



# Mountain Views-Observer

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

March 11-16, 2008 Volume 2, No. 10

## Error On Sample Ballot Creates Dilemma For City Clerk

By Susan Henderson

Some residents who received their General Municipal Election Sample Ballot Thursday may not have noticed that something was amiss. Others, however, did and quickly alerted the city clerk of the problem.

Before daybreak Friday, news of the errors had spread through much of the city. City Clerk Nancy Shollenberger issued a press release late Friday in an effort to mitigate the damage and assure voters that corrective action was being taken.

The problem stems from language on page 10 of the ballot entitled, "Argument In Favor Of Measure P". Measure P is the Police Officers Initiative which was abandoned by the POA in favor of Measure U - the User Utility Tax measure. It was not abandoned in time enough, however, to be removed from the ballot. As a result, the POA agreed to recommend that voters vote No on the initiative and vote YES for the User Utility Tax (Measure U) instead.

In the argument the measures are misnamed, calling the UUT Measure P and the POA

initiative Measure UA. Voters therefore were encouraged to vote YES on Measure P and No on UA, the user utility advisory measure.

To avoid further confusion, City Clerk Nancy Shollenberger immediately issued a press release advising voters of the errors. According to the statement, a corrected argument will be mailed to all voters.

The fiscal impact of the error was not known at press time.

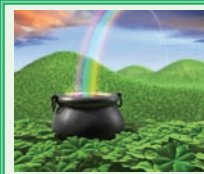
In addition to the misnamed measures, the signatures on the Argument In Favor Of Measure P were listed incorrectly. The signators were listed as members of the City Council, when in fact the correct signators for the arguments was John Ellins and members of the POA. Ellins signed the argument on Friday after the errors were discovered.

Shollenberger has been Sierra Madre's city clerk for twenty four years. She faces challenger Karma Bell in the April 8th election. What impact the errors on the arguments will have on the election is also unknown.

## Do You See What I See?



Students of Sierra Madre Elementary School show off the beautiful masks they made as a project at The Creative Arts Group. See anyone you know? Photo courtesy of the Creative Arts Group



## Happy St. Patrick's Day!

## The New Sierra Madre History...Worth the Wait

By Debbie Henderson

Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society Board Member

With the arrival of 2008, many Sierra Madre folks are wondering, "Where's the book?" The answer is: it is coming. And it will be worth the wait.

Like most Sierra Madre projects, the book project relies very heavily on volunteer efforts. Researchers have been carefully reviewing newspapers on microfilm, transcribing water company minutes, and scouring California photo archives for material for the book. Needless to say, this kind of work is extremely time consuming. Once the materials are gathered (including author Michele Zack's own research), she has to carefully review everything, glean the information most germane, and do the painstaking work of crafting each chapter into a readable, informative narrative.

Fortunately, the Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society has hired some professionals to insure the book is done right. Michele Zack is an accomplished, award-winning author and it is nothing short of a miracle that we convinced her to write our history. Zack has a profound understanding of Southern California history and an incredible gift with words. Jeff Lapidés of First Water Design is another professional that we rely upon for book expertise. Lapidés knows how things should appear on the page and cares about things like

fonts, line length, color saturation, the weight of the paper, and the binding and we are extremely fortunate to have him advising us on design matters. In addition, the Society has engaged Elizabeth Pomeroy to edit the text for the book. Pomeroy has written several books of her own and with our book she will help with refinements.

This book is unlike any previous book published by the Society. It is not a book of reminiscences, although many Sierra Madre folks have been interviewed about their experiences here. Nor is it a picture book, although it will be illustrated with photographs, maps, and ephemera from our own local history collection at the Library and from many other repositories. Michele Zack is interweaving regional, state, and national history with Sierra Madre happenings and the result is a rich tapestry of historical context with Sierra Madre at its center. While most of us agree that Sierra Madre is a unique place, it is not an island. A community is shaped by forces within the city limits but also very largely by external pushes and pulls. Any historian will tell you that it is context that makes a story meaningful.

We anticipate that the new Sierra Madre history book will make its appearance in late 2008. The text will be complete by the end of March and the design is underway, chapter by chapter. The

Society has obtained a bid from a printer. But at this moment, even if the text and layout were complete, we still could not publish the book as we have not reached our fundraising goals. The Society lacks approximately \$25,000 in order to print 3000 copies.

It is our hope that in Sierra Madre fashion the community will come out and support our efforts. Monetary support is most welcome and the Society offers events (Sunday Silent Movies, concerts, etc.) that are fun and educational and that directly fund the book project. The Society is also looking for historical materials about local people, organizations, and activities that will help us to tell the Sierra Madre story more fully and accurately. For instance, we are compiling a listing of community organizations and their years of operation and we cannot accomplish this without input from the community. All contributions (voluntary, monetary, or historical materials) will be acknowledged in the book.

Ultimately, Sierra Madre will have an extraordinary history book. We understand your eager anticipation. (After all, it has been over 30 years since our last book.) Rest assured, the Society is working hard to produce a definitive history of Sierra Madre, a book that is well-researched, enjoyable to read, and of the highest quality...and yes, worth the wait.

## Breakfast With Antonivich

Supervisor's Annual Early Morning Meeting Spans A Wide Range Of Topics

By Dean Lee

County Supervisor Michael Antonovich got a plate full of food and an ear full of Sierra Madre problems Thursday morning when he came to town. Topics included the Stonehouse Development, MTA congestion, fees and cuts in bus service. Also present at the breakfast were the city council and city staff. Despite the 'hot topics', a lot of good things were discussed during the two hour meeting at The Only Place in Town. Good news came in the form of updates on Goldberg Park, Hart House Refurbishment, Paramedic Services and even the Chantry Flat Road.

The annual get-together started with Joffe concerned about Congestion Mitigation Fees which quickly led into a full blown discussion over the Gold Line expansion, cuts in MTA services and even traffic signals on the 605/210 freeway interchange.

City manager, Elaine Aguilar said the city could get the short end of the stick depending on what formula was used for congestion fees. She said the city could pay into a pot of money that gave them little return.

Antonovich said any money collected would go back into the same city but quickly changed the subject to a .5 cent sales tax proposed to fund rail projects. He warned of switch and bait tactics by Mayor of Los Angeles Antonio Villaraigosa where the money would be used for something else.

Council member Joe Mosca talked about massive cuts in the MTA including cuts to Line 177 in Pasadena. He said the line was used by many Sierra Madre residents as it goes from the Gold Line station to JPL. Public Works Director Bruce Inman revisited what the city considered a breakdown in communications with developer Dorn Platz, the developer of both the Stonehouse and One Carter projects.

"The concern at this point is primarily that of communications and understanding what information is going out to the public," Bruce Inman said. "so that we can be on the same page and that you are not blindsided nor are we."

Mayor Enid Joffe also said they did not want the developers playing games with them. She explained, "We've had that happen where

they say, oh the county approved this and then Bruce makes a phone call and finds that really isn't true."

Joffe also said the city did not want the developers telling them which way the county wants a project done. Later Inman bluntly said that the city needed to be at all meetings between the county and developer. He also said they had notified both Dorn Platz and the county staff about this request. This becomes critically important in light of the lawsuits currently pending against the city.

"We have already seen some instances where there has been some misinterpretation of what county has said," he explained. "We need to, if nothing else be able to translate that."

Inman first said Dorn Platz did not understand what the county was reviewing saying that they thought the whole project map had to be reviewed by the county.

"We're only looking for the county to review for drainage, storm drains, and grading in which it effects drainage and the design of the debris basins," he said.

County staff said they would send out e-mails to all 28 divisions within planning.

"Any contact from the developer or the public we'll make it clear that gets back to you," they said. "We've made it very clear that anyone contacting our office that, we leave the zoning entirely within the control of the city of Sierra Madre. We will not be involved in that."

County staff also said the approval of the Stonhouse project is completely within the city's control. The only involvement they have is with those things that have to meet county standards such as the drainage. They said the standards would be given out to anyone that wanted them.

The 1 carter project also developed by Dorn Platz was not mentioned during the meeting.

Next Week: Goldberg Park, Hart House Refurbishment, Paramedic Services and Chantry Flat Road.

 <p>(626) 355-1146  <b>VILLAGE AUTO CLINIC</b>          Domestic &amp; Foreign Repair</p> <p><b>Bill Schlote</b>          22 E. Montecito Ave.          Sierra Madre</p> <p><b>Honesty • Integrity • Product Knowledge</b></p>	<p><i>Clarity in Real Estate</i>          Guiding Clients to be Knowledgeable Buyers and Sellers</p> <div>  <p><b>Lia Schlote</b>          (626) 355-5989          lia.schlote@dilbeck.com</p> <p><b>Rhett Schlote</b>          (626) 355-5989          rhett.schlote@dilbeck.com</p> </div> <p><b>8 East Foothill Blvd.</b>          Arcadia          (626) 840-4790 cell          (626) 445-8330 fax          www.TeamSchlote.com</p> <p><b>Dilbeck</b>          GMAC Real Estate  <i>An Independently Owned and Operated Firm</i></p> <p><i>Team Schlote</i></p>
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THIS WEEK	
1	Sample Ballot Problems Sierra Madre Book Status Breakfast with Antonovich
2	Community Activities Senior Happenings
3	One Of A Kind Looking Up - Peter Dills Election Forum Notices
4	Council and Pit Bulls Redistricting
5	SMEAC: Did You Know? Fire Safe Council Public Hearing Notice
6	Who's Up For A Challenge? Charter School Future
7	Opinion: Chris Nyerges Rich and Stuart Letter To The Editor
8	Legal Notices
9	Legal Notices
10	Legal Notices
11	Brad Eastland: Tuna Fish....
12	Wistaria Festival

## 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!**  
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

**The Harvey Hyde Show**



## Weather Wise

### 5-Day Forecast

#### Sierra Madre, Ca.

Longitude W118.0, Lattitude N34.2

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

*Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service*


## Saint Rita Parish Will Show 1849 Vintage Painting “The Holy Face”

### March 14-30

St. Rita Parish, Sierra Madre, will offer the public a rare opportunity to view the recently restored painting, “The Holy Face” from March 14-30. Restoration was just completed by Frank van Dongen and assistant, Evelyn Zumaya, of Harlequin Fine Art Gallery and Art Restoration in Sierra Madre.

