

3rd Annual Wine & Jazz Walk This Saturday

Sierra Madre's 3rd Annual Wine & Jazz Walk takes place this Saturday, October 25th from 4-7 pm. This event has raised since inception, in excess of \$60,000 for the City of Hope. There are 36 participating businesses in Downtown Sierra Madre that will offer Great Food and Wine Tasting courtesy of the Riboli Wine Estates from the San Antonio Winery. Twelve bands will 'jazz up' the event stationed strategically along the walk route. This will be a stroll through downtown Sierra Madre like never before.

Sierra Madre Wine & Jazz Walk * Live Jazz Locations

Please Note !!!
Sierra Madre Blvd & Baldwin Ave
Will be closed off to vehicles for the festival.
Bands and stage locations subject to change
without notice.

1. CREATIVE ARTS GROUP STAGE
108 N. Baldwin Ave
THE SANTA ROSA ROAD BAND
2. BODY SHOP PRIVATE FITNESS STAGE
90 N. Baldwin Ave
THE BRUCE LOFGREN TRIO
3. THE FOUR SEASONS TEA ROOM STAGE
75 N. Baldwin Ave
THE BUTLER / WATSON QUARTET
4. LUNCH SALON STAGE
65 N. Baldwin Ave
THE JUDY WEXLER QUARTET
5. CAPELLI COURT SALON STAGE
57 N. Baldwin Ave
THE STEVE HUFFSTEDER GROUP
6. ANGELS EVERYWEAR (STREET STAGE)
26 N. Baldwin Ave
THE MICHAEL McDANIEL QUARTET
7. KERSTING COURT STAGE
Baldwin Ave & Sierra Madre Blv
THE BRUCE ESKOVITZ JAZZ ORCHESTRA
8. HARLEQUIN GALLERY STAGE
14 N. Baldwin Ave
SEAN McCUE AND MICHELLE BEAUCHESNE
9. SIERRA MADRE BLVD (STREET STAGE)
30 W. Sierra Madre Blvd
THE ROGER CAIRNES COMBO
10. JAIL HOUSE INN (STREET STAGE)
78 W. Sierra Madre Blvd
THE ELLIOT CAINE QUINTET
11. THE PLAYHOUSE STAGE
87 W. Sierra Madre Blvd
BENNETT BRANDEIS TRIO
12. THE CHARCUTERIE STAGE
120 W. Sierra Madre Blvd
THELONIOUS DUB

Alverno Master Plan Scrutinized

By Dean Lee

A number of both Pasadena and Sierra Madre residents voiced concerns Wednesday night during a public input meeting hosted by the City of Sierra Madre regarding Alverno High School's plans to expand and modernize its' campus. The plans include, among other things, the construction of a new "multi-use" building and a soccer field.

Most of the 75 people in attendance were fearful of the proposed plans, concerns ranging from traffic congestion to noise and the destruction of the tranquility that currently surrounds the area. They also expressed concerned about Alverno's outside activities, which include movie shoots, weddings and the possibility of a new soccer field being used by outside agencies. The school maintains that a new field would not be used by The American Youth Soccer Organization AYSO or adult soccer of any kind.

Not everyone in attendance was against the expansion, however. "These kids have a right to same experiences as all of you did in high school," said a resident defending the plan to overwhelming opposition. Other residents maintained the expansion was not entirely for students but to allowthe school to hold more weddings and more movie filming. Head of School Ann Gillick, denied the allegations in a follow up telephone interview.

Gillick said all school functions come before anything else. "We only schedule weddings on Saturday's after we plan all our school events," she said. The statement disputed claims that the school had, all but four weekends booked through 2008 for non school events.

Many also claimed the school's current Conditional Use Permit does not allow weddings, saying the school is out of compliance. Some demanded the weddings stop immediately.

City Manager Elaine Aguilar said she was unaware of possible code violations but also said the weddings had been taking place long before she worked for the city. "I'm relatively new, I've been here a little over a year, she said. "Let us look into this and we will come back with an answer."

Gillick said the weddings have been taking place since the 1970s. "The money is used mostly for grounds keeping," she said also, explaining that some of it goes for student scholarships among other things such as tuition.

(cont. page 3)

Tournament of Roses Announces 2009 Rose Queen

By Bill Coburn

The Pasadena Tournament of Roses announced today that Courtney Lee will serve as the 91st Queen of the Tournament of Roses, on a gorgeous blue sky day reminiscent of the backdrop for so many of the annual New Year's Day parades that have made Southern California the envy of people the world over. More than 1,100 young women from the Pasadena area took part in the interview process that culminated in today's announcement by Tournament of Roses President Corky Conzonire, who stated that "The Tournament of Roses is delighted to name Courtney Lee as the 2009 Rose Queen. We are honored to have Queen Courtney and the six Rose Princesses as part of our Tournament of Roses family. We couldn't ask for more talented and graceful ambassadors for Pasadena, the Rose Parade, and Rose Bowl Game." Selections were based on a range of qualities including public speaking ability, poise, academic achievement, community involvement and personality.

Ms. Lee, 17, attends Arcadia High School. She is captain of the school's varsity volleyball team, president of the Senior Men and Women group, and is a committee member of the



Sierra Madre residdent Molly Novell (above) is a senior at LaSalle High School and is the daughter of Mark and Kathy Novell.

Photo by Dean Lee




Rounding out the court are Mary Gaule, 17, of Flintridge Sacred Heart Academy; Jasmine Jenkins, 17, also of La Salle High School; Bridget McDonald, 18, a student at Pasadena City College; Lauren Valenzuela, 17, of Arcadia High School; and Quinn Young, 16, La Canada High School. Photo By Bill Coburn

Inside The MountainViews-Observer This Week

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**VOTE BY MAIL
BALLOTS MUST
BE RECEIVED BY
OCTOBER 28th**

Methodist Hospital Foundation. Courtney also is a Girl Scout, and founded the youth philanthropy group, Teens Promoting Stroke Awareness. She hopes to attend USC, studying business and history. She enjoys many forms of dance, including traditional Chinese dancing, jazz and hip hop, and attending USC home football games. In fact, she had just gotten home from a recent Trojan game when her mom informed her that she had been named a finalist. Her parents are Andrew and Ulanda Lee. She has two siblings, Kristen, 19, and Preston, 15.

Standing alongside Chou and among the first to congratulate her was Sierra Madre resident Molly Novell, who was also among the seven members of the Rose Court announced on October 15th. Novell is a senior at La Salle High School and is the daughter of Mark and Kathy Novell. She also has two siblings, an older sister Kaitlin, and a younger brother, Michael. She is president of the Rotary Club's Interact branch, a member of several other service groups, and is on both the water polo and swim teams. Molly hopes to study journalism in college. This is the second year in a row that a Sierra Madrean has been on the Rose Court, with Novell following in the footsteps of then Pasadena High student Katie Merrill. Merrill had also been a member of the 2007 Sierra Madre Rose Float Association Royal Court.

Support **SMWC's 501(C)3 Charities**

Sunday, November 2

11 am - 1 pm

Sierra Madre Woman's Club

550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd, Sierra Madre

Reprises Their Traditional

Chicken Pie Dinner

(or Vegetarian Alternate)

Come Enjoy Dinner in our 1914 Historic Essick House

Prepaid Tickets: **\$15**

Children Under 12: **\$8**

(not toddler equipped)



Reservations By:

12 Noon, Thu, Oct. 30

626-355-6225

"Sunday Walk-ins" - \$20 and \$10

Read The Paper Online At: www.mvobserver.com

Calendar & Arts

Weather Wise



5-Day Forecast Sierra Madre, Ca.

Mon: Sunny Hi 80s Lows 60s
Tues: Sunny Hi 80s Lows 60s
Wed: Sunny Hi 80s Lows 60s
Thur: Sunny Hi 80s Lows 60s
Fri: Sunny Hi 80s Lows 60s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

COLOSSAL RUMMAGE SALE


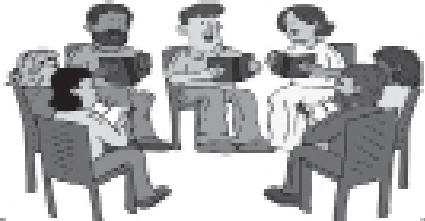



The semi-annual rummage sale, sponsored by the United Methodist Women, of the Sierra Madre United Methodist Church, will be held Saturday, November 1, 2008 from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm, at the church.

The church is located at 695 West Sierra Madre Blvd. in Sierra Madre.

Profits from this sale will be used to support the many ministries, local and nationwide, that the United Methodist Women sponsor.

