http://mvobserver.com/v01/html/17/sports.htm>. Snake and Smoky Joe are far and away (in my humble opinion) the best-ever players in their sport who are conspicuously missing from that sport's Hall of Fame.

Basketball: Here's a name very few of you who are under forty will recognize. Andrew Toney. Gunslinging guard on Dr. J's Philly 76ers, back in the 80s. Barely 6-foot-3 and only 178 pounds, but man, what a killer. Both Larry Bird and Pat Riley called him the greatest clutch player they ever saw. That's high praise, folks. Celtics fans called him the "Boston Strangler", because he used to ruin them. But my good friend and a Celtics fan himself, Dr. Paul Stanslaw of Baltimore, Maryland, who fairly hated the grinning, pointy-eared, pointy-goateed Toney for bedeviling his beloved Celtics time and time again, had an even better nickname for him---because for Paul, Toney was and is, simply, "the Antichrist". 'Nuff said.

Golf: Tom Watson. The Open Championship (a.k.a. the British Open) is far and away the most important tournament in golf, and Watson has won it a modern-era record five times. So how come nobody ever refers to *him* as the greatest all-time player, rather than Jack Nicklaus, who won the Open only thrice? Plus he bested Fat Jack at Turnberry in '77 in the greatest golf match ever, and he pitched one in from the rough on the 17th hole at Pebble Beach to beat him again in the '82 U.S. Open. Heck, you could argue that Watson flat-out OWNED Nicklaus! I'm just sayin'.

Track & Field: Gotta be Edwin Moses. All he did was win 122 consecutive 400-meter hurdles races over a ten-year period, win Olympic gold medals in both 1976 (Montreal) and 1984 (Los Angeles), and would surely have won one in Moscow in 1980....if only Jimmy Carter didn't decide to make boycotting a track meet the bedrock of his anti-Soviet foreign policy. I don't imagine Jimmy is on Edwin's Christmas-card list. Anyway, shouldn't there be a fifty-foot stature of this guy in front of a stadium somewhere?

And finally, our winner. Our champion of under-appreciated champions. From the world of **tennis**, I give you Rod "The Rocket" Laver. Before Federer, Agassi, Sampras, Becker, Connors, McEnroe, or Borg, there was Laver, the greatest of them all. What this peerless Australian lefty did was win not one but TWO grand slams. (That's winning the Australian Open, French Open, Wimbledon, and U.S. Open all in the same year, children.). And he won those slams seven years apart. Staggering.

Why isn't he more lionized? Why doesn't the world get it?

The Aussies get it. They named their big tennis stadium after him. But if you walked up and down the streets of Sierra Madre, knocked on doors, and asked a bunch of startled folks who Rod Laver was, most of them wouldn't quite know. (Or maybe they'd re-query, "Hey, wasn't that the guy who sang 'Maggie May'?")

As for me, what I remember growing up was that huge left forearm, grossly out of proportion to his right. That appendage, combined with his skinny frame and perpetually sunburned, albino-esque skin made him look like a lobster. There was one TV announcer, I wish I could recall who, who summed him up as well as anyone ever summed up an athlete, and I can still recall the quote: "Rod Laver---a gigantic left arm, and a scrawny body dangling from it." Now that's art.



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Weird Weather Wreaks Havoc on Santa Anita

By Brad Eastland

The gods must be angry.

In an amazing, incredible, virtually unprecedented development, Santa Anita officials were forced to cancel live racing for both last Sunday, January 27th as well as Monday the 28th, making it an astounding seven days since January 5th that the Arcadia track has been forced to scrap its live product due to massive drainage problems caused by heavy rains. Seven days lost in less than a month. Millions of dollars of revenue lost for good.

These are sobering statistics, seeing as how most veteran racegoers---including this reporter---simply cannot recall a single day of racing being canceled due to weather during the entire decade of the 70s, or the 80s, or 90s.

But to blame the elements for the track's poor drainage is sort of like the man blaming the burglar because he himself left the door open. Santa Anita's much-ballyhooed synthetic racing surface, their heralded, brand new "Cushion Track", is the culprit. Or, more specifically, the sand---the heavy, fine silt contained within the synthetic mixture, which absorbs too much water and makes drainage a nightmare. A nightmare making the track itself unsafe for horses and riders alike.

Ironically, Santa Anita's decision last year to replace the traditional dirt track with a synthetic track was made primarily because it promised to be the safer option.

Bad luck for a sport plagued by huge fall-offs in attendance for over a decade.

Case in point: from January 25th through January 28th, Santa Anita was able to present live racing on only one of those four days. Fortunately that day was last Saturday's 5th annual Sunshine Millions program, a whopping 28,414 race-starved fans showed up, and the program was a huge success. "To be able to have this kind of day with all the uncertainty we had leading into the weekend is very encouraging. We want to thank our fans, horsemen and our track maintenance personnel for making it a day we'll never forget," Santa Anita President Ron Charles declared recently.

The track is working tirelessly to solve the problem. A new polymer and binder mixture is being integrated into the synthetic surface to improve drainage. "We need to get the season rolling again and finish strong, and this new fiber-based product will help us to do that," says Mike Willman, Santa Anita's Director of Publicity. "The fibers encapsulate the existing silt with wax, so that the water can slip by and drain out naturally, rather than get hung up in the sand."

The almost-daily track flooding and resultant last-minute cancellations

have produced some strange, Hollywood-esque scenes. For instance, the only customers in attendance two Fridays ago, during some of the heaviest rains, were die-hard bettors determined to take advantage of simulcast wagering at other tracks. These are the true track loyalists. Yet the sight of just a few hundred patrons wandering the huge compound---a storied, venerable racing institution used to accommodating tens of thousands---was still a shock to veteran horseplayers and long-time track regulars.

It was the eerie equivalent of a race-track ghost town.

However, where there is despair there is hope. Willman is confident that this new "Pro-Ride" polymer binder and fiber mixture will improve the drainage and save the day. "It absolutely will enable the Cushion Track to drain the way it was designed to drain. We've tested it, and we're confident."

But in the meantime, the track needs your support. If you're looking for a fun fresh outing, come on out to Santa Anita Park and catch some live racing. It's a couple of bucks well spent. Put a couple more bucks down on a beautiful animal's chances and your heart will throb and your palms will suddenly dampen. When they ring the bell and spring the latch on the starting gate, your vision will blur as your mouth goes dry. And then, finally, you'll find that when the field



Sunshiny days have been few and far between at Santa Anita lately....

curls around the turn and storms down the stretch--at the risk of editorializing---there is still no greater thrill and no more magnificent sight in sports....



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