The long and convoluted history of this painting bears telling. The Bible tells the story of Veronica, who wiped the face of Christ as he carried the cross to Calvary. The faint image of a suffering man's face was left imprinted on the veil and it reportedly caused many miracles, including the cure of the Emperor Tiberius from leprosy. This veil, a fabled relic, has resided at the Vatican since the 8<sup>th</sup> century. During 1848, riots erupted in Europe, including the Papal States. In an attempt to restore peace, the pope ordered the relic to be offered for public veneration and prayer. On the third day of this exposition, the smudged image on the veil reportedly began to glow, becoming more distinct and colorful. As basilica bells were rung, crowds of Romans flooded the exposition, and church officials came to witness and document the changes in the face. This miracle lasted three hours. One cleric sketched the change in the painting, and sent it to the pope. An artist in the crowd, perhaps a Spaniard, rendered his own visage, but did not sign the painting. His name remains unknown. In 1923, a Spanish bishop brought the painting to Peru, to honor the centennial of that country's independence, presenting it to an order of Carmelite nuns. After an earthquake destroyed much of the convent, the painting was relegated to storage, and nearly forgotten. Now the work has once again come to light. Rescued from oblivion, and brought to the United States, it has been lovingly restored by Frank van Dongen and his assistant, Evelyn Zumaya, of Harlequin Gallery in Sierra Madre in order that new generations can reflect and wonder, not only on the marvelous events that took place in 1849, but on the Passion and Death of Christ nearly two thousand years ago.

The very limited viewing schedule includes docents at the following times: March 14, 8:30-11 and 4-7. March 15: 8:30-10 and 3-7:30. March 16: 1:30-5. March 18 9-12. Holy Thursday, March 20: 11-5. Good Friday, March 21: 3-7. Easter Sunday: 7:30-1:30 during and after Masses. Very limited viewing the week after Easter. Call the St. Rita parish office for schedule or more information at 626-355-1292.



*Photo By Chris Bertrand*

# All In One Week



## A contemporary dramatic musical

## Palm Sunday, March 16 • 6:00 pm

**All In One Week will be presented at First Church of the Nazarene of Pasadena on Sunday Evening, March 16th at 6 p.m. This dramatic musical presentation is free to the San Gabriel Valley Community and all are welcome. Tickets are not required, as this is an open seating event. Childcare 0-5 years is available and there will be a complimentary dessert reception immediately following All In One Week.**

### Holy Week Worship Schedule

#### March 16 - Palm Sunday

8:00/10:30 am - Worship Service  
6:00 pm - “All In One Week”

#### March 20 - Maundy Thursday

7:00 pm - Communion Service (Lee Chapel)

#### March 21 - Good Friday


7:00 pm - Tenebrae Service (Sanctuary)


#### March 23 - Easter Sunday

6:30 am - Sunrise Service  
8:30 am and 10:30 am - Main Sanctuary  
**Easter Sunday Breakfast**  
7:30-10:00 am  
\$5/person with a \$20 maximum per family  
Children 5 and under are free.

### Location

**First Church of the Nazarene of Pasadena**  
3700 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91107  
626-351-9631 www.paznaz.org





## SENIOR HAPPENINGS...

**FYI:** By Pat Birdsell


The unsung heroes in this society are those who provide continuous care for ailing family or friends. Share your feelings with others in like situations at the Caregivers Support Group provided by Santa Anita Family Services. The group meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every month at 10:00 AM at the Arcadia Community Center. For March, it meets only on Monday the 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. For additional info call (626) 574-5130.

### ~Helpful Hints~

*Two kitchen staples do double duty...*  
\*Fill a spray bottle with white vinegar and use it on shower doors to easily remove soap scum and hard-water deposits.  
\*Sprinkle baking soda into a wet tub and let it sit for a few minutes. Dirt and soap scum will wipe right off-no hard scrubbing required.  
\*Don't waste time with lint rollers. Add a cup of white vinegar to the rinse cycle and reduce lint buildup on your clothes.

### ~For Your Funny Bone~

Paddy was driving down the street in a sweat because he had an important meeting and couldn't find a parking place. Looking up to heaven he said, “Lord take pity on me. If you find me a parking place I will go to Mass every Sunday for the rest of me life and give up me Irish whiskey!” Miraculously, a parking place appeared. Paddy looked up again and said, “Never mind, I found one.”




### Recipe of the Month:

Contrary to popular opinion, corned beef and cabbage are as American as apple pie. Irish immigrants to New York and Boston adopted corned beef and cabbage as their own—and no wonder, it was five cents a portion in the 1800's...If you have decided to make corned beef for St. Patrick's Day, try this recipe as a side dish and you'll kill two birds with one stone.. No Blarney...It's called-


#### Colcannon

6 medium potatoes, peeled and quartered  
4 cups shredded cabbage  
4 T. butter  
½ - 1 cup lukewarm milk  
6 sliced green onions (if desired)  
Salt & pepper to taste

Boil the potatoes in salted water until tender, about 15 minutes. Meanwhile, cook the cabbage, covered with water, boiling for 10 minutes, or until tender. Drain in colander. Melt 2 tablespoons of the butter in a skillet and sauté the cooked cabbage for several minutes. Drain the potatoes and return them to the same pot. Mash until smooth. Stir in the remaining butter and the ½ cup milk and the cabbage, the green onions (if desired), and salt and pepper to taste. Serves 4-6.



*May you get to Heaven a half hour before the Devil knows you're dead.* ~Irish Proverb~



### Happy Birthday Ella Guttman!

### 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 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, Bunco, 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.

**Saturday:** Senior Club for those 55 and older-Brown bag lunch at 11:30AM. Meeting at Noon and Bingo: 12:30 PM only .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. Call Susan Garcia at 858-8382.

### Monthly Excursions:

**March 20-** Palm Springs Follies- \$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

### Free Consultation

with Pasadena attorney Geoffrey Chin- 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month- 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM-\*Appointments are a must. Call Susan Clifton at (626) 355-7394. \*Conflicting court schedules can occasionally cause cancellations.

### Blood Pressure Clinic Returns!

The Sierra Madre Paramedics will do blood pressure readings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month 10:00AM-11:30 am

\*March 30- Chamber of Commerce Wistaria Festival





# One Of A Kind:

Featuring unique homes & gardens and the people who create them

Photos and Story By Chris Bertrand

## Mater Dolorosa Open To The Public Friday, March 21

Chris Bertrand

The magnificent grounds of Sierra Madre's Mater Dolorosa Catholic Retreat Center will be open to the public at two times on Good Friday, March 21. From 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. the gardens and grounds will be available for private reflection and prayer. At noon the gates will be closed. Later, at 4:30 until dusk, Passionist clergy, staff, and volunteers will direct public devotions and prayer of the Stations of the Cross, according to Fr. Patrick J. Brennan, Mater Dolorosa director and Elizabeth Velarde, administrator.

Over the years, this once a year, public event has grown to draw 1800-2000 visitors of all ages to this, one of the largest privately held parcels of property in the community. Many say that just driving through the Mater Dolorosa gates, one can feel that the space here is sacred ground and the perfect place for quiet reflection.



The vast Mater Dolorosa is tucked up against the San Gabriel Mountains, and overlooks much of the LA basin.

Jesus on the road to Calvary.

Several other garden areas will also be open to the public that day. The recently completed gardens surrounding a statue of St. Paul of

the Cross, founder of the Passionist religious order are located at the northwest corner of the property. Here, a shaded perch allows one to sit, reflect and view nearly the entire LA basin far below. The succulent gardens include many varieties of plants with low water requirements, yet lots of texture and color. The gardens of Mary's Seven Sorrows is the only area separately gated from the abundant wildlife that shares Mater

Dolorosa with its human occupants. Inside the beautiful wrought iron gates, trumpet vine is brilliant in its huge yellow drooping flowers, and four of the nine water features peacefully gurgle. A magnificent, life size bronze statue of Christ and his mother is not to be missed. A wistaria pergola encircles the garden, and the heat of the last week has quickly brought the purple flowering vines to eye-popping flower.



Fr. Pat Brennan, opens the gates to the Seven Sorrows gardens.

The gates at the northern end of Sunnyside Avenue open wide to reveal a long avenue of overarching trees flanked by extensive open meadows.

When I visited again this year, the meadows glowed with an almost iridescent shade of spring green, benefiting from the much needed rains of the past months. Slowly one ascends to the collection of buildings tucked up against the mountain. It really becomes a journey each time I have entered these gates. I cannot but be taken aback by this place, causing me to pause, if only a moment, to take it all in, even when it's for a secular event such as the Sierra Madre Centennial Picnic. Hosted here last September, complete with a visit from Huell Howser and camera crew, many of the town residents got a chance to explore the grounds while celebrating the town Centennial here. The Centennial picture was taken in one of the meadows here.

Set in the beautiful foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains, the many acres of Mater Dolorosa definitely give one a feeling of stepping away from every day life. Located adjacent to Bailey Canyon Park and trails, the vistas, the mountains, the natural vegetation and the extensive cultivated gardens are breathtaking, causing one to revel in the beauty that abounds here.

The outdoor Stations of the Cross were constructed over 50 years ago by a former Sierra Madre mayor, Bill Schiltz, whose son was a member of the Passionist religious order here. The Catholic tradition calls out fourteen different points in this journey to Christ's crucifixion, naming it the "Stations of the Cross". These stations are set into the densely treed hillside, and one travels approximately the same distance walked by



The Stations of the Cross were built over 50 years ago by a former Sierra Madre mayor.

If you plan to visit Mater Dolorosa on Good Friday, March 21, Velarde calls attention to a few points. The terrain is moderately steep, so wear comfortable walking shoes. Bring a jacket against the evening chill, and flashlight, as there is minimal night lighting. Plan to begin your visit in the chapel where a short history and reflection will be offered to each group of about 40.

Mater Dolorosa Passionist Retreat Center  
700 N. Sunnyside Avenue  
Sierra Madre, CA 91024  
626-355-7188  
MaterDolorosa.org

Have an interesting home, garden or person who helps create them that might be of interest to our readers? Email me at [C.Bertrand@MVObserver.com](mailto:C.Bertrand@MVObserver.com)

### Measure U Rally To Be Held

On Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, from 1 to 3pm at the Masonic Lodge at 33 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., the Safety Measure 4 U committee will stage an informational rally to inform people about the initiatives that will be on the April 8<sup>th</sup> ballot. Refreshments will be served, a showcase fire truck will be on display, live ragtime piano entertainment will take place, and there will be speakers from the Sierra Madre Volunteer Firefighters' Association and the Police Officers' Association. There will also be a Q and A session. The public is invited.

### Kiwanis To Host "Candidates Forum" March 18<sup>th</sup>

The Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club will host a City Council candidates forum on Tuesday, March 18. The forum will give residents the opportunity to hear each City Council candidate's views on current issues, and hear their answers to questions posed by the audience.

The candidates running for City Council include John Buchanan, Enid Joffe, Maryann MacGillivray, Kevin Paschall, and Bill Tice. This event is open to the public and will be held at the Masonic Lodge, 33 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. It begins at 11:30 with lunch catered by Restaurant Lozano. The cost for lunch is \$11 per person; reservations for lunch are required. To make lunch reservations, please call Hank Landsberg at 355-3656 no later than noon the day before.

Residents who want to hear the presentation but do not want to have lunch may arrive at noon for any available seating. **Contact: Hank Landsberg (626) 355-3656**

### SM Woman's Club to Present Annual Games Tea

By Phyllis Chapman

An afternoon games tea with bridge or a game of your choice is being hosted by the Sierra Madre Woman's Club on Saturday, March 29, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., in their clubhouse, the historic "Essick House" at 550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. in Sierra Madre. This annual benefit, which supports club charities, is a time to savor a wonderful variety of delicious refreshments. It has become known for its tea table extraordinaire.