Sale items will include adult clothing/shoes, craft stuff, children's clothing/toys/shoes, bathroom accessories, household items, books holiday fare, and much more.

Plenty of free parking off Michillinda Avenue (cross street is Sierra Madre Blvd).

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<h1>OCTOBER</h1>					3	4
					Best Used Book Sale at the Library Friday, 3-7pm, Saturday 10-2 pm	
				8 Arts Commission Meeting, Council Chambers, 6:30 pm		11 Poetry Reading at the Library, 3:00 pm
				15 Tree Advisory Commission Meeting Council Chambers 7:00 pm	16 Third Thursday Book Club, Library, 11:00 am Planning Commission Meeting, Council Chambers, 7:00 pm	18
				19	20 Community Services Commission Meeting Council Chambers 8:00 pm	21 Author Night at the Library, 7:00 pm
26				<div>Halloween is on Friday the 31st! Trick-or-Treat in the Business District!</div> 		

PROPOSITION FORUM

**Sponsored By
Sierra Madre Kiwanis
&
The League Of Women Voters
&
The MountainViews-Observer Newspaper**

Tuesday, October 28, 2008

Lunch 11:30

\$10 Non Members

Forum 12:30

Masonic Temple

33 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.

Sierra Madre, Ca.

Learn More About The Propositions and Initiatives on the November Ballot including Measure TT

Lunch Reservations Required

Susan- 626-355-0728

Five Kilo Youth Run

Get out and get active! The Pasadena Marathon is sponsoring a 5K run on November 16, 2008. Training runs for this race will be held at Sierra Vista Park in front of the Youth Activity Center. Training runs will start this Sunday at 4:00pm.



Silent Cinema For All Ages

This October, offerings for our Sunday Silent film night will be three comedic short films. The first is a film from the famed duo of Laurel and Hardy called "Two Tars". Stan and Oliver play two sailors on leave and have, again, managed to get into another fine mess involving a 1928 version of a traffic jam. The roads were hazardous even then! The Buster Keaton classics "The Boat" (1921), features a handmade boat that is too large to be removed from the cellar where it was built and "The Blacksmith" (1922) which chronicles the demise of a new Rolls-Royce and the ruin of the blacksmith's business.

The films will be run on October 26 at 6:30 PM at the Sierra Madre Masonic Temple, 33 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre. Again, we are fortunate to have the incomparable Bob Mitchell play the Wurlitzer organ to accompany these three silent classics. Mr. Mitchell will celebrate his 96th birthday two weeks before this performance.

The tickets are a \$20 donation. Tickets will be available at Savor the Flavor, Kersting Court and Arnold's Hardware on Sierra Madre Blvd. or call (626) 355-8129. All proceeds go towards the publication of the new history of Sierra Madre, a project soon to be completed by the Society.

Popcorn and beverages will be provided by the Society. Please call (626) 355-8129 if you have questions.

MountainViews-Observer



**If You Dare, Bring The Kiddies By
The MountainViews-Observer Haunted
House On Halloween.....If You Dare!
Follow The Signs to 31 E. Montecito**

Art on Palm

Browse for unique gifts or just relax in Altadena's Secluded Canyon
Refreshments • Saturday, November 1st, 2008 • 9:00 to 4:30

Saturday, November 1st, 9:00 - 4:30

1419 E. Palm Street, Altadena

Ceramics, glass, fabric, painting, collage, woodworking, photography and jewelry by 30 attending artists, with refreshments

Huntington Library Excursion

Join the Arts Commission on a 90-minute walking tour of the Chinese Garden at the Huntington Library. The excursion departs from the Recreation Center on Saturday, November 1, 2008 at 10:00 am. The cost of the trip is \$25.00 per person and reservations must be made prior to the trip. For more information contact 626-355-7394.

Not So Freaky Friday

**Friday, October 31
Bethany's Lawn
93 N. Baldwin Ave.
For Our Community!**

All Ages!

Schedule of Events:

4:30 - Trunk or Treating

Candy For All

5:30 - Chili Cook-Off and dinner (\$3)

**- entrants call:
355-1403 ext. 1613**

**7:00 - Wallace and Gromit:
Curse of the Were-Rabbit
(front lawn)**

More info: www.bethanyfamily.com or 355-1403

Sponsored by Bethany Church and Bethany Christian School



November

7, 8, 9

**More than 70 Artists
Artist Demonstrations**

Opening Night

Friday 7-9 pm

Erika Oller signing her new book & calendars, music & refreshments

Show continues:

Saturday 10-6 pm

Sunday 11-5 pm

**Featuring the work of
Southern California Artists**

108 N. Baldwin Ave., Sierra Madre

210 freeway to Baldwin exit. North 1 mile
Rain? No problem, inside show

**Creative Arts Group
Presents**

Annual Art Festival



*at the Ghost's Inn some corners
should not be turned*

Sun, Oct 26th at 4pm

\$37⁵⁰ show and full-course tea service

Five Tea Sandwiches
Freshly Baked Scone with
Cream & Jam and
3 Desserts

10% Off With This Ad

**The Four Seasons Tea Room
75 N. Baldwin Ave.
Sierra Madre**

626 355 0045

www.4seasonstearoom.com
gypsytheater.com

SMRFA's Annual Bingo A Big Winner
Fundraiser One Of Many To Support SM Rose Float



Players seriously scrutinize their cards at Rose Float Associations Legendary Bingo Night. Photo By Dean Lee

Give A Gift That Keeps Giving!
Buy A SMRFA Coupon Book!

Dine. Shop. Travel. Save! This is really a perfect gift. The localized Entertainment Book is a paperback which contains coupons and discounts to local restaurants, entertainment venues, retail shops, rental cars, sporting events, and vacation deals and more. For a small contribution, you can get a book that will save you hundreds! Don't want the San Gabriel Valley Book? You can purchase one for almost any area. Call 626-355-7005 for more info.

ALVERNO (cont. from page 3)

The money from filming is used in the same way she said. With the exception of one or two people all the complaints were about noise, traffic, loitering and littering if the school were to expand. Those that lived next to the school said after a typical large wedding, beer bottles and trash were left in their yards. Some asked why alcohol was allowed at all or even sold on a high school campus. Residents also asked about enforcement asking why the school used the city's police and not private security during weddings. Development Services Director Danny Castro said the city was doing a sound study for the area. He also said the Master Plan was in the very early stages of development. "That's what we are doing here tonight," he

said. "As we take input comments will be used as part of the study." More than a few resident said they have had issues with film crews. In one case a resident said he hired carpet cleaners, took off work so they could clean his carpets, only to have a filming crew tell the cleaners to leave. Others said a number of times their gardeners have been asked to stop mowing the lawn or running a leaf blower by movie crews. Some said they had even been paid money to stop. Other residents have lived in the area for years without complaints or incidents. Postcards about the meeting were mailed to residents within a 300 yard radius from the school which includes some Pasadena residents. A number of Pasadena residents in Upper Hastings Ranch asked what rights they had not living in the city.

Aguilar assured them that they were treated the same as Sierra Madre residents and encouraged to attend any future meetings of which she said there would be many. Gillick also said the school planned to keep everyone informed of the development progress as well. Alverno has already had a number of public meetings on the expansion according to residents. It was also said that the school has been trying to make the improvements for the last 10 years. Alverno is an all girls college-prep school on Michillinda on the site of the historic Villa del Sol d'Oro which was built in 1924. After serving as a noviate for the Sisters of St. Francis, the Alverno Heights Academy graduated its first class on the Terrace in 1964. The name was changed to Alverno High School in the early 1970's. The school currently has an enrollment of approximately 300 students.