Event Chair Mary Carney invites you to gather friends to come and play together, or come alone and join a group.

Tickets are \$12.00 each. For tickets and reservations please call Carney at 355-6225.

# Looking Up

With Bob Eklund



Photo by Aaron Dominguez

## Earth-Like Planet Orbiting Alpha Centauri?

A ROCKY PLANET similar to Earth may be orbiting our nearest stellar neighbor and could be detected using existing techniques, according to a new study led by astronomers at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

The closest stars to our Sun—only about 4 light-years away—are in the three-star system called Alpha Centauri, a popular destination for interstellar travel in works of science fiction. UCSC graduate student Javiera Guedes used computer simulations of planet formation to show that terrestrial planets are likely to have formed around the star Alpha Centauri B and to be orbiting in the "habitable zone" where liquid water can exist on the planet's surface. The researchers then showed that such planets could be observed using a dedicated telescope.

"If they exist, we can observe them," said Guedes, who is the first author of a paper describing the new findings. The paper has been accepted for publication by the Astrophysical Journal.

Coauthor Gregory Laughlin, professor of astronomy and astrophysics at UCSC, said a number of factors converge to make Alpha Centauri B an excellent candidate for finding terrestrial planets. The Doppler detection method, which has revealed the majority of the 228 known extrasolar planets, measures shifts in the light from a star to detect the tiny wobble induced by the gravitational tug of an orbiting planet. Factors that favor the use of this technique for Alpha Centauri B include the brightness of the star and its position in the sky, which gives it a long period of observability each year from the Southern Hemisphere, Laughlin said.

Detecting small, rocky planets the size of Earth is challenging, however, because they induce a relatively small wobble in their host stars. According to Laughlin, five years of observations using a dedicated telescope would be needed to detect an Earth-like planet around Alpha Centauri B.

Coauthor Debra Fischer of San Francisco State University is leading an observational program to intensively monitor Alpha Centauri A and B using the 1.5-meter telescope at the Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory in Chile. The researchers hope to detect real planets similar to the ones that emerged in the computer simulations.

"I think the planets are there, and it's worth a try to have a look," Laughlin said.

To study planet formation around Alpha Centauri B, the team ran repeated computer simulations, evolving the system for the equivalent of 200 million years each time. Because of variations in the initial conditions, each simulation led to the formation of a different planetary system. In every case, however, a system of multiple planets evolved with at least one planet about the size of Earth. In many cases, the simulated planets had orbits lying within the habitable zone of the star.

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FACING THE TIME CHANGE—Daylight-saving time came almost a month earlier than usual this year. It seems to be one of those changes that are mostly beneficial, I suppose, but also a bit hard to cope with at first. Some people I've talked to seem to adjust to the new time instantly, and others (like Laura and me) keep thinking in terms of "What time is it new-time? Oh, but it's really such-and-such, old-time." How ridiculous! Since time is just a sort of made-up thing anyway, we might as well (I tell myself) just settle on the new and forget the old.

I know that after a week or two sleep-cycles will start to re-adjust, but I don't have to like it!

SPRING: FAST TIME

Time way out ahead  
Of us, and we chasing it...  
Later than you think.

FALL: SLOW TIME

After the time change:  
Waiting for time to happen  
And get on with it!

-- Laura and Bob

If you'd like to learn more, you can contact Bob at [b eklund@mobserver.com](mailto:b eklund@mobserver.com)  
(Unless otherwise attributed, poems appearing in this column are by Robert L. Eklund and are copyrighted by him.)



## TABLE FOR TWO

By Peter Dills

### Yours and Mine

A day doesn't go by when someone asks the question, "Peter, what is your favorite restaurant?" My response is always, "For what type of cuisine?" There are many great restaurants in Southern California. I love going to a restaurant that is friendly, well maintained, has good food and one that I don't have to stop and clean the ATM out to enjoy a meal. I have been asking you... My loyal readers to share with me your favorites. So I thought I would share with you a few of my favorite responses.

Reader Elizabeth Wing of South Pasadena likes **Madre's** in Pasadena. She writes that **Green St.** is quite ordinary but she loves the Steven Sandwich and Diane Salad; Wow, pretty good writing Elizabeth. She also adds that good memories count for something. The **Oak Tree Inn** in South Pasadena is good for large groups and is drama free. Hmm, where has she been eating?

**La Fiesta Grande** in South Pasadena Elizabeth likes for its non foo-foo food, and writes that she has never had a bad meal there. She gives thumbs up for the all you can eat taco bar with guacamole, you always get your money's worth. Great comments, Elizabeth, I know who to call when I go on vacation to fill in for me.

Jonathon Dunlap responded to this paper and my article on bargains; he loves **Zu Robata** and **Il Moro**, both of which have an excellent happy hour.

**Zu Robabta** offers tappas and small dishes. This is a popular west side eatery located at 12217 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90025. Phone (310) 571-1920

**Il Moro** is located at 11400 West Olympic Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90064 (Entrance & Valet Parking are on Purdue). Phone (310) 575 3530

Jeff Gates, from Pasadena, says **Luigi Ortega's** is the place for bargains... A pint of Firestone for \$2 plus all draft beers are 1/2 price Monday through Friday. They have an alligator pizza but watch out for the teeth. Well, we'll check that one out. Thanks Jeff.

**Luigi Ortega's** is located at 1655 E. Colorado Pasadena. Phone (626) 396-9669

**Panda Inn in Pasadena.** I have been a regular there for the past 15 years. I just enjoy the entire dining experience at Panda. Are there better Chinese restaurants in Chinatown or on the Westside? Arguably yes! But Panda offers terrific food, a well-maintained kitchen and extraordinary service - it's the Panda Inn for me.

This past Sunday I visited the Sunday Brunch at **Panda Inn**, they have raised their prices slightly to \$24.95 but they are still one of the better values in town. The buffet includes just about everything on the menu and also offers, if you aren't driving, Mai Tai's and Mimosas, if you would like to enjoy a cocktail. My recommendation is to go directly to the shrimp cocktail and sashimi. Yum Yum! I really think they lost money on me that day.

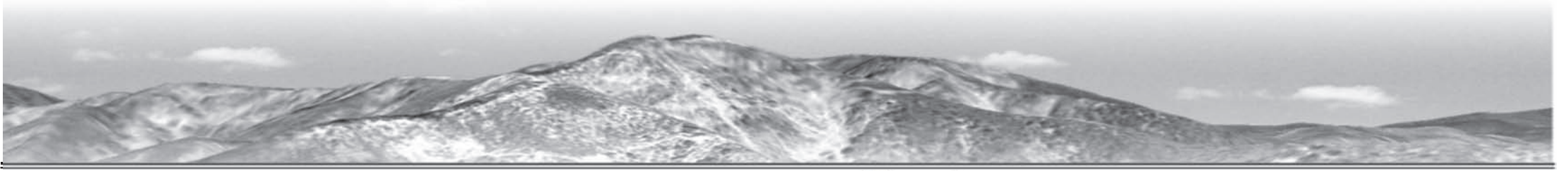
**Panda Inn** Pasadena is located at 3488 E. Foothill Blvd. Brunch Hours are 11 AM to 2:30 PM. Phone (626) 793-7300. To view the menu go to [www.pandainn.com](http://www.pandainn.com). This is also available at Panda Inn, Ontario

Please continue to email me your fantastic happy hour and bargain deals - to [Thechefknows@yahoo.com](mailto:Thechefknows@yahoo.com)

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# MountainViews-Observer PASADENA

## New Law Proposes Pit Bull Sterilization

By Dean Lee

Citing the idea that some dog breeds are more dangerous than others, the city council Monday night unanimously approved drafting an ordinance mandating all pit bulls and pit bull mixes, within the city, be spayed and neutered.

"This is to lessen the risk of some dog breeds that are perceived to be more dangerous than others," said council member Steve Haderlien, even though California Health and Safety Code Section 122331 prohibits declaring "a dangerous breed" as the reason for implementing such requirements.

Haderlien did



**Top Dog:** One of many pit bull mix up for adoption at the Pasadena Humane Society. Photo D.Lee MVO

takes effect, and not release any pit bull strays back to their owners until they have been spayed or neutered.

Humane Society staff also told the council that currently the state implements a fee for all confiscated pets, although the fee is waived if the owners spayed or neutered the animal.

Spay or neutering is only available to the public twice a week, making

to a dark brown older Pit Bull just returned. "People don't like the darker color ones, or the muscular stance either, for the same reason."

She also said some insurance companies will drop homeowners that adopt certain dog breeds. Also state law prohibits the shelter from outright banning the adoption of any breed, although they do have a right to stop the adoption of any one animal for any reason, she said, such as someone who might want the dog to fight.

"I think the 'Vick' case popularized this," she said referring to Michael Vick in which the former Atlanta Falcons star quarterback was indicted for training pit bulls for fighting.

Takashi Wada, head of the Pasadena Health Department, said the proposed ordinance stems from a number of high profile cases involving pit bulls, including one in Pasadena from last summer, when four pit bulls escaped from a yard and attacked neighbors. Pasadena police quickly responded, shooting dead two of the four dogs.

"I am very much in support of this," said councilmember Margaret McAusten. "As many of you know, that horrifying incident occurred here in a neighborhood in my district."

Wada said a similar ordinance in San Francisco has led to a 20 percent drop in the pit bull population there. He also said Pasadena's law would be very similar to San Francisco's.

City staff used SB 861, passed in 2005, which authorizes any California city to slowly remove from the dog population any breed of dog by forced sterilization. SB 861 came about after a young child was killed in San Francisco by a pit bull earlier that year.

The council Monday night asked that city attorney Michele Bagneris bring back the drafted ordinance for review in 60 days.

termined a city's place in the rankings. The categories were:

Electricity (E; 10 points): Cities score points for drawing their energy from renewable sources such as wind, solar, biomass and hydroelectric power, as well as for offering incentives for residents to invest in their own power sources, such as roof-mounted solar panels.

Transportation (T; 10 points): High scores go to cities whose commuters take public transportation or carpool. Air quality also plays a role.

Green living (G; 5 points): Cities earn points for the number of buildings certified by the U.S. Green Building Council, as well as for devoting area to green space, such as public parks and nature preserves.

Recycling and Green perspective (R; 5 points): This measures how comprehensive a city's recycling program is (if the city collects old electronics, for example) and how important its citizens consider environmental issues.

## City Endorses State Redistricting Initiative

By Dean Lee

Pasadena became the first city last Monday night in California to back the redistricting California FIRST Act even though the initiative has not yet gathered enough support to be placed on the November ballot concerning both council members Steve Madison and Victor Gordo.

FIRST stands for Fair Independent Redistricting Standards Today.

"April 15 is right around the corner and I'm not sure we shouldn't wait another couple of weeks while our legislative committee reviews the issues," Gordo said. "This might not be the fairest way to do things."

Gordo did say he believed the state needs change, "the present system is just dysfunctional and I do agree we need to change that." The last day to submit needed signatures to make a November ballot is April 15.

The FIRST Act would create a 14-person

redistricting commission made up of five democrats, five republicans and four others including independent voters supporters said. The purpose is to eliminate bias. Currently state legislators draw district lines guaranteeing reelections they said.

New mapping criteria would also be set up including, retaining the geographic integrity of any city, county, or city and county, neighborhoods, or communities of interest, all shall be respected they said. Communities of interest should not be defined as having a relationship with incumbents, candidates or parties. The new districts shall also comply with the Voting Rights Act something some said the new mapping made unclear.

Opponents said nesting State Assembly and Senate districts violated the Voting Rights Act something others said made the voting process easier to follow.

"I think we are all so thirsty for reform in this

area that we're willing to sort of say yes to the first suitor that comes along," Madison said. "What strikes me odd about all this is I don't think Pasadena has any of these problems."

He added, "I think we are being a little quick pitched here."

Both Madison and Gordo also abstained from voting with all others approving support for the initiative.

Councilmember Chris Holden said there was a sense of urgency in that the next time redistricting, based on the U.S. Censuses, could be done was 2020.

FIRST supporters said a numbers of other city's including San Diego were waiting to see what Pasadena would do. They also said their hope was that now cities up and down the state would endorse the initiative also backed by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and the League of Women Voters.

They also said the League of California Cities was looking at the initiative but had not officially made a decision to support it.

## New Pasadena Ice Skating Rink to Open 2010

By Dean Lee

The entire Pasadena Conference Center Expansion Project is set to be complete April 20, 2009, city staff told the city council Monday night, although just minutes before they also told a packed room full of ice skaters that the new ice rink moved from the Center to East Pasadena would not open until 2010.

"However, we know we are going to be open early as we have a very important conference coming in the first of March," said Mike Ross, Pasadena Center Operating Company CEO, of the Conference Center.

This is very different from what the ice skaters were told, after the council unanimously rejected all bids for a new rink when the lowest bid of \$21.7 million was 25.4 percent higher than the \$16.2 million originally estimated for the ice rink project.

The move of the rink has created panic, with the centers users fearing they would have no place to skate, although the council assured the worried Pasadena Maple Leafs' hockey players and the figure skating club that there would be no break in schedule; and that they would continue to have a place to play and skate next year.

"So we are looking at the rink itself not being completed until sometime in 2010," Councilmember Sid Tyler told the unhappy audience, many of whom travel from as far away as Orange County and the San Fernando Valley. "That could very well be anytime from March to the end of 2010."

Tyler said they had no other choice due to the large financial gap and staff said they had explored other funding options, such as parking fees and



**Maple Leafs practice at the city's ice rink**

private donations.

"I want to assure the council and the community that there are two things," acting city manager Bernard Melekian said. "One is of staff's unwavering commitment to making the project work, and two, to remind everyone the rink at PCOC is not going to be closing."

PCOC is the Pasadena Center Operating Company which oversees the project.

Melekian assured everyone that the city had had a number of meetings with the PCOC and that a date of 2010 "worked for them."

The ice rink, part of the Pasadena Conference Center, is set to be converted back into a ball room, 20 percent of which is already completed according to staff.

Councilmember Steve Madison said any idea to charge for parking would ruin the spirit of the new center.

"I have had the opportunity to visit other rinks, and that is virtually unheard of," he said. "If you want this to be an amenity that works in the entire community it's got to be one that offers free parking."

He also said the new location in East Pasadena was chosen because of the ability to put in free parking. "I think there is already free parking around there so you would have a problem just managing it," he added.

A number the Pasadena Maple Leafs' players'

parents said parking at the convention center even now was a problem. They had put a fund together just to pay the referees' parking across the street at the mall. They expressed concern that charging at the new facility might drive top referees away, as well as parents that can't afford it.

"It might not seem like a lot to us, but to some parents working hard to keep their kids in hockey or figure skating, that extra barrier is one that we don't need."

U.S. Junior Ladies figure skating gold medalist, Mirai Nagasu, told the council that she now only has two hours a day to practice, instead of four, because of having to travel to Burbank every morning. She said the Pasadena rink is too small. Nagasu is an Arcadia resident representing Pasadena worldwide, something councilmember Victor Gordo said made the city proud.

Pasadena Ice Hockey Club president, Joe Conrad, also said at press time the Maple Leafs Mites were headed Saturday to Santa Rosa to play in this year's championships.

He boasts their club is the oldest junior ice hockey club in Southern California, having formed in 1964. He also said some of the younger players would be the first to utilize the new rink. In years past they have lost many players as they outgrow the small rink. The new one will be regulation sized, he added.

## Pasadena Ranked Among America's 50 Greenest Cities

By Teresa Baxter

The "Green City Action Plan," approved by the City Council on Sept. 18, 2006, led to an impressive ranking in the latest issue of Popular Science magazine. Pasadena has ranked 37th among America's 50 greenest cities.

According to the publication's criteria, in an article written by Elizabeth Svoboda, raw data from the U.S. Census Bureau and the National Geographic Society's Green Guide were used to collect survey data and government statistics for American cities of over 100,000 people in more than 30 categories, including air quality, electricity use and transportation habits. Popular Science then compiled the statistics into four broad categories, each scored up to either 5 or 10 possible points. The sum of these four scores de



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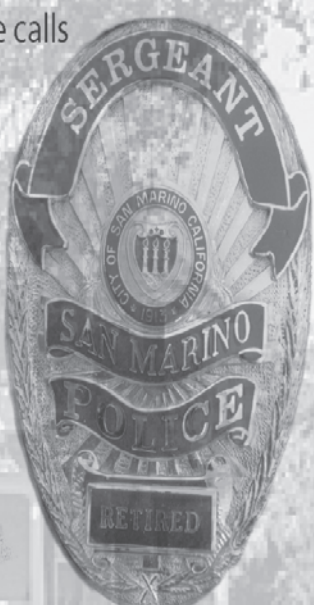

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### Sierra Madre Fire Safe Council ANNOUNCEMENTS & OBSERVATIONS

From Caroline Brown


We will have a multi-hazard preparation booth in combination with our Fire Safe Council information at the Wistaria Festival, March 30. Please stop by and join our efforts in preparing our community for disaster. Remember you and your neighbors will need to be self-sufficient for a period of up to 10 days.

Our next regularly scheduled Fire Safe Council Meeting will be April 7, 7 p.m. in the City Council chambers with the presentation "Why Emergency Preparedness is so important."

Our next demonstration of Thermo-gel will take place Saturday, April 12, at the Second Annual La Canada/Flintridge Emergency Expo.

For more information contact SMFSC at 355-0741 or 355-9350. Please e-mail us at [smfiresafecouncil@hotmail.com](mailto: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, 2007. Call 355-0741.



### Environmentally Speaking, Did You Know? Spring Cleaning Quiz

- Which of the following effects can result from the use of conventional cleaning products?:
  - ☐ Respiratory irritation
  - ☐ Headaches
  - ☐ Nausea
  - ☐ Organ and central nervous system damage
  - ☐ All of the above
- What percentage of total poison exposures occurs in the home?:
  - ☐ 52%
  - ☐ 72%
  - ☐ 92%
- For each ton of 100% recycled paper that's produced, how much water is saved?:
  - ☐ 3000 gallons
  - ☐ 5000 gallons
  - ☐ 7000 gallons
- Scented laundry detergent is a safe way to remove odors from clothing.:
  - ☐ True
  - ☐ False
- Exposure to volatile organic compounds (VOCS) comes from using:
  - ☐ Paint
  - ☐ Window cleaner
  - ☐ Furniture polish
  - ☐ Air fresheners
  - ☐ Dry-cleaned clothing
  - ☐ All of the above

(Answers next week)

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#### City of Sierra Madre NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

To: City Wide  
From: The City of Sierra Madre ~ Department of Public Works  
Subject: **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT  
F.Y. 2008 ~ 2009**  
Applicant: City of Sierra Madre

The City of Sierra Madre gives notice, pursuant to State of California law, that the City Council will conduct a public hearing to consider the Community Development Block Grant 34<sup>th</sup> year ~ FY 2008 ~ 2009

#### DATE & TIME OF HEARING PLACE OF HEARING

City of Sierra Madre City Council meeting Tuesday, March 25, 2007 Meeting begins at 6:30 pm	City of Sierra Madre City Council Chambers 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Sierra Madre, CA. 91024
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All interested persons may attend this meeting and the City Council will hear them with respect thereto.

#### Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) FY 2008 ~ 2009

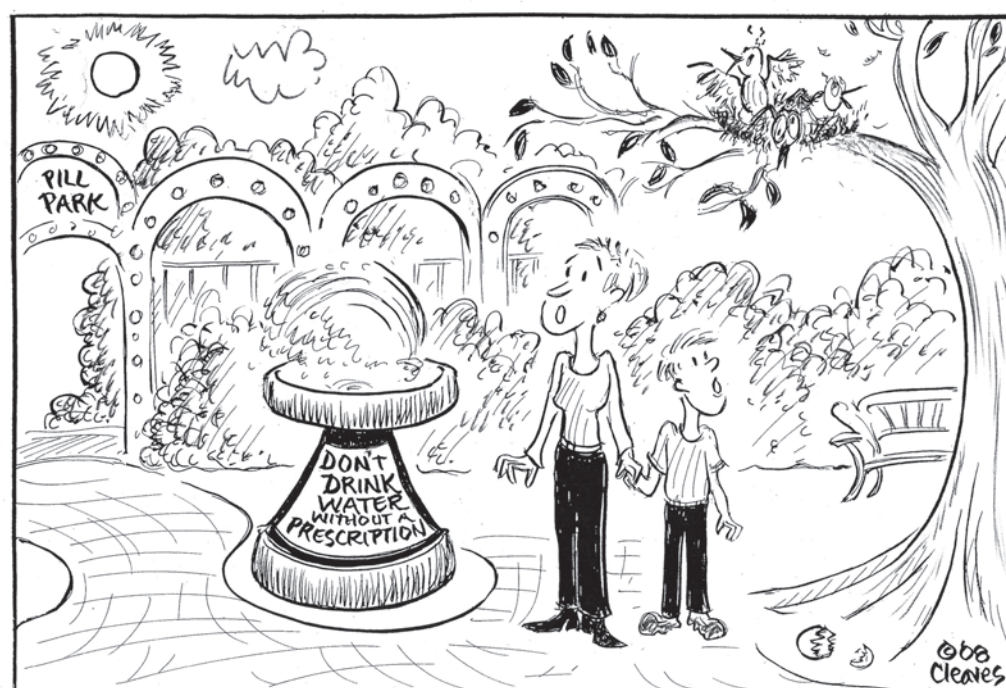
The proposed program consists of the following components:	
Exchange CDBG Unallocated Funds Fiscal Year 2008-2009	\$54,219.81
Exchange CDBG Unallocated Funds	\$ 6,439.81
Total	\$54,219.81

City of Hawaiian Gardens for General Fund Dollars Sixty Cents (.60) on the Dollar (\$1.00)	\$32,531.89
---	-------------

Total CDBG funds allocated:	\$54,219.81
-----------------------------	-------------

<b>Total General Funds received from City of Hawaiian Gardens exchanged for allocated CDBG funds.</b>	<b>\$32,531.89</b>
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Posted: March 3, 2008  
Suzi McConnell, Administrative Assistant  
Department of Public Works



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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

## Future Of Charter School Uncertain

By Teresa Baxter

The Pasadena Unified School District board has recommended denying facilities to Rhythms of the Villages Charter School for the 2008-09 school year, but in a last minute move offered two more days, until March 14, for the school to meet enrollment quotas. This action took place during the regularly scheduled board meeting, which was standing room only, filled with participants backing the school.