Duarte

Anti-Drug Student March Kicks Off Red Ribbon Week in Duarte Oct. 27-31

Teens from the Duarte Area Resource Team (D.A.R.T.) volunteer group will march and tie red ribbons on trees and poles along Huntington Drive on Monday, Oct. 27 to kick off a week of activities in the city and Duarte schools aimed at encouraging a healthy, drug-free lifestyle. The Duarte City Council has proclaimed October 27-31 Red Ribbon Week in the City of Duarte, and encourages all citizens of Duarte to participate in drug awareness activities. This year's theme "Elect to be Drug Free! Vote for a Drug Free Life!" will be taught at the Duarte Schools the last week of October. The Duarte Public Safety Department and the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department will team up with Duarte schools to educate the community's youth of the dangers of drugs. Classroom poster contests will be held at each of Duarte elementary schools. Each winning classroom will receive an ice cream party hosted by School Resource Deputy Robert MacLean. Northview Intermediate School will promote a Red Ribbon Week essay and poster contest. Four students will each receive a student savings account. Mount Olive High School and Duarte High School will have an art contest where one winner per high school will receive an Apple i-Pod. In her award-winning essay last year, Northview Intermediate student Olivia Anne Lewis noted: "Red Ribbon Week is not only about one week when we say no to drugs, but it is about a lifetime of helping people believe in themselves, help achieve goals and obtain success. There are real reasons people take drugs, and real problems they try to solve with drugs. We all need to help them because if one person can make a difference, imagine what all of us could do together." Since 1985, communities nationwide have participated in Red Ribbon Week anti-drug campaign activities to educate youth and the public-at-large about the dangers of drug abuse and to commemorate the ultimate sacrifice made by DEA Special Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, who died at the hands of drug traffickers in Mexico while fighting the battle against illegal drugs. For more information about Duarte's Red Ribbon Week activities, call Duarte Public Safety Crime Prevention Specialist Aida Torres at (626) 359-5671, ext. 316.

Pasadena

ONE COLORADO STORE-TO-STORE TRICK-OR-TREATING -- JUST FOR KIDS!

Bring your little goblins for a happy Halloween of trick-or-treating at One Colorado on Friday, October 31 from 4:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. Young ghosts, witches & other creepy critters are invited to go store-to-store for Halloween treats supplied by area shops & restaurants. This trick-or-treating event is timed to appeal to young children (accompanied by adults) before it gets too late in the evening. Kids will experience a fun atmosphere, with hundreds of harvest pumpkins decorating the public Courtyard and pedestrian alleys. Trick-or-treating at One Colorado is free and open to the public. One Colorado spans one city block in the heart of Old Pasadena. This popular shopping and entertainment destination combines historic architecture with 25 contemporary fashion and dining attractions situated among a network of pedestrian alleys and a lively central Courtyard. Currently on show in the Courtyard is Yoko Ono's Wish Tree for Pasadena through November 9.

One Colorado is located on Colorado Boulevard between Fair Oaks Avenue, Union Street and DeLacey Avenue. Convenient parking is located in the adjacent multi-level structure at Fair Oaks and Union. www.onecolorado.com

Sierra Madre Kiwanis To Host
Ballot Issues Forum

The Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club, in conjunction with the League of Women Voters and The MountainViews-Observer, will sponsor a forum about the Propositions and Initiatives on the November 3,2008 General Election Ballot. The public is invited to attend and learn more about these important issues. Speakers will provide objective information about both sides of each issue to help voters understand their choices. The forum will be on Tuesday, October 28 at 11:30, at the Masonic Temple, 33 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Lunch will be available for \$10 per person; reservations for lunch are positively required. To confirm lunch reservations please call Kiwanis President Harriet Lyle at 355-6786 or Susan Henderson at 355-0728. **The deadline for reservations is noon on Monday, October 27.** Guests may also attend just the forum (without lunch), but seating may be limited. Don't miss this valuable opportunity to learn how to navigate this elections maze of issues that could affect your life. The forum will begin promptly at 12:30.

Sierra Madre Woman's Club 32nd Annual
Community Prayer Breakfast.
Wednesday, November 19, from 8 to 9 a.m.
550 West Sierra Madre Blvd. - Sierra Madre
Reservations REQUIRED to Dixie Coutant, dixie@coutant.com or 355-4908

Sierra Madre Kiwanis Donates Books to Averno High

The Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club recently made a cash donation to Alverno High School, for the purchase of new textbooks. According to Alverno teacher Sandy Bogan, the school used the Paul Magaris Community Service grant to buy new Spanish Level I Expresate textbooks. Sandy commented "We are all enjoying the new books, and here's a photo of our students showing them off."



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DRINKER'S HALL OF FAME



Now Offering All Of Your Football Favorites ALL WEEK LONG!

Great Drinks, Great Snacks, Great Prices.
Great Company In A Cozy Atmosphere.

Join Us Every Weekend!

Hours: 6 a.m.—2 a.m. daily
151 E. Huntington, Arcadia (626) 447-3947

BOSTON COURT THEATRE PRESENTS THE WORLD PREMIERE

This unpredictably hilarious story (based on true events) depicts the double-talk and double-cross in the pursuit of double-stranded DNA.

The Sequence

By Paul Mullin
Directed by John Langs

LA WEEKLY •PICK OF THE WEEK•
"In a very pleasing twist of expectations, some fiercely human, comic moments make for breathtaking dramatic tension... Mullin's often outlandish explanations of the subject make for **FASCINATING RAPID-FIRE ENTERTAINMENT.**"
-Tom Provenzano, LA Weekly

\$5 OFF! Enter code: MVO

THURSDAYS - SATURDAYS @ 8 PM • SUNDAYS @ 2 PM

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BOSTON COURT PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

70 N. MENTOR AVE in PASADENA
North of Colorado, East of Lake Ave
FREE ON-SITE PARKING

MountainViews-Observer Pasadena Altadena

News From Your Community For Your Community

This Week in Photos

All photos by Dean Lee



Congressman Adam Schiff, pictured far right, (D-CA 29th) took questions and answers Thursday at Pasadena City College. Schiff said he was not at all surprised at the large number of students concerned about the collapsing economy and their futures. He told the crowd of well over a 100 students that Barack Obama was other only candidate talking about higher education. He said Obama wants to give every student a \$4,000 tax credit. Schiff said this would essentially make all community colleges free.



A two car crash early Sunday morning shut the 210 freeway down. The driver of one of the vehicles, pictured far left, was transported to a nearby hospital. Cars could be seen backing down the San Gabriel Boulevard onramp blocking energy vehicles trying to get to the scene. CHP officers finally cleared the area a few minuetes later.

Residents File Federal Complaint Against Dorn Platz

By Dean Lee

A community coalition has now called on the FBI to investigate developer Dorn Platz over the possibility that the real estate company inflated assets to receive large bank loans and federal revitalization money for the Lincoln Crossing project to improve West Altadena.

According to sources, an organized group of frustrated Altadena residents filed a complaint calling for an investigation with the FBI field office in Los Angeles two weeks ago.

"Fraudulently claiming a cash flow that you don't have in order to secure a bank loan could be considered to some people to be a crime," said former Town Councilman Steve Lamb. He also said they could be charged under the US Federal Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO).

Lamb said they were asking for the investigation after finding out the California Department of Real Estate had asked Donald Platz one of the founders of Dorn Platz & Co to surrender his broker's license. He had been under investigation for allegedly moving money around to make it look as though the company had more money than they did.

Laura Eimiller A spokesperson for the FBI said they do not deny or confirm investigations. "That's pretty much a policy," she said.

Eimiller explained that investigations usually do not become public unless there has been an arrest or a search warrant has been issued. "Unless it becomes a case of public safety," she said.

She added that if someone does call them or complains with allegations that a federal law has been broken, it is reviewed by the appropriate personnel.

"We have various employees that specialize, whether it's fraud, bank robbery, terrorism or whatever that would fall under our perview," she said.

Lamb also said they wanted to look at the whole company and not just the Lincoln Crossing Project. Dorn-Platz President Greg Galletly does not have a current broker's license according to California Department of Real Estate.

Galletly was unavailable for comment Thursday.

"There seems to be a pattern," Lamb said. "If you look at their projects in Glendale, if you look at the project in Oregon, Arcadia or here they seem to follow a pattern of securing financing and not completely paying contractors."

He also said they found a pattern of behavior in projects where Dorn Platz would just put up the walls, floors, plumbing and electrical and then move in local businesses, only to replace them with larger chain stores.

"Local businesses that participate with them end up doing a large amount of the tenant improvements, which in this case [Lincoln Crossing] seems to be completing the buildings," he added.

Dorn Platz which has lost control of its two Sierra Madre projects, One Carter and Stonehouse, has been plagued with financial problems and lawsuits. The company was also sued in June in Oregon over nonpayment of contractors on a city project, the Round, in Beaverton. According to reports, the judgment was to collect \$857,082.53 in past due heating and cooling payments. Dorn Platz is also facing foreclosure for undeveloped parcels at The Round.



Pasadena City College tuba players performed Tuesday as the PCC marching band welcomed this year's 91st Rose Queen with lots of festive music. Chou Lee of Arcadia was selected as queen during a brief 10 minute ceremony. Lee will attend about 150 community events over the next year. The queen is chosen for their abilities, including public speaking and community involvement.



Both, no on Proposition 8 and yes on Prop 8 supporters clashed in the quad at Pasadena City College Thursday. Police, not pictured, stood only yards away watching to make sure the demonstration stayed peaceful. Students from the school's United Rainbow Alliance club have been very vocal over Prop 8. Just to days earlier they held another rally to defeat it that drew about 30 people. Proposition 8, if passed, would constitutionally ban same-sex marriage. The Rainbow Alliance is a gay rights organization.

Economy Won't Affect Parade



This year's Tournament of Roses President, Ronald Conzonire (Corky) said Tuesday that the troubled economy will not affect the 120th Rose Parade. In fact, he said just the opposite that he hopes the parade will get minds off of it.

"What's really nice is the fact that at least on that day we have America's celebration," he said. "Everybody will be taking their minds off of it and be having a happy time, So I think the parade really serves a purpose."

Conzonire said all the arrangements are done ahead of time, "everything has been paid for by now," he said. This year's theme is Hats Off To Entertainment. As a coincidence Conzonire is the Chairman of the Board for the C&J Food Company, which owns and operates 10 "The Hat" restaurants in Southern California. He has owned the business since 1981.

Volunteers Needed At Pasadena City Hall For Holiday Season

Pasadena City Hall is recruiting volunteers for the upcoming holiday season, its busiest time of the year.

Helpful, friendly people are needed in the information booth at 100 N. Garfield Ave. New volunteers are trained to assist customers and tourists in finding their way to city government offices, arts and cultural institutions, restaurants and more.

Each new volunteer is trained by a seasoned volunteer and works a morning or afternoon shift once a week. Please call (626) 744-4748 for more information.

Descanso Hosts Two-Day Pumpkin Roundup

Descanso Gardens promises acres of family fun in a beautiful autumn landscape during its Pumpkin Roundup festival on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 25 & 26. The fun includes:

Boom Town! at Van de Kamp Hall: A one-stop destination for the entire family where visitors can buy and decorate a pumpkin at the Pumpkin Decoratin'



Station; see honeybees up close and learn all about them from the Los Angeles Beekeepers Association; buy some delicious grub from Patina's Chuck Wagon Chili Station, and purchase one-of-a-kind handmade items from Descanso Gardens Craft Volunteers.

Costume Parade—10 and 11 a.m. A grand procession through the Gardens where visitors become part of a festive parade. A trick roper leads the way. Bring your cameras.

Jeepers Creepers—Descanso Creatures! A crossword activity puzzle that's a fun way for children and their families



to discover the Gardens' seasonal surprises. Puzzles are available at Boom Town! and Descanso's courtyard kiosk. The puzzle was created by the late children's book author Sue Alexander, who worked closely with Descanso Gardens to create this unique, reading-centered activity. Her many titles include "Who Goes Out on Halloween?" "Witch, Goblin and Sometimes Ghost," "Small Plays for Special Days," and "Behold the Trees."

"Rodeo" Dance Performance—2 p.m. Talented members of the California Theatrical Youth Ballet dance perform a child-friendly version of Aaron Copland's ballet score "Rodeo."

Antique Farm Tractor Display—9 to 4 p.m. A quaint collection of lovingly restored and running vintage farm tractors by the Topa Topa Flywheelers Club.

Enchanted Railroad—10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Descanso's 1/8th replica of a diesel train, \$3 a ride.

Descanso Gardens is at 1418 Descanso Drive, La

Cañada Flintridge, near the interchange of the 2 and 210 freeways. The Gardens are open 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily except Christmas Day. Parking is free. Admission fees are \$8 for adults; \$6 for seniors and students; \$3 for children 5 to 12, and free for



members and children 5 and younger. Fees for classes and programs include Gardens admission. For information call (818) 949-4200 or visit www.descansogardens.org. Descanso Gardens is accredited by the American Association of Museums.



Environmentally Speaking, Did You Know? Low-Impact Trick-or-Treating

By Pat Birdsall

This Halloween, as parents gear up to decorate kids' scary makeup and gruesome masks, the last thing you want to worry about is what all that stuff is made of. Toy stores are filled with makeup kits that will make even the fakest of blood and bruises look convincing, but the ingredients aren't always listed on the packages and they aren't always wholesome. Many contain hormone-disrupting paraben preservatives and phthalates (used in synthetic fragrances). Just because it says "non-toxic" or "safe for children" doesn't mean much since these are unregulated claims.

Instead, head to a natural products store and splurge on adult cosmetics made with plant-based ingredients. Draw whiskers and the like with natural eyeliner, and use a variety of red, brown and orange lip glosses for fake bruises. Don't let the added cost scare you; just use the cosmetics sparingly on your kids and save the rest for yourself. If your fairy or vampire relentlessly requests painted nails, use a water-based version that doesn't contain DBP, formaldehyde, or toluene, and remove as soon as possible.

As for the fake teeth, get the lip gloss out again. Last Halloween, a University of Ohio team found dangerous levels of lead in fake plastic "ugly" teeth meant to be put directly in young mouths.

Costumes pose less of a health problem. Still, the best option is to make an outfit yourself that won't be tossed after one use. Don't sell yourself short, you can do it.... Use your imagination!

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* We meet on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Park House (Senior Center) in Hart Memorial Park, 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. - Please join us- Your thoughts and comments are welcome...



Fire Safe Council "Announcements and Observations"

Our next Fire Safe Council meeting will be November 3, 2008 at 7 p.m. in the City Council chambers. We will be preparing for the Great Southern California Shake Out, November 13, 2008, at 10 a.m.

What level of preparation are you at right now? If the earthquake evacuation kit, located in your car, is not equipt to keep you functioning for 7-10 days in an emergency then you are one of the many that Cal Tech's seismologist Lucy Jones refers to as those "who prepare the day after" the earthquake.

Think back to July 29, 2008, 11 a.m., the day of the recent Chino Hills earthquake. Where were you? What if you had to stay at that location for the next 7-10 days. How would you have functioned?

Throughout the week of November 10-14 there will be earthquake related seminars throughout Los Angeles County which you can access through: www.shakeout.org/drill Call Sierra Madre Fire Safe Council, 355-0741, for information.

Sierra Madre Police Blotter

During the week of Sunday, October 12th to Saturday, October 18th, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 246 calls for service.

Sunday, October 12th:

1:13 PM - Theft, 500 block Ramona Ave. Between 8:30 PM on 10-11-2008 and 1:00 PM on 10-12-2008, unknown suspect(s) took a light from the front of the victim's home. The total amount of property lost was valued at \$17.00.

Monday, October 13th

9:41 PM- Auto Theft, 200 block of East Highland Ave. Between 8:30 AM and 8:30 PM, unknown suspect(s) took the victim's 1989 Ford F-350 from the front of the victim's home.

11:42 PM- Vandalism, 700 block of West Alegria. Officers responded to the above location regarding a possible vehicle burglary in progress. Pasadena PD detained the suspects 1 block west of the location. Investigation revealed there was no property taken from the car. Two suspects were subsequently arrested for vandalism.

Tuesday, October 14th:

1:30 PM- Vandalism, 00 block of Montecito Court. At 1:30 PM, construction workers noticed unknown suspect(s) spray painted

on several walls of a house. Total amount of property damage is unknown and the actual time when the crime occurred is unknown.

Wednesday, October 15th:

9:32 PM- Arrest, Sierra Madre Blvd. East of Michillinda Ave. A motorist was stopped for a traffic violation. Investigation revealed the driver was unlicensed. During a vehicle search, marijuana was located. The motorist was cited and released on a written promise to appear in court.

Thursday, October 16th:

2:15 AM- Arrest, Michillinda Avenue and 210 Freeway. A motorist was stopped for a moving violation. Investigation revealed the driver was driving under the influence of alcohol. The driver was booked at Pasadena Jail.

9:15AM- Arrest, Lima Ave. and Ramona Ave. Officers stopped a man drinking alcohol in public. It was determined the mslr was unable to care for himself and he was arrested. The male was booked at the Pasadena Jail..

Friday, October 17th:

10:16 AM- Vandalism, 400 block of Auburn Ave. Victim reports her mailbox being removed from the post sometime during the night. No suspects were seen or heard.

Arcadia Police Blotter

For the period of Sunday, October 12, through Saturday, October 18, the Police Department responded to 1,018 calls for service of which 125 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

Sunday, October 12:

Units responded to the 1600 block of Old Oak around 2:14 a.m. in reference to a reckless driver who had collided with a mailbox. The car was found with front-end damage and the rear passenger wheel was missing. A 24-year-old male driver was contacted and officers detected the odor of an alcoholic beverage on his breath and person. A field sobriety test was conducted and it was determined that the driver was operating the vehicle while under the influence, so he was arrested at the scene.