The magnitude of supporters prompted Board President Esteban Lizardo to request that the agenda item be moved up, with the board's consent, to accommodate the amount of public comments. Superintendent Edwin Diaz agreed that it was the appropriate thing to do.

“This is the time and the board is required to consider a preliminary offer to charter schools,” said Diaz. However, the focus remained on Rhythm of the Villages, not mentioning agenda items regarding approval of facilities to the Odyssey Charter School at the Noyes Elementary School site, or the Nia Educational Charter School at Edison Elementary. There were a few comments objecting to Aveson Charter High School being on the campus of the former Noyes Elementary School.

Michele McClowry, assistant superintendent for business services, presented the technicalities behind Proposition 39, which requires the district to offer classroom space to charter schools with at least 80 students enrolled.

“It is our understanding that Rhythms of the Village has about 60 students, which renders them basically ineligible for Proposition 39's requirements set by the state,” she said. “At this point in time, the staff recommendation is to deny the request simply based on the fact that Rhythms of the Village does not have enrollment to qualify.”

Public comment brought forth the fact that the school is barely into its second semester and it was alleged that at its beginning, PUSD lagged in approving their site, which seriously affected enrollment. The former Dean of Rhythms of the Villages, Larry Root, stated that last summer there were originally 200 students willing to be involved.

“Let me bring to your attention when of August, last year when [PUSD] sat there and waited until the last hour to help Rhythms find a location for a charter school,” he said. “At that time Rhythms held over 200 students. But as a parent, not knowing where my child's school should be... I would have been looking elsewhere.”

The school has until the end of the week to present a letter proving adequate enrollment and the issue will once again be addressed at the next PUSD board meeting on March 25.

### TRISH'S TRUTH

## Who's Up For A Challenge?

By Trisha Collins

My high school, Harbor Teacher Preparation Academy, has recently decided to accept the Governor's Challenge. I heard about this Governor's Challenge during an assembly held sometime last week. Assemblies are a student's best friend. Assemblies, along with fire drills, earthquake drills, and any other required school activities that take up class time, are well appreciated by us hardworking students. So when I heard there was going to be an assembly held during 6<sup>th</sup> period, my friends and I were grateful for the break we were going to have later on in the day.

As 6<sup>th</sup> period arrived, so did visitors to from the Governor's Challenge. They came with posters and painted on smiles. When the assembly finally began, the principal came up and recited the pledge of allegiance with us and then introduced to us the cheesing adults behind her. “They're from the Governor's Challenge”, she announced while we all clapped and looked at each other, wondering why they were here. A stiff lady went to the podium and explained their purpose. The governor has apparently issued a challenge to all the schools in California. It was a challenge for every school student to get more exercise in an effort to become healthier. She told us how all we had to do was log in to a website everyday to keep track of all the exercise we were getting.

It all sounded pretty good, but what we were really wondering was what was the point? There just had to be some kind of catch. What could Arnold be getting out of all of this? What would our school get from any of this? After the lady had explained the proposal, she asked how many kids were going to log in everyday and exercise. Very few hands responded. That's when she told us about the prize. The winning school with the most logins would receive 3 new fitness centers. Then we started to get excited. When she told us about our rivalry, schools that were also accepting the challenge, kids were already discussing how often they would run after school.

The Challenge requires you to exercise for 30 minutes, 3 times a week. It's amazing where 30 minutes comes in everyday and you don't even realize it. I walk to and from the bus stop, which is already 20 minutes total. Not to mention the 10-minute stroll around a store.

I challenge everyone to incorporate 30 minutes of exercise in their everyday routine. Who says you need a new fitness center to get inspired (even though it does help)? Why not get your inspiration from yourself, from the desire to become a better, more healthier you?

## SCHOOL DIRECTORY

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

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

**Barnhart School**  
240 W. Colorado Blvd Arcadia, Ca. 91007  
(626) 446-5588  
Head of School: Joanne Testa Cross  
Kindergarten - 8th grade  
website: [www.barnhartschool.com](http://www.barnhartschool.com)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Pasadena Unified School District**  
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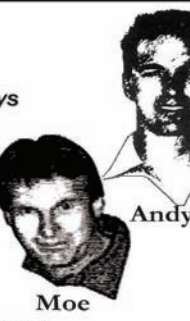
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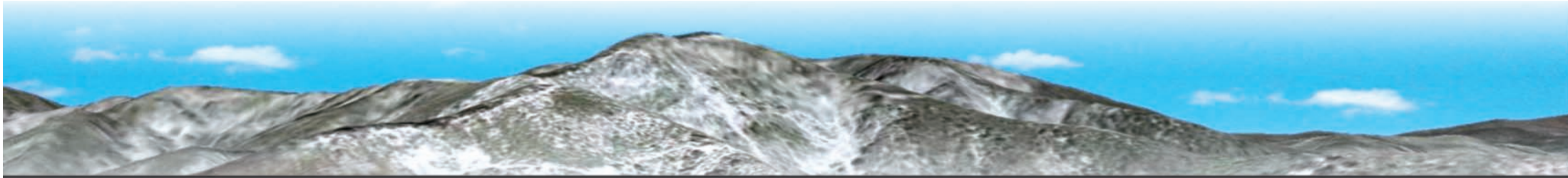
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# Mountain Views-Observer

## OPINION

### MountainViews-Observer

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MountainViews-Observer (Mountain View News) has been adjudicated as a newspaper of General Circulation for the County of Los Angeles in Court Case number GS004724: for the City of Sierra Madre; in Court Case GS005940 and for the City of Monrovia in Court Case No. GS006989 and is published every Friday at 37 Auburn Avenue, Suite 7, Sierra Madre, California, 91024. All contents are copyrighted and may not be reproduced without the express written consent of the publisher. All rights reserved. All submissions to this newspaper become the property of the MountainViews-Observer and may be published in part or whole. Opinions and views expressed by the writers printed in this paper do not necessarily express the views and opinions of the publisher or staff of the MountainViews-Observer. MountainViews-Observer is wholly owned by Grace Lorraine Publications, Inc. and reserves the right to refuse publication of advertisements and other materials submitted for publication.

All letters to the editor and correspondence should be sent to: MountainViews - Observer 280 W. Sierra Madre Bl. #327 Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024 Phone: 626-355-2737 Fax: 626-609-3285 email: mvobserver@aol.com

**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.



## Stuart Tolchin On...LIFE It's Really Not So Bad?

I've been feeling really pessimistic for about the last two weeks. This feeling was preceded by a short period of elation connected to my realization that the Presidential candidates of both parties seemed to be people of high intelligence, quality, and goodwill. All at once I became frightened. What difference can it make now! It's too late.

Even if somebody good is elected he or she will be assassinated anyway, etc. etc. My actual thought was that we are living like Austrians in the late 1930's; proud of our heritage and history and unaware that we about to be absorbed into some sort of demonic fascist Hell like Nazi Germany.

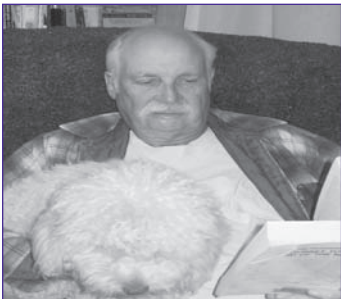
Luckily, for me, yesterday was a holiday and I was freed from my usual obligations. I had made plans for a 7:00 a.m. tennis game with Charles, a pretty great former College football player but a pretty lousy tennis player. We played a couple of quick sets and although Charles is clearly improving he's not able to beat me yet. Actually, Charles, who's just a little more than half my age, was probably hindered by the fact that he had worked until midnight the night before and had get a ride home because his car was locked in some parking lot downtown. Because it was a holiday I had plenty of time to drive Charles downtown and accept his invitation to walk over to his office and meet his clients and some of the other staff.

Charles is a Federal Public Defender which can be a pretty rough job. Federal Public Defenders are opposed by Deputy U.S. Attorneys, generally highly qualified people with the resources of the entire United States government. By reputation U.S. Attorneys only go to trial when they're pretty sure of winning. In fact, I was told by one former Federal Public Defender, now sitting as a Superior Court Judge, that in

seven years he had not won

one trial—and, believe me, this is a pretty brilliant guy. So, anyway, I didn't know what to expect as I walked with Charles to meet his clients and other colleagues on this non-work day. Oh yeah, one more thing -the penalties in Federal Court are, to me who only appears in State Courts, incredibly severe. First time offenders with clean records who are convicted of non-violent offenses are sentenced to a minimum of two years in prison and are required to remain in prison for almost the full time of their sentence. This is not the case for fist time non-violent offenders without previous convictions who are convicted in the Los Angeles County Superior Courts. These individuals typically receive probationary sentences combined with county jail incarcerations from which they are released after serving only a small percentage of their sentence time. The reason for this disparity need not concern us here (and also I am at a loss to understand it) but anyway my expectations were that Charles' client and colleagues would be a pretty depressed group of individuals much like the attorneys and clients in Dependency Court where I had first met Charles. In that system, a non-criminal Court, people are not faced with a loss of liberty or a fine; instead they are faced with the loss of their children perhaps permanently. There is no right to trial by jury only a hearing before busyjaded overworked judges whose time is spent hearing about the worst moments in people's lives. It is not a pleasant place!

I was thinking about Dependency Court as we approached Charles' building. I hear some bearded thirty something guy in a sweatshirt struggling under the weight of several giant cardboard boxes.



I think it's probably some homeless person who's going to hassle us for change and I start searching through my tennis shorts looking for a dollar and wondering why I'm putting myself through this on a holiday, this feels strangely like work. All at once Charles is hugging this guy and introducing me to him. The guy turns out to be a colleague of Charles carrying the boxes of papers being readied for filing the next day on a capital case. Out of nowhere this guy tells Charles that he and his wife are preparing dinner for Charles that night as they know Charles has to begin a trial and won't have time to cook for himself. How incredibly kind and thoughtful of him! I meet Charles' client and his family and they are people that one wishes to help. They are a devoted family, aware that their father may have made some mistakes, but clearly hopeful and appreciative of Charles' efforts in their behalf. I go upstairs and meet some of the other lawyers putting in their time on this non-work day and am highly aware of how good it feels to be a defense lawyer. After forty years it's sometimes easy to forget. As I'm leaving the bearded guy asks my name and says he knows my daughter and that she's doing really good work. (My daughter is an Immigration Attorney often working for free in extremely difficult cases.)