A traffic stop was conducted at Santa Anita and Live Oak around 7:13 p.m. for an expired registration and there was also a warrant attached to the license plate. A 47-year-old female driver was contacted and a record check revealed that she did indeed have an outstanding misdemeanor warrant. A consent search of the vehicle was made and a baggie containing a crystalline substance resembling methamphetamine was found. The woman was taken into custody for possession of a controlled substance and outstanding warrant.

Monday, October 13:

Between 10:30 p.m. on October 12 and 6:45 a.m. on October 13, a residential burglary occurred in the 1100 block of West Duarte. Unknown suspect(s) entered the underground parking structure by cutting a hole in a metal screen door. The suspect(s) then took a grandfather clock and nightstand for a total reported loss of \$1,600.

A grand theft occurred at the Westfield mall parking lot between 4:00 p.m. and 6:20 p.m. Unknown suspect(s) entered the unlocked vehicle and stole a laptop computer, cash, and camera for a reported loss of \$2,330.

Tuesday, October 14:

Two auto burglaries occurred at Bekins, 12318 Lower Azusa, between 7:00 a.m. on October 13 and 12:30 a.m. on October 14. Unknown suspect(s) smashed the windows of the vehicles and took miscellaneous property.

Around 7:42 a.m., units were dispatched to the 100 block of Kari in reference to a vandalism report. Unknown suspect(s) placed a small incendiary device in a mailbox at the location and the device exploded around 8:00 p.m. on October 13, causing moderate damage to the mailbox.

Wednesday, October 15:

Between 10:00 p.m. on October 14 and 12:44 a.m. on October 15, a commercial burglary occurred at Tony's Liquor, 809 West Huntington. Unknown

suspect(s) entered the business by shattering a window with a brick. The suspect(s) then stole lottery scratcher tickets and a carton of cigarettes.

Officers responded to Foothill Federal Credit Union, 30 South First, around 10:17 a.m. regarding a fraud report. An unknown suspect used the victim's stolen driver's license to make a \$400 unauthorized withdrawal from the victim's savings account.

Thursday, October 16:

Around 11:17 a.m., units were called to the 1000 block of Catalpa in reference to a fraud report. Unknown suspect(s) gained access to the victim's gas credit card information by unknown means and made over \$1,500 in unauthorized gasoline purchases.

Shortly after 7:00 p.m., officers were dispatched to the 00 block of West Sycamore regarding a cruelty to animal case. A dog was left in the backyard between 10:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. When the owner returned home, she found that her dog was unable to walk. A visit to a veterinarian revealed that the dog had been shot with a "BB" metal projectile.

Friday, October 17:

An intoxicated 48-year-old male suspect was arrested in the 400 block of South Santa Anita around 12:04 a.m. for inflicting corporal injury to his wife. He apparently assaulted his wife during an argument and his juvenile sons had to intercede and called police. An emergency protective order was obtained.

Around 1:33 a.m., security personnel from Bar Twist, 48 East Huntington, advised that they had detained a man for fighting and pepper spray was used. The 30-year-old was intoxicated and belligerent, and he refused medical treatment at the scene and at the hospital. Upon arrival at City jail, he was combative and non-compliant and the Taser was deployed. The man was charged with disorderly conduct/drunken public and obstructing/resisting.

Saturday, October 18:

A residential burglary occurred in the 800 block of Coronado between 2:35 p.m. and 3:40 p.m. Unknown suspect(s) removed a screen and entered the house through an open window. The suspect(s) stole jewelry and miscellaneous electronic equipment for a total reported loss of about \$9,000.

Shortly before 6:00 p.m., units responded to Ralphs, 211 East Foothill, regarding a woman detained for theft. Loss prevention personnel advised that the woman was seen concealing hair products, over-the-counter drugs, and teeth whitening strips in her purse. A record check revealed that she had a previous conviction with time served for petty theft and she was also on active parole for possession for sales. A private person's arrest was made, and the 32-year-old was charged with petty theft with prior conviction and felony parole violation.

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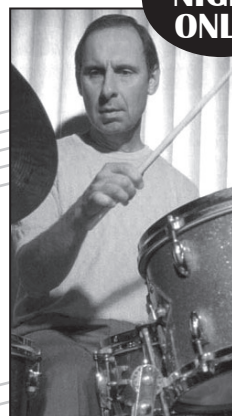


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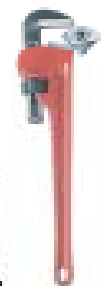
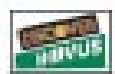
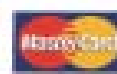
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Girl Scout Science Festival Focuses on Emergency Preparedness and Earth Sciences

Girl Scouts of all ages explored the wonders of science and technology on Sunday, Oct. 19, at Girl Scouts – Mt. Wilson Vista Council's second annual Family Science Festival. Nearly 1,000 Girl Scouts were in attendance at the event that was held at Pasadena City College.

This year's event focused on emergency preparedness and the wonders of planet earth. Girls participated in numerous hands-on activities related to science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). NASA/JPL Urban Search and Rescue, the Side Walk Astronomers, California Science Center, Monrovia Rockhounds, Pasadena Fire Department, Montrose Search & Rescue, Huntington Hospital, Los Angeles County Department of Forestry, Pasadena Water & Power, and Sierra Madre Search & Rescue were among the participating booth exhibitors. Girl Scout troops also sponsored activities.

In keeping with the event's theme, Mt. Wilson Vista Council welcomed Dr. Morgan Page from the United States Geological Survey (USGS) as the keynote speaker. Dr. Page, who currently studies earthquake statistics at the U.S. Geological Survey in Pasadena, shared her expertise and research on the dynamic world of earthquakes, including how they occur and how scientists have used earthquakes to learn more about the earth. She also talked about what a 7.8-magnitude earthquake would be like in Los Angeles and how we can prepare for earthquakes.

Plus, the Mt. Wilson Vista Council Robotics Teams were on hand to demonstrate how their skills in engineering and math combine with creativity and teamwork in a unique program. The teams, which include Girl Scouts from throughout Los Angeles County, will take part in regional competitions later this year.

The science festival was created to engage girls' interest and potential in the STEM-related fields, areas that girls tend to steer away from due to academic stereotypes and social environments. Girl Scouts has over a 95-year tradition of encouraging girls to explore and enjoy STEM topics.

Girl Scouts – Mt. Wilson Vista Council serves more than 9,000 girls and young women, ages five to 17, throughout the San Gabriel Valley. The council is chartered by Girl Scouts of the USA, the world's preeminent organization for girls. Today, as when founded in 1912, Girl Scouts builds girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place. For more information on how to register your daughter, volunteer your time or donate to the Girl Scouts, call (626) 445-7771 or visit the GSMWVC Web site at www.gsmwvc.org.



Learning a New Lingo

This semester, I am taking Spanish 1a at my high school. I've found that Spanish really isn't a complicated language; that knowing English alone can help you get the gist of what is being said. I must admit, I was a little fearful when it came to pronunciations, but, like with anything, practice makes "perfecto". I also realized this semester that I'm not the only one trying to learn a foreign language. Many adults and parents are trying to understand the foreign language composed mostly of acronyms: the "text talk".

Thanks to its use in numerous commercials, TV shows, MySpace, texting, and just plain word of mouth, generally everyone knows of the phrase "OMG (Oh My God)". This is said probably around 5 times a day by any teenager girl when anything out of the ordinary occurs. This could include a pop quiz in class, a shirt that's on sale, and is just about always the starter of the latest gossip. Other popular sayings include "ily" (I love you), "ttyl" (talk to you later), and the infamous "LOL" (laugh out loud...although I've found when people text it, no one's usually ever really laughing). Hearing these acronyms

alone, I'm sure parents and adults can get the gist of the "convo". But the acronyms get even longer and more complicated than that.

If you texted someone a joke and they replied with "LSHMBH", what would you think? Would you be offended? Confused? Even knowing plain English couldn't help you figure out that they were saying they're "laughing so hard my belly hurts". At times, I even find myself confused with complicated phrases like "LYLAS" (love you like a sis) and "AFAIAA" (as far as I am aware). So what do you do when you're stuck? How do you learn this foreign language? You could sit and think about all the possible word choices, or you could look it up on urbandictionary.com (or you could just ask your friend who texted you).

Urbandictionary.com is a web-based dictionary of "slang words and phrases that documents the language of urban cultures and subcultures". Type in any unfamiliar acronym and you'll get about 5 definitions of what it means and how to use it in context. Problem solved. But what do you do when there's no "computadora" around to save the day? Well, you could always call them and have them say it the old-fashioned way.

THE OPERA BUFFS TO PRESENT FALL PERFORMERS SHOWCASE FEATURING YOUNG SINGERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

LOS ANGELES, Calif. Since its founding in 1983, The Opera Buffs Inc. has distributed more than \$600,000 in support to more than 600 singers just embarking upon their careers. Grants range from helping underwrite the cost of lessons to defraying the expense of a new gown or suit for an important audition or recital.

But as the Opera Buffs' 2008 Fall Performers Showcase on November 8 illustrates, the nonprofit organization provides more than financial assistance. It offers talented young singers an invaluable opportunity – to perform and be heard.

This year's Fall Showcase presentation – which will take place at the Colburn School's Zipper Concert Hall in Los Angeles at 2:30 p.m., under the direction of Music Director Mona Lands and Stage Director Michael Van Duzer – will introduce Los Angeles-area music lovers to six singers from around the globe. On stage that afternoon are: Joanna Foote, soprano, from New Zealand; Xiaobo Su, soprano, from China; Tracy Cox, mezzo soprano, from the United States; Liam McLachlan, tenor, from Australia; Joseph Lim, baritone, from Korea; and Caleb Barnes, a 17-year old countertenor from the United States.

"We're very excited to be presenting

these six very talented performers in a special program of opera scenes and song," says Board Member Lynne Mitchell, chairman of the event. "We hope as many members of the community as possible will join us at the Fall Showcase to show their support for opera's next generation of stars."

"The achievements of the young vocalists we've assisted – our 'Opera Buffs' Scholars' – are phenomenal," adds David Alan Gibb, President of the Board of Directors. "In so many cases, the 'kids' we've heard first as undergraduates just beginning their careers have matured vocally and artistically into world-class professionals. Southern California singers are now singing on the major opera stages throughout the United States and around the globe."

Every year, the Opera Buffs raises \$40,000 to \$60,000, primarily from membership dues. Grants are awarded directly to singers, based on their financial needs and the purposes for which the funds are requested. Singers who participate in Performers Showcase events receive honoraria as well, plus invaluable experience working with other singers in staged scenes before an audience.

The organization's generosity does not stop here, however. It contributes to organi-

zations that share its commitment to nurturing young singers. These range from regional vocal competitions like the Metropolitan Opera Western Region Auditions and Loren L. Zachary Society Vocal Competition and to academic and performance institutions – including USC, UCLA and Los Angeles Opera – that utilize young singers in their productions.

Tickets for the Fall Showcase cost \$25 for nonmembers and are available by calling 818.790.2171 or visiting the Opera Buffs website at www.operabuffs.org. Zipper Concert Hall is located at 200 South Grand Avenue in Los Angeles, with parking across the street at Walt Disney Concert Hall.

The Opera Buffs Inc. plays a leading role in nurturing and supporting talented young Southern California opera singers and in furthering their careers. It believes that, of all musical instruments, the human voice is the most sublime and that helping the exceptionally talented artist reach the operatic stage is a mission worthy of the utmost effort and full dedication.

For more information about membership, upcoming events or the Opera Buffs' current roster of singers, visit www.operabuffs.org.

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PUSD Focuses On Student Fitness By Teresa Baxter

The Pasadena Unified School District is moving forward with measures to help students lead healthier lifestyles by promoting and setting goals regarding physical health. Recently, the Governing Board was given the latest results of a fitness test—called FITNESSGRAM—in a presentation by Ann Rector, the health programs coordinator for the district.

"FITNESSGRAM is a comprehensive fitness assessment battery that includes a variety of health related physical fitness tests designed to assess cardiovascular health, muscle strength, muscular endurance, flexibility and body composition," said Rector. "Criterion referenced standards associated with good health have been established for children and youth for each of the health and fitness related components."

Upon completion of the program each participant is given a report card that summarizes their performance on each component of health related fitness. Scores are then tabulated as meeting

the standard of falling in the "fitness zone", or not meeting the standard.

"Students can use FITNESSGRAM in planning their personal fitness program, while teachers can use it to determine student needs and help guide students in program planning," she said. "Parents can use it to help them understand their child's needs and plan a program of activity."

In 2008 fitness tests were administered to students in the 5th, 7th, and 9th grade with the goal of having all students passing at least five of the six standards of the assessment. Students in 9th grade who meet the standards may invoke the two year exemption which allows them to take their second year of physical education in any grade. Students who do not meet the standard may not exercise that option and

must continue in physical education courses until the standard is met.

Last year only 36 percent of 9th graders met the standards while this year's results reflected all grades, and showed an overall increase of 46 percent of PUSD students passing five of six of the standards.



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website: www.goodenschool.org

LaSalle High School

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(626) 351-8951 Principal: Patrick Bonacci
website: www.lasallehs.org

Monrovia High School

325 East Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016
(626) 471-2000, email: schools@monrovia.k12.ca.us

Norma Coombs Alternative School

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

Odyssey Charter School

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

Pasadena High School

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

Pasadena Unified School District

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

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322 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
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website: www.st-rita.org

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

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160 N. Canon Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
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Contact person: Garrett Newsom, Asst. Principal
E-mail address: gbluemel220@pusd.us

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Student Exchange Program

The Pasadena Sister Cities(PSCC) Armenia Sub-Committee is looking for applicants for their Pasadena/Vanadzor mutual student exchange program, the deadline for which this year is November 28, 2008.

PSCC's Armenia Sub-Committee has managed past student exchanges with positive results. High school students from Pasadena, sixteen and over, who spend time in Vanadzor, come back raving about the warm hospitality, family values and the cultural heritage of Armenia. Reciprocally, students from Armenia who visit Pasadena spend time with teachers, intern with professionals and live with American and locally established Armenian families, to get immersed in the local culture. This is a volunteer program where students pay their own travel fare but are housed and entertained by families in the host city. The exchange is managed from Pasadena through affiliates in Vanadzor, with a meticulous accounting of all expenses.

Exchange program students are the best ambassadors of goodwill to propagate the benefits of mutual visits. PSCC's Armenia Sub-Committee calls upon schools, residents and businesses in Pasadena, interested in sending students over, to contact amalson@sbcglobal.net, PSCC Student Coordinator, for information or applications.

Greetings

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MountainViews-Observer**Mission Statement**

The traditions of the community newspaper and the concerns of our readers are this newspaper's top priorities. We support a prosperous community of well-informed citizens. We hold in high regard the values of the exceptional quality of life in our community, including the magnificence of our natural resources. Integrity will be our guide.

**Something To Think About***Commentary from Susan Henderson***Getting Played****getting** (v): to be subjected to;
played – (v): to deal in a light, speculative, or sportive manner

As with every generation, the slang of the day often leaves the older crowd at a real disadvantage when it comes to understanding it. Many times, however, young people actually give us a simple expression that we need to take seriously. And so it is this day, for the under 30 bunch has given us the most descriptive expression of what is happening to the voting public today. We are 'getting played'.

Political consultants get paid millions of dollars each election cycle to 'play' us like a badly tuned fiddle. They pull out all the stops to keep us in the dark with our emotions on edge, our nerves raw and our insecurities heightened. And you would think that these revered gurus would not be interested in such behavior. You would think that their goal would be to educate us about their candidate and persuade us via truthful and honorable methods to vote for their candidate. Not so. Their primary goal is to distract and destroy in such a convincing manner that we become reactive voters rather than proactive voters.

In about two weeks, we will choose a new President and many of us will rely on everything but the truth to make our decisions. Before election day, we will be subjected to some of the most outrageous lies....flat out lies....to keep our minds confused about what exactly is the truth and who exactly we should believe. Our conversations will be about the lies that are spewed forth, especially via the internet, rather than the facts that could help us make an intelligent decision about who would be the best president for this country. Yes, remember, we are supposed to be voting for the person we believe will be the best. Both candidates are qualified, the question is who is the best? But instead of researching the

facts and using our own common sense to make a decision, too many of us will be busy reacting to misinformation that is widely circulated. I've said it before, and I will say it again, we must choose our President based upon his ability to lead us out of this mess.

Times have changed much more than anyone over 50 could have ever imagined. Long gone is the day that we can just take at face value what is presented to us as truth. In the face of the internet, blogs, e-mails and robo-calls, it is quite conceivable that we will throw away our best choices based upon misinformation. Remember, just because it has been said out loud or circulated and passed on from "reliable sources", doesn't make it so.