Well that's it. I was off to meet my wife for lunch aware, for the moment at least, that life is actually pretty good. The present is fine---and since there is only present everything else is fine; maybe that doesn't really make sense but it feels right especially on a holiday.

## Farewell To Jim Snider By Rich Johnson



Well, we said goodbye to Jim Snider last Saturday evening. At 5:00 pm about 50 of us met rather informally at the fire pit near the entrance to Bailey Canyon. Thank goodness it wasn't half way up the hill. I would have had to be there in spirit...as I'm sure Jim was. Jim, friend to many of us in town, passed away in mid January. In case you never knew him, he found fame here in Sierra Madre as the creator of a controversial website entitled, "The Sierra Madre Cumquat". A parody news site, he often succeeded at being very funny. He also, at times, crossed the line and managed to infuriate targets of his rather colorful imagination. But let me set the record straight: Jim was one of the nicest guys I ever met and he was my friend. Now where was I? Oh yeah, people at the memorial celebration got up and shared memories. We got a chance to meet members of his family. Great people. Several Sierra Madre firefighters were there as Jim was on the volunteer department for a couple of years. Sharing accounts of his training we discovered from Steve Heydorff, that Jim qualified as possibly the worst firefighter of all time. But you

know, he joined the fire department as a personal response to 9/11 and that brings tears to my eyes. That took courage. He also had enough moxie to plaster his name and picture all over his web site. Unlike others who hide behind pseudonyms and pictures of actors from the 1930-40s. Former mayor Glenn Lambdin revealed to us the gift he received from Jim and what he termed the essence of the Cumquat. Let's not take ourselves too seriously. Jim told him we are just not that important. Tom Canterbury reminded us Jim certainly qualified as Irish in behavior and sang an Irish folk tune in Jim's honor. Tom apologized for not remembering all the words. Then again, since Irishmen typically sing as they're drinking, I doubt any Irishman throughout history has remembered all the words. Lovely Sandy Siraganian shared Jim's culinary skills as a gourmet pizza maker. And fellow beautiful brunette Ron Cooper, Miguel Perez, and the ever vivacious Lisa Spagai-Perez (or is it Spaghetti-Pastrami?) shared heartfelt remembrances. Pizza was served in Jim's honor. After it got dark we abandoned the electrically challenged Bailey Canyon Fire Pit for Lucky Baldwin's Delirium Pub and Café. It seemed fitting. We got a opportunity to spend time with Jim's family and trade lies and half truths with each other. Now if we can only get Lisa Brandley to stop being so shy and come out of her shell...

## IT TAKES TWO "WINGS" TO FLY Christopher Nyerges

[Nyerges is the editor of Wilderness Way magazine, a commentator of current events on his blog site, and author of "How to Survive Anywhere." He can be reached at Box 41834, Eagle Rock, CA 90041, or [www.ChristopherNyerges.com](http://www.ChristopherNyerges.com)

I was with Rick on one of his walks into the woods with a half-dozen folks who came in from the city to learn about nature. For some reason, the conversation came around to bank robberies in the area, and firearms. Rick didn't say much at first, but then commented that he once heard that all bank tellers were told to not resist. He said that he'd even heard the police say that average citizens should not resist, and should just give robbers what they want without resistance.

"You'd stop such crimes immediately," said Rick, "if they just trained the bank tellers to respond with their guns, and to use them if necessary. Nobody should just turn over their money to a thief. No animal in nature would do that without a fight." Everyone was silent for awhile.

Finally, one woman responded. "That sounds pretty right wing. I

didn't expect to hear something like that from you." Implicit in this question was the belief that she thought Rick was something called "left wing." The woman finally also asked to Rick, "Are you a right-winger?"

Rick didn't say anything at first, and just got up and started walking. After a bit, he pointed to a flock of ravens taking off from the tops of some trees, and said, "Look at them. It takes two wings to fly. A left wing and a right wing gives them balance. Two wings and it flies. One wing and it gets eaten by a cat. Simple."

The lady was silent, and I was certain that Rick had said something "politically incorrect."

As we walked through the woods, and Rick continued to point out wildflowers and animal dens, I thought about his spontaneous analogy that it

takes two wings to fly. Left wing typically means liberal, ACLU, take from the rich, give to the poor, Tom Hayden, Jane Fonda, etc. Conventional history tells us that the Nixon Administration represented the right wing in power. To that administration, the "left wing" was the enemy: students marching in the streets, anti-war demonstrations, Black Panthers, Chicano Movement, AIM, etc.. There was the right wing in power vs. the left wing radicals.

But nothing stays the same. The status quo shifts from right to left to right to left. Tom Hayden runs for mayor of a California city. Strong anti-firearms bias permeates the liberal media. And the private militia groups, based upon the U.S. Constitution, are touted by the liberal media as "the enemy," the radicals, the kooks.

Is one side more "right" than

## Letters To The Editor

### Why NOT to vote for Mary Ann MacGillivray

Let's press the rewind button back to 1997 when Mary Ann MacGillivray previously sat on the City Council. On the evening of September 9th there were overflow crowds at City Hall strenuously protesting Ordinance 1136, which was Mary Ann MacGillivray's brainchild. The firestorm of protest surrounding this ordinance attracted the attention of news cameras from KNBC, reporters from the Los Angeles Times, the Pasadena Star News and both Sierra Madre newspapers.

That evening Mary Ann MacGillivray's Ordinance 1136 passed, unnecessarily changing the city codes (for zoning purposes) to define a "family" as only persons "related by blood, marriage or adoption, living together." She had the unparalleled audacity to assert, per this ordinance, that all other families were to be classified as "housekeeping units". This was a clear departure from the definition of "family" given out by the California courts, and probably was also unconstitutional. This new wording relegated all other families in Sierra Madre (including those of unmarried couples, same-gender couples, and those with foster children) as "non-families."

For those of you who are newer Sierra Madre residents, or who may have forgotten, Mary Ann MacGillivray is guilty of forcing her narrow and probably religiously motivated personal views on our town, in spite of overwhelming protests. And in the process she deeply offended many Sierra Madre residents.

Despite hours of public outcry, as described by the media, she managed to get the ordinance passed by convincing council members Adams and Doyle to vote with her because she felt so strongly about it. And despite all of this wide media attention, Mary Ann MacGillivray (according to the 9/25/97 Mountain View News) went ahead and violated the tenets of Separation of Church and State by opening this tumultuous public meeting with a prayer!

Her Ordinance 1136 presumed to "define morality" for our town. Per the 9/25/97 Mountain Views News, Mary Ann MacGillivray was "using her position as a small-town lawmaker to send a moral message to the rest of the country, in an era in which family values are under attack." Indeed, her definition of "family" drew praise from the then nationally syndicated (and virulently homophobic) radio talk-show host Dr. Laura Schlessinger. In a book by Schlessinger, Stupid Things Parents Do to Mess Up Their Kids, published 2001, Mary Ann MacGillivray is quoted as saying of Sierra Madre, "We didn't want to expand the definition of family into a garbage can situation...the fact is this community takes a moral stand..."

I invite anyone who is not familiar with this debacle to visit the Sierra Madre library and read the newspaper headlines and many articles and Letters to the Editor from late September/early October 1997.

Fortunately her discriminatory and shameful Ordinance 1136 was overturned by a subsequent City Council in November 2005. The new Ordinance 1234 acted to clean up several aspects of City business, and overturned MacGillivray's "family" definition. Sierra Madre now has an appropriate and inclusive definition of family in its codes.

But now Mary Ann MacGillivray is baaaaack, running for office again, and persons who now interact with her in City Government currently describe her as "rigid and unwilling to compromise" and as someone who "sees everything in black and white, moralistic ways."

Now campaigning, Mary Ann MacGillivray is apparently hoping that our memories are short, because nowhere in her new campaign flyer does she make reference to her previous "moral crusade." Let us not forget, though. In my opinion, her current attempts to get your vote now are duplicitous.

-In her new flyer, she claims to have "The background and commitment to preserve and protect the character of our Foothill Village." I ask you, where in our town do we embrace discrimination and thinly-veiled homophobia as part of the "character of our Foothill Village?" Sierra Madre is a diverse town, with various configurations of families, and our elected representatives must be committed to honoring that diversity. Mary Ann MacGillivray has a proven record of doing the opposite.

- In her new flyer she claims that she is committed to "participatory government." Oh really? Despite overwhelming public outcry in 1997 against her ordinance 1136, she turned a deaf ear to the citizens of this town. She placed her own ideas of "morality" above the will of the constituency. Not my idea of participatory government!

Aren't we all tired of unethical elected officials representing some, but not all of us? Aren't we tired of divisive politicians abusing their public office, in order to grind their own axes? Aren't we tired of this hypocritical moralizing? Because the hatefulness of ordinance 1136 was distinctly immoral.

I hereby challenge Mary Ann MacGillivray to issue a public apology next week in this newspaper, to the citizens of Sierra Madre, for the enormous mistake that was ordinance 1136. Let us hear, Ms. MacGillivray, that you acknowledge how traumatic that was for our town, and that you regret it. Tell us that you are happy that Sierra Madre now has an inclusive definition of family on the books, and that you honor and respect the diversity of all of Sierra Madre's families.

Unless we get a specific and sincere public apology, let's give a big "NO WAY!!" to Mary Ann MacGillivray!

**Ron Longo, Sierra Madre**



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Publish: MountainVibes Observer  
3/17, 3/24, 3/31, 4/07/2008

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **GREENLEAF MORTGAGE**, 13006 PHILADELPHIA ST. STE. 611, WHITTIER, CA 90601. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **ERIK LUTZ**, 13006 PHILADELPHIA ST. STE. 611, WHITTIER, CA 90601. This business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. **Signed: ERIK LUTZ**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **03/13/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

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Publish: MountainViews Observer  
3/17, 3/24, 3/31, 4/07/2008

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as:  
ACCESS DOORS COMPANY  
985 W. Foothill Blvd Unit C  
Claremont, CA 91711  
Full name of registrant (s) is (are)  
SILVER HAMMER COMPANIES, INC. 985 W. Foothill Blvd Unit C  
Claremont, CA 91711. The business is conducted as: A CORPORATION.  
I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct.

The following person (s) is (are) doing  
business as:  
WAHBA'S MAINTENANCE  
SERVICES  
1507 Wesely Ave

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02/29; 03/07; 03/14 and 03/21, 2008  
080810SJ

**080811MG      File No. 20080305855**  
**FICTITIOUS    BUSINESS    NAME**

Full name of registrant (s) is (are)  
Ernesto Polanco 1430 Colorado Blvd  
Los Angeles, CA 90041. 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 Feb  
21, 2008. The registrant (s) has (have)  
commenced to transact business under  
the fictitious business name or names  
listed above on 02/21/2008.