What are we to do? Well, we can start by stopping the madness. Don't partake in the game of distract and destroy. Don't spread e-mails and other information unless you have verified it as being the truth. Don't make judgments based on what you hear without checking it out. Do your homework before you punch that card.

Just for your edification, I have included in this edition excerpts from a website called www.factcheck.org. You will find a list that distinguishes truth from lies and/or exaggerations regarding all of the candidates at the top of the ticket. I am certain you will recognize some things that you thought were true, that are not. It will give you a good indication as to how polluted campaigning has become.

Check your facts folks before we end up making the wrong choice at the wrong time.

Did You Know – Political Halloween Fact: When asked what their favorite Halloween costume was as a child, BOTH Obama & McCain said the same thing. Their favorite Halloween costume was when they were a PIRATE!

Just The Facts

The internet has been the breeding ground for spreading false information during thielection cycle. For your edification, here are a few examples of the type of information that is clouding voter's judgment today. From www.factcheck.org on all the candidates.

How many times did Obama vote 'present' as a state senator? *He did so 129 times, which represents a little more than 3 percent of his total votes.*

Did Sarah Palin make rape victims pay for their own rape kits? *Palin's police chief in Wasilla did that. Whether Palin supported this is not certain.*

What's the full story on the Bridge to Nowhere? *Palin supported it even after McCain denounced it, then blamed "inaccurate portrayals" when she canceled it for lack of money. Obama and Biden voted for the big transportation bill that contained it. McCain's vote was one of four against.*

Is Joe Biden refusing to pay a \$150,000 campaign debt? *Contrary to a claim in a chain e-mail, public records show Biden paid his debt to an air charter company in full, well before Obama tapped him for vice president. The accountant who wrote the e-mail now says it's "no..."*

Is McCain unable to use a computer because of war injuries? *He can type. But using a keyboard for long periods is uncomfortable for him. He says he's been an "illiterate" on a computer. But he says now he's learning to use the Internet.*

Did Sarah Palin sell the Alaska governor's jet on eBay? *The jet was placed on eBay for sale, but it wasn't purchased from the site. The plane was eventually sold through an aircraft broker to businessman Larry Reynolds for less than the asking price and the original cost.*

Does McCain want to ban "all" abortions? *He has said he favors a Constitutional amendment that would outlaw abortion. He would allow exceptions in cases of rape, incest or when the life of the mother is at stake.*

Did John McCain cheat on his first wife? *He courted his current wife, Cindy, for months before divorcing Carol Shepp in 1980. He recently called the breakup of his first marriage "my greatest moral failure." But Shepp has been quoted as saying "we are still friends."*

Did a Billy Graham team member say Obama should be defeated "to save America"? *No. The Billy Graham Evangelistic Association says a widely quoted anti-Obama screed wasn't written by anyone associated with the organization.*

Did Obama say we "are no longer a Christian nation"? *He said we are no longer "just" a Christian nation, but a nation of many other faiths as well. A chain e-mail drops that key word and thus changes the meaning.*

Did ABC News misrepresent which candidate troops in Iraq support, as a chain e-mail alleges? *No. The e-mail is bogus, and the major general to which it is attributed says he never wrote it.*

Did Obama snub U.S. troops in Afghanistan to shoot baskets for publicity pictures? *This is another viral e-mail falsehood. The author now says it's not true; the Army says it's not true; and video and photos show Obama shaking hands with troops and eating breakfast with them as well.*

Does a Maureen Dowd column cast suspicion on Obama's funding? *No. The column being disseminated under her name is a fraud. Historically, have vice presidential candidates really helped win states in the general election? Presidential nominees don't pick their running mates based on this strategy as often as one might think. Even when they do, the results are decidedly mixed.*

What is the average size of Obama's contributions and what is the average size of McCain's contributions? *We can't calculate a precise average for either candidate, but we can say that persons giving less than \$200 account for 47 percent of Obama's donations and 26 percent of McCain's.*

Does McCain have a perfect voting record according to veterans' groups? *Well, the two groups McCain cited at a recent town hall event don't even dole out ratings. He has received awards from those groups, however.*

Would Obama tax my profits if I sell my home? Would he tax my IRA? Would he tax my water? *No. A new e-mail being circulated about Obama's tax proposals is almost entirely false.*

Does Obama chair a Senate subcommittee that oversees the war in Afghanistan? *He chairs the Senate's Subcommittee on European Affairs, which has some oversight in Afghanistan through NATO.*

Is it true John McCain voted with George Bush 95 percent of the time? *Yes, it's true, according to Congressional Quarterly's assessment of McCain's voting record.*

Do the poor drive farther than the rich, as McCain claims? *No. McCain is wrong when he claims repeatedly that low-income people drive more. In fact, the affluent drive twice as many miles.*

Did Obama write that he would "stand with the Muslims" and that he nurses a "pervasive sense of grievance and animosity" toward whites? *No. A widely circulated e-mail fabricates some quotes from Obama's books and twists others.*

**Stuart Tolchin On..LIFE More News Before It Happens... Things Could Get Stranger**

In a surprise announcement just a few days prior to the scheduled election, Presidential candidate Senator John McCain unveiled another unprecedented surprise. Dwarfing the impact of his selection of former Alaska beauty queen turned Governor, Sarah Palin, McCain today unexpectedly announced that he intends to cast his vote for Senator Barrack Obama.

Former candidate McCain explained that he had been profoundly influenced by the Collin Powell endorsement of Barrack Obama. McCain's ardent supporters were shocked to hear the Senator state that, "after great soul searching, he had come to the realization that a man's most important asset is his integrity."

The Senator had to silence the chants of "Nobama" as he said publicly to a Fox News reporter "I cannot vote for a man like myself who would cynically select an inexperienced, barely educated, albeit inarguably seductive, running mate. I further must disassociate myself from individuals who would vote for a party that has presented no realistic programs or solutions. Instead this party and its supporters have consistently mouthed unsubstantiated criticisms and anti religious and racist innuendos. I am a better man than that. Furthermore, my friends, and you are my friends, and that includes you, Joe the plumber, I am worried about the state of our economy and as I told you long ago, I am no economist."

Senator Barrack Obama, when made aware of the McCain endorsement, stated that he was not surprised, "I always knew that John was a maverick".

In a related story, the America Psychological Association (APA) issued an advisory statement to the remaining ardent Republican supporters, that maintaining one's political loyalty in this election is not necessarily a sign of major psychosis but must be considered as a cry for help. The APA has issued a call to its professional membership to provide emergency services at crisis intervention centers, which will be made widely available on election day. Watch for news of available sites and times in your local newspaper.

Moving rapidly, Republican strategist Carl Rove, has explained that the withdrawal of Senator McCain invalidates the legality of the coming election. "An American election requires two candidates," he said. "If there is only one candidate, the election cannot go forward. Therefore, the Republican party has filed a lawsuit in the Supreme Court." In response to the lawsuit, it was announced by a Supreme Court spokesman today, that the election would have to be postponed for at least another four years. He explained that, since George W. Bush has already served eight years as President, he is no longer eligible to continue in that position. It is legally required, therefore, that the sitting Vice President be sworn into office as acting President until a decision can be rendered by the Court.

The incumbent, Vice President Cheney, soon to be Acting President, when questioned by newsmen as to his intentions, replied brusquely that his intentions were none of their business and it would be a violation of Executive Privilege to reveal his plans. He simply stated that Americans would know what would be done when he told them what to do. And if they didn't like it they could vote for a change in the next election, which may be held at some future date.

In an interesting turn of events, Sarah Palin has been spotted at a local WalMart buying an arsenal of weapons. "My husband was right," she said, "it's time to secede."

My name is Stuart Tolchin and I disapprove of this message.

**McCain and Obama Roast Each Other At Al Smith Dinner**

By Hail Hamilton

Once in a while politics becomes fun and funny.

John McCain and Barack Obama took a lighthearted break from campaigning Thursday at the Alfred E. Smith Memorial Foundation Dinner in New York City. In their exchange of jokes, they touched on some of the most quarrelsome issues in the campaign, from Bill Ayers to racial undertones to the media.

McCain, perhaps anticipating his date later on the David Letterman Show, was much more light-hearted and relaxed than he was during the previous night's debate, announcing that he had dismissed his entire team of senior advisers and was replacing them with one man: "a man named Joe the Plumber."

McCain poked fun at the adoration surrounding Obama when he quipped: "Maverick I can do but messiah is above my pay grade."