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		



# LEGAL NOTICES

of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 at seq. Business and Profession Code) First filing: 02/29; 03/07; 03/14 and 03/21, 2008 080815MG

## 080816DV File No. 20080279144 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: **FAST EDDIE TRUCKING** 1206 S. Lomita Blvd Unit 6 Harbor City, CA 90710 Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Jaime Gonzalez 1206 S. Lomita Blvd Unit 6 Harbor City, CA 90710. The business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL.** I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Feb 15, 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: 02/29; 03/07; 03/14 and 03/21, 2008 080816DV

## 080817DV File No. 20080272501 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: **HOG HEAD MANAGEMENT** 775 Rose Ave #8 Long Beach, CA 90813 Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Gideon Thomson and Kianna Daneil 775 Rose Ave #8 Long Beach, CA 90813. The business is conducted by: **A GENERAL PARTNESHIP.** 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 Feb 14, 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: 02/29; 03/07; 03/14 and 03/21, 2008 080817DV

## 080818DV File No. 20080278200 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: **GKS PLUMBING INCORPORATED, 3N1 PLUMBING** 1662 W. 215<sup>th</sup> St Torrance, CA 90501 Full name of registrant (s) is (are) GKS PLUMBING INCORPORATED, 1662 W. 215<sup>th</sup> St Torrance, CA 90501. The business is conducted by: **A CORPORATION.** I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Feb 15, 2008. The registrant (s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 02/15/2008. 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: 02/29; 03/07; 03/14 and 03/21, 2008 080818DV

## 080819SJ File No. 20080279667 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: **ULTIMATE CLEANING SERVICE** 18308 E. Glalatea St Azusa, CA 91702 Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Norma Quiroz 18308 E. Glalatea St Azusa, CA 91702. The business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL.** I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Feb 15, 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: 02/29; 03/07; 03/14 and 03/21, 2008 080819SJ

## 080820DV File No. 20080305417 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: **AZTECA IMPORTS** 683 Santa Fe Ave Los Angeles, CA 90021 Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Rosa Maria Calderon 683 Santa Fe Ave Los Angeles, CA 90021. The business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL.** I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on Feb 21, 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: 02/29; 03/07; 03/14 and 03/21, 2008 080820DV

## 070801MG File No. 20080239712 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: **LINE FOR HEALTH** 1949 W. 20<sup>th</sup> St Los Angeles, CA 90015 Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Enrique Bueso Cruz and Lizeth Sabellon 1949 W. 20<sup>th</sup> St Los Angeles, CA 90015. The business is conducted as: **A GENERAL PARTNESHIP.** 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 Feb 08, 2008. The registrant (s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 03/14/2008. 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: 02/22; 02/29; 03/07 and 03/14, 2008 070801MG

## 070802MG File No. 20080241254 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: **WEST COAST ARCHITECHTURAL** 12150 Bloomfield Ave Unit V Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670 Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Enrique J. Saucedo, Carlos Ochoa and Alex Fernandez 12150 Bloomfield Ave Unit V Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670. 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 Feb 08, 2008. The registrant (s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/19/2006. 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: 02/22; 02/29; 03/07 and 03/14, 2008 070802MG

## 070803MG File No. 20080241582 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: **JEANETTE CLEANING SEVICES** 6481 Florence Ave Bell Gardens, CA 90201 Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Jeanette Martinez 6481 Florence Ave Bell Gardens, CA 90201. 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 Feb 08, 2008. The registrant (s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 02/08/2008. 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: 02/22; 02/29; 03/07 and 03/14, 2008 070803MG

## 070804MG File No. 20080241253 STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

The following person (s) has (have) abandoned the use of the fictitious name: **WEST COAST ARCHITECTURAL** 12150 Bloomfield Ave Unit V Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670 The name of registrant(s) is (are) Enrique Saucedo 12150 Bloomfield Ave Unit V Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670. The business was conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL.** The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 01/19/2006. Original File #20006-0138637. 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 Feb 08, 2008. The registrant (s) has (have) ended to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 02/08/2008. 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: 02/22; 02/29; 03/07 and 03/14, 2008 070804MG

## 070805 File No. 20080271609 STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

The following person (s) has (have) abandoned the use of the fictitious name: **FRV ART FRAMES** 11512 Virginia Ave Lynwood, CA 90262 The name of registrant(s) is (are) Felix Ramos 11512 Virginia Ave Lynwood, CA 90262. The business was conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL.** The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 01/10/2005. Original File #05-0070010. 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 Feb 14, 2008. The registrant (s) has (have) ended to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 02/14/2008. 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: 02/22; 02/29; 03/07 and 03/14, 2008 070805

## 070806 File No. 20080263437 STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

The following person (s) has (have) abandoned the use of the fictitious name: **DAGY'S FASHION** 1457 Washington Blvd Los Angeles, CA 90007 The name of registrant(s) is (are) Rosa Veliz 1832 W. 20<sup>th</sup> St Los Angeles, CA 90007. The business was conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL.** Current File #06-2081065. 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 Feb 13, 2008. The registrant (s) has (have) ended to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 02/13/2008. 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: 02/22; 02/29; 03/07 and 03/14, 2008 070806

## 070807 File No. 20080246444 STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

The following person (s) has (have) abandoned the use of the fictitious name: **IGLESIA DE CRISTO RESTAURAZION** 2385 Glenrose Ave Altadena, CA 91101 The name of registrant(s) is (are) Alfonso Sanchez 2385 Glenrose Ave Altadena, CA 91101. The business was conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL.** Current File #2007-1037304. 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 Feb 11, 2008. The registrant (s) has (have) ended to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 02/11/2008. 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: 02/22; 02/29; 03/07 and 03/14, 2008 070807

## 070808RC File No. 20080271536 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: **FRV GLASS AND MIRRORS** 11512 Virginia Ave Lynwood, CA 90262 Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Felix Ramos 11512 Virginia Ave 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 Feb 14, 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: 02/22; 02/29; 03/07 and 03/14, 2008 070808RC

## 0802MBP File No. 20080356486 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (s) is (are) doing business as: **BEAR MANAGEMENT** 171 E. Grand View Avenue Sierra Madre, CA 91024. Full name of registrant (s) is (are) Mary Lou Caldwell and Gordon Wayne Caldwell, 171 E. Grand View Avenue, Sierra Madre, CA. 91024. The business is conducted as: **A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY.** I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on February 29, 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: 02/29; 03/7; 03/14 and 03/21, 2008 0802MBP

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-0347857

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **ACJ LEATHER COMPANY,** 122-A EAST FOOTHILL BLV #150, ARCADIA, CA 91006. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **ALDEMAR MARTOS,** 122-A EAST FOOTHILL BLV #150, ARCADIA, CA 91006. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ALDEMAR MARTOS.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/28/08.** The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on **2/28/08.**

**NOTICE-** This 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 prior to that date. 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 et seq. Business and Professions Code) Publish: Mountain Views Observer 3/03, 03/10, 3/17, 3/24/2008

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-0322021

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **ART & DESIGN IRON WORKS,** 1473 VIRGINIA AVE., BALDWIN PARK, CA 91706. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **BRENDA TELLO,** 2458 STROZIER AVE., SOUTH EL MONTE, CA 91733. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: BRENDA TELLO.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/25/08.** The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on **N/A.**

**NOTICE-** This 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 prior to that date. 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 et seq. Business and Professions Code) Publish: Mountain Views Observer 3/03, 03/10, 3/17, 3/24/2008

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under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code) Publish: Mountain Views Observer 3/03, 3/10, 3/17, 3/24/2008

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-0348635

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **FAMOS ENTERPRISE LIMITED,** 17921 CONTADOR DR., ROWLAND HTS., CA 91748. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **POSEDON TRUCKING, INC.,** 17921 CONTADOR DR., ROWLAND HTS., CA 91748. This Business is conducted by: **A CORPORATION. Signed: LIAN MA.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/28/08.** The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on **N/A.**

**NOTICE-** This 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 prior to that date. 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 et seq. Business and Professions Code) Publish: Mountain Views Observer 3/03, 03/10, 3/17, 3/24/2008

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-0322018

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **GRIMALDI'S TRUCK SERVICE,** 1562 MCCOMAS ST., POMONA, CA 91706. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **SEBASTIAN ARMANDO GRIMALDI,** 1562 MCCOMAS ST., POMONA, CA 91706. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ALDEMAR MARTOS.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/25/08.** The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on **2/07/00.**

**NOTICE-** This 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 prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name

date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. 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 et seq. Business and Professions Code) Publish: Mountain Views Observer 3/03, 03/10, 3/17, 3/24/2008

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-0339603

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **M&R MERCHANDISE OULET,** 15640 LEFFINGWELL RD., WHITTIER, CA 90604. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **ROSA M. COTA,** 14505 JALON RD., LA IRADA, CA 90638, **GUILLERMINA MADRID,** 8425 JELLIN LANE, PICO RIVERA, CA 90660. This Business is conducted by: **A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. Signed: ROSA M. COTA.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/27/08.** The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on **N/A.** **NOTICE-** This 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 prior to that date. 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 et seq. Business and Professions Code) Publish: Mountain Views Observer 3/03, 03/10, 3/17, 3/24/2008

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-0315749

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **SELECTED BRANDS OF THE WORLD,** 17855 E. VALLEY BLVD., CITY OF INDUSTRY, CA 91744. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **ASE PROFITABLE INVESTMENTS, INC.,** 17855 E. VALLEY BLVD., CITY OF INDUSTRY, CA 91744. This Business is conducted by: **A CORPORATION. Signed: TANYA CHAVERRI.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/22/08.** The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact

## City of Sierra Madre COURTESY NOTICE

**To:** Property Owners within a 300-foot radius  
**From:** The City of Sierra Madre  
**Subject:** **CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT 07-10 (4 NORTH BALDWIN AVE)**

**Applicant:** Sign Development Inc.  
1366 W 9<sup>th</sup> St  
Upland, CA 91786

*The City of Sierra Madre gives notice, pursuant to State of California law, that the Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing to consider a request for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to alter the service island canopies at the service station at 4 North Baldwin Avenue. Section 17.37.020.B of the Sierra Madre Municipal Code states that "no buildings or improvements or portion thereof shall be erected, constructed, converted, established, altered or enlarged" in the Downtown Overlay Zone without approval of a Conditional Use Permit.*

## DATE AND TIME OF MEETING

City of Sierra Madre  
Planning Commission meeting  
Thursday, **April 3, 2008**  
(meeting begins at 7:00 p.m.)

## PLACE OF MEETING

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

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

**PROJECT LOCATION:** 4 North Baldwin Avenue is in the City of Sierra Madre, County of Los Angeles, State of California.

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

By Order of the Planning Commission,

Danny Castro,  
Director of Development Services

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-0241327

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **DMC ASSOCIATES,** 1037 RUTLAND AVENUE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90042. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **MICHAEL R. WESLER,** 1037 RUTLAND AVE., L.A., CA 90042. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: MICHAEL R. WESLER.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/08/08.** The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on **5/11/03.**

**NOTICE-** This 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 prior to that date. 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 et seq. Business and Professions Code) Publish: Mountain Views Observer 3/03, 03/10, 3/17, 3/24/2008

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-0339511

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **ELEGANT PRINT & LABELS,** 1105 WESLEY AVE., PASADENA, CA 91105. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **ERNESTO MEDINA,** 1105 WESLEY AVE., PASADENA, CA 91105. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ERNESTO MEDINA.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/27/08.** The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on **N/A.**

**NOTICE-** This 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 prior to that date. 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

in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code) Publish: Mountain Views Observer 3/03, 03/10, 3/17, 3/24/2008

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-0322087

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **HUGO PET PRODUCTS, LLC,** 23708 WELBY WAY, WEST HILLS, CA 91307. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **HUGO PET PRODUCTS, LLC,** 23708 WELBY WAY, WEST HILLS, CA 91307. This Business is conducted by: **AN LLC. Signed: REUBEN BAHAR.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/25/08.** The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on **2/21/08.**

**NOTICE-** This 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 prior to that date. 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 et seq. Business and Professions Code) Publish: Mountain Views Observer 3/03, 03/10, 3/17, 3/24/2008

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-0322082

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **LATINO'S BEAUTY SALON,** 4311 E. COMPTON BLVD., RANCHO DOMINGUEZ, CA 90221. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **ELIZABETH MENDEZ,** 7320 EXETER ST. #3, PARAMOUNT, CA 90723. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ELIZABETH MENDEZ.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/25/08.** The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on **N/A.**

**NOTICE-** This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the

business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on **2/22/08.** **NOTICE-** This 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 prior to that date. 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 et seq. Business and Professions Code) Publish: Mountain Views Observer 3/03, 03/10, 3/17, 3/24/2008

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-0367346

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **CUTTING EDGE,** 2665 S. SANTA FE AVE., VERNON, CA 90058. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **MARIA D. HERNANDEZ,** 301 N. BANNA AVE., COVINA, CA 91724. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: MARIA D. HERNANDEZ.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **03/03/08.** The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on **N/A.**

**NOTICE-** This 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 prior to that date. 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 et seq. Business and Professions Code) Publish: Mountain Views Observer 03/10, 3/17, 3/24, 3/31/2008

## FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 0







# SPORTS

## Back Page Journal



### Tuna Fish And Cheap Claimers

By Brad Eastland, Sports Editor

When I was a little kid my mother would make this casserole with tuna and potato chips. She called it "tuna fish hot dish". Yes, it rhymed. No, it wasn't very good.

But I loved it. I loved it! Why did I love it? I mean even though I was little I knew deep down that "tuna fish hot dish" wasn't exactly five-star dining material. I even had the intuitive presence of mind to drizzle honey on it to make it go down better. (Sort of like in *Spartacus*, when Laurence Olivier drizzles honey on a dead squab to make it taste better before giving it to Jean Simmons when he's trying to seduce her.)

Anyway, there was something about mom's tuna casserole that got to me. It got under my skin. Sort of like a cheap claimer gets under your skin.

What's a cheap claimer? Okay, brief sports lesson: "Cheap claimer" is a horse racing term. Most races are "claiming" races, meaning the horses are actually for sale and can be bought, or "claimed", by you or I or anyone else right up until a few minutes before the race. It keeps the horses racing at their proper class level, stimulates betting activity, and allows the track to provide the betting public with enough races to fill up a full card without doling out gigantic, stakes-size purses. It's the meat and potatoes of the sport.

Young men fall in love with cheap claimers. You're in your twenties, you go to the track every day, you get attached to them. I certainly had my favorites. "Market Minstrel" was my first favorite cheap claimer. I just liked the name. And I actually won a few big bets on him. He was a pretty good horse for a lousy horse.

Then I went up north to college, and at a track called Golden Gate Fields (located oh so conveniently close to Berkeley, where I was pretending to go to class) there were these two cheap claimers, "Win For George" and "Star Stream", that earned my love. Not only were they a couple of tough, hard-knocking claimers, but they always raced against each other. And Star Stream always won. At the wire it would be Star Stream by five lengths over Win For George, and Win For George was always another eight lengths clear of the rest of the field. And talk about cheap! They were usually running in \$2,500-dollar claiming races, meaning they were actually for sale for only \$2,500 bucks! The bottom of the barrel. Nobody ever claimed them, though; too old, too risky. I always rooted for Win For George of course, since he always lost. (And for two years I wished my name was George, because I truly believe he was always trying to win specifically to please me....)

There were others. I loved "Incursion" because he was gray and he always came from 20 lengths back and always made a brave run, I loved "The Medic" because he ran with his head way down like he was searching the grass for a lost contact lens, and I loved "Tuta Mia" because she was so awful. Tuta Mia was a filly, and I think I started betting her because I was a baseball fan and she was sired by a colt called "DiMaggio". The real DiMaggio, as you probably know, once hit in 56 consecutive games. I think Tuta Mia once lost 56 consecutive races.

And finally there was "LaVerne's Bic Mac". Of all the cases of unrequited love I was ever infected with at the racetrack, he was the worst. I was in my 30s by now, so I should have known better. But I was smitten. Why? Several reasons. Start with the name. He was owned by this old lady named LaVerne whatchamajigger, his sire was called "MacArthur Park", and he was a huge gangly creature, and so, naturally, the old bat named him LaVerne's Big Mac! Admit it, isn't that a great name for a horse?

Unfortunately, LaVerne's Big Mac was not only huge, he was terribly, terribly sloooooowwwwwww....

That didn't keep me from betting on him. Since he always came from behind (a euphemism for always trailing the field), I always assumed he would one day catch up. Never did. I'd come home from the track, and my evil grinning brother would ask me immediately, "You bet on that plug LaVerne's Big Mac again, didn't you?", and I'd nod my head in shame, and he'd say "Where'd that glue-pot finish *this time*?", and I'd say "fifth" or "ninth" or "twelfth" or whatever, and my brother would laugh until he cried. I must have bet on LaVerne's Big Mac at least a dozen times over the years, without once coming close to ever cashing a winning ticket.

But isn't that just the point? I didn't bet on LaVerne's Big Mac again and again and again because I expected him to win, I bet on him because he was *mine*! I had adopted him, for better or for worse, we were a team, his job was to trail the field like a crippled donkey, make up three or four lengths in the stretch, and finish ninth, fifteen lengths back, and my job was to bet on him. We were a team. We had much invested in each other. I believe he knew, on the days he raced, that I would be there leaning against the rail during the post parade, staring at him lovingly, hoping that this would be the day he finally realized his potential and actually won.

Same thing for mom's horrible tuna casserole. Because mom made it and no other kid's mom made it and because it had a cool name, it was mine. *Mine*! For better or for worse. And so I ate it and I loved it. It was part of what made me, well, me. And isn't that what makes life worth living?

I realize that he's long dead by now, but I've still got it in my head that one of these days my beloved LaVerne's Big Mac will miraculously show up in the morning-line entries at Santa Anita yet again, and this time he'll come romping home a winner. I'll be there. And now that I think about it, I think I'll call my little sister Marji tonight and have her make her big brother a less-than-tasty batch of "tuna fish hot dish". I'm pretty sure she kept the recipe....she loved it too.

## THE NEXT RUSSELL MARTIN

by Brad Eastland



LaSalle's James Harmon  
B. Eastland/MVO

James Harmon is a well-mannered and humble young man. You meet him, and that much obvious right away. (Much of the credit for his manners and humility no doubt goes to his parents, Tom and Doreen Harmon of South Pasadena.) And in addition to being raised the right way, James was also raised to be one heck of a baseball player. That's obvious too. But he would never boast or brag about himself.

So we're going to have to do that for him.

To start with, James is a Sophomore playing on the La Salle High School Varsity. That's impressive enough. But consider that last year he was the only Freshman on the Varsity squad. He didn't get to bat much, however: "I was picked to be on the Varsity last year for my defense. I wasn't a very good hitter," says James with his usual humility.

The hitting part has improved over the off-season. A singles-and-doubles "gap" hitter, James has worked hard and spent hours in the batting cage. The result? Through six games he's 9-for-20 at the plate for the Lancers, a fat .450 average. Last Saturday against South Pasadena High he had his best game yet, homering and doubling in three at-bats. So the power is starting to come around. And though already standing a solid five-foot-nine and 180 pounds, he's still growing.

But it's the varied defensive aspects of the catching position that have always captivated the 16-year-old Harmon. In these first six games of the '08 campaign, James has thrown out three of the five runners attempting to steal on him. He's already the consummate field general: "I like to be involved in the game on every pitch, help people out, be the leader," he says with a maturity beyond his years, "and I like to call out the plays. If my pitcher is struggling I'll go out and talk to him, settle him down." Sounds like a catcher, all right.

James plays a little football as well. He was the quarterback on this year's Junior Varsity team, and hopes to play fullback on the Varsity next season. "I love to hit people, and it keeps me in shape for baseball," says the two-sport star, affirming that baseball is still by far his favorite.

The Lancers' backstop is always quick to give credit to others. For instance, there's his "catching coach" Jack Pinkerton, one of the coaches on his summer travel ball team, a man who has been instrumental in James' ongoing development. ("Jack has really helped me with my footwork. He gives me special attention.") And as for this year's La Salle team, the talented Sophomore believes all the credit goes to the upper classmen: "Our seniors are way more focused than last year's seniors. Last year we were something like 10 and 12, I know we were under five-hundred, and there was a lack of energy---but this season our record should wind up being way over five-hundred. Our seniors are the reason." Note: the Lancers are off to a lightning-fast 5-1 start, as of this writing.

And finally, there's a vote of thanks for his La Salle coach, Harry Agajanian. "I'm really grateful to Coach Aggie for giving me the opportunity to play," says James. Yes, this kid really is too good to be true....

As for college baseball, James wouldn't mind following in his father's footsteps. Tom Harmon, an environmental consultant (and no relation to his namesake, the legendary Heisman Trophy winner!) played a little baseball himself, at UCLA. James plans to follow his dad to Westwood. But if he doesn't get to go to UCLA, James will gladly strap on the "tools of ignorance" at Arizona State. Because, as he says, "Their baseball field is sweet."

A lifelong Dodger fan, it is hardly surprising that young James' favorite pro player is the Dodgers' all-star catcher Russell Martin. "I look up to him," James states flatly. "He's a solid all-around catcher who can also hit. He's a fiery leader too. I want to be that way."

Martin better continue to improve and produce for the Dodgers. Because if he doesn't, in about six or seven years he might have some serious competition for his job.



Photo By Paul Hill

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