He also made light of the controversy surrounding his "that one" comment at the second debate when he said that it was simply his pet name for Obama:

"He doesn't mind at all. In fact, he has given me a pet name—"George Bush"

McCain also quipped at the lingering unease among Hillary Clinton and her supporters at losing the bitterly-fought primary against Obama:

"Even in a room full of proud Manhattan Democrats, I just can't shake the feeling that some people here are pulling for me. I'm delighted to see you here tonight, Hillary."

And he joked that Bill Clinton "has been hammering away at me with epithets like—"war hero."

Obama made light of McCain's dogged attempts to tie him to former Weather Underground leader Bill Ayers and to spread doubt about Obama's character.

"There is no Senator I would rather be palling around with than John McCain," cracked Obama after he took the stage, referring to the McCain campaign's talking points about Obama "palling around" with Ayers.

He later made a confession about his past associations. "John McCain is onto something," he said. "There was a point in my life when I started palling around with a pretty ugly crowd; I've got to be honest. These guys were serious deadbeats, they were lowlifes, they were unrepentant no-good punks. That's right: I've been a member of the United States Senate."

He also joked about McCain's age, saying that the candidate and long-deceased New York governor Al Smith "had a great time in the days before Prohibition."

Obama also made fun of his of the messiah complex some of his supporters have built around his candidacy:

"Contrary to the rumors you've heard, I was not born in Elmer. I was actually born on Krypton. I was sent here by my father Jor-El to save the planet Earth... Many of you know I got my name from my father. 'Barack' is Swahili for 'That One.' I got my middle name from somebody who obviously didn't realize I would run for president."

"My greatest strength is my humility. My greatest weakness is that it's possible I am a little too awesome."

Or about race and fatherhood, "Fox News accused me of fathering two African-American children in wedlock."

The whole show is so funny it's a must watch. In case you missed it, replays of the NYC traditional roast can be seen on U-Tube and C-Span. While both candidates were funny, I think McCain stole the show. The audience was hysterical, and I was in stitches. My favorite joke was when McCain took aim at MSNBC's Keith Olberman and Chris Mathews:

"It's going to be a long, long night at MSNBC if I manage to pull this thing off. For starters, I understand that Keith Olberman has ordered up his very own 'Mission Accomplished' banner. And they can hang that in whatever padded room has been reserved for him. Seriously Chris, if they need any decorating advice, ask Keith to call me so I can tell him right where to put it."



The Candidates' On War and Terrorism

The War! Remember?

By Ralph McKnight and Lila Gregory

Amid the deafening din and clamor about the elections, the nasty, disgusting campaign tactics of John McCain et al, the roar of laughter and guffaws heard round' the world over Sarah Palin's unrelenting displays of vacuity, we are inclined to forget this country is engaged in war. Even though the reasons given for the invasion and occupation of Iraq were based on a campaign of lies and subterfuge this administration is, in fact, locked in a grisly struggle for the control of the Middle East and its vast reserves of oil. At times McCain's campaign seems to have forgotten the horrors of this Gordian knot in which we've entangled ourselves and forgotten about the bodies of America's dead and walking dead soldiers and the bodies of the million or so innocent Iraqi civilians killed in this apocalyptic conflict. McCain would have us continue this madness for 100 more years.

The occupation of Iraq is costing \$15 billion or more each month and will, ultimately, cost over \$3 trillion.

Can we afford this? How did we wind up in Iraq

when the culprits of 9/11 were clearly ensconced in Afghanistan? Why did we abruptly turn away from almost certain capture of those directly responsible for 9/11 to forge an invasion of Iraq? The credit for these actions can be laid at the feet of a weak, intellectually challenged president and a host of militaristic idealists known as neo-conservatives who were determined to rule the world; some of whom included Paul Wolfowitz, Donald Rumsfeld, "Scooter" Libby, Elliot Abrams, Richard Perle, William Kristol and John Bolton. They were sort of like Trotskyites turned inside out and then twisted and twisted. This self-appointed right wing suzerainty produced a little known document known as PNAC (Project for the New American Century). PNAC promotes, American "hegemony", imperialism and "full-spectrum" dominance, including the control of outer space for militaristic purposes (Google "Rods from God").

On September 20, 2001 (nine days after the September 11, 2001 attacks), the PNAC sent a letter to President Bush, advocating "a determined effort to remove Saddam Hussein from power in Iraq," or *regime change*: "...even if evidence does not link Iraq directly to the attack, any strategy aiming at the eradication of terrorism and its sponsors must include a determined effort to remove Saddam Hussein from power in Iraq. Failure to undertake such an effort will constitute an early and perhaps decisive surrender in the war on international terrorism". Basically, the 9/11 attack provided the neocons the stuff they needed to carry out the precepts of PNAC. 9/11 was, in effect, a windfall for the neocons. One could easily reason that if the search for Bin Laden were ceased, it would be because had he been captured; then this administration and its cortege of warmongers could not sustain their reasons for being in Iraq. Because of these and other activities, over 4,000 U.S. Soldiers have died, over 50,000 U.S. soldiers are wounded in ways to gruesome to describe, over a million Iraqis are dead or also wounded in ways to gruesome to describe, the United States is barreling towards a 10 trillion dollar debt with no end in sight, we are the laughing stock of the world and probably the most hated country in the world. We have become the apocalypse, we have become death. We must elect someone who can change that. Barack Obama is the only choice.

"Barack Obama and Joe Biden believe we must be as careful getting out of Iraq as we were careless getting in. Immediately upon taking office, Obama will give his Secretary of Defense and military commanders a new mission in Iraq: ending the war. The removal of our troops will be responsible and phased, directed by military commanders on the ground and done in consultation with the Iraqi government. Military experts believe we can safely redeploy combat brigades from Iraq at a pace of 1 to 2 brigades a month that would remove them in 16 months. That would be the summer of 2010 – more than 7 years after the war began.

Under the Obama-Biden plan, a residual force will remain in Iraq and in the region to conduct targeted counter-terrorism missions against al Qaeda in Iraq and to protect American diplomatic and civilian personnel. They will not build permanent bases in Iraq, but will continue efforts to train and support the Iraqi security forces as long as Iraqi leaders move toward political reconciliation and away from sectarianism.

Barack Obama and Joe Biden believe that the U.S. must apply pressure on the Iraqi government to work toward real political accommodation. There is no military solution to Iraq's political differences, but the Bush Administration's blank check approach has failed to press Iraq's leaders to take responsibility for their future or to substantially spend their oil revenues on their own reconstruction." (From <http://www.barackobama.com/issues/iraq/#phased-withdrawal>)

That is a sensible plan put forward by a responsible leader. And it is a plan that reaches across the aisle and embraces the concern of most Americans.

According to Republican William Weld, former Governor of Massachusetts, "Sen. Obama is a once-in-a-lifetime candidate who will transform our politics and restore America's standing in the world." "We need a president who will lead based on our common values and Sen. Obama demonstrates an ability to unite and inspire. Throughout this campaign I've watched his steady leadership through trying times and I'm confident he is the best candidate to move our country forward," he said. Several other prominent Republicans endorsed Obama over John McCain recently, including former Secretary of State Colin Powell, former Minnesota Gov. Arne Carlson and Scott McClellan, former press secretary to President Bush. And why? Because he is The Man with the only responsible Plan for ending this war.

Barack Obama will stop this horror and steer us back to sanity. McCain would be more of the unimaginable same.

Ralph McKnight is President of The Pasadena Collection, Member, Executive Board, California Democratic Party, Arts & Culture Commissioner for the City of Pasadena, Board Member United Nation Association, Jazz Musician, Former member, Revolutionary Action Movement, Producer Jazz & Blues Series for the Levitt Pavilion for the Performing Arts and writer. Ralph can be reached at r.mcknight@mvoobserver.com.

COUNTY AND LOCAL BALLOT MEASURES

MEASURE R
TRAFFIC RELIEF. RAIL EXTENSIONS.
REDUCE FOREIGN OIL DEPENDENCE

To: Synchronize traffic signals; Repair potholes; Extend light rail with airport connections; Improve freeway traffic flow (5,10,14,60,101,110,138,210,405,60 5,710); Keep senior/student/disabled fares low; Provide clean-fuel buses; Expand subway/Metrolink/bus service; Dedicate millions for community traffic relief; Shall Los Angeles County's sales tax increase one-half cent for 30 years with independent audits, public review of expenditures, locally controlled?

IN FAVOR: "Measure R offers traffic relief for every part of Los Angeles County. Combining immediate and long term investments in freeways, roads and expanded mass transit..."

Endorsed by: Richard Riordan, Former Mayor of LA; Tracy Rafter, LA Business Foundation; John Mack, Police Commissioner; Antonio Villagairosa, Mayor of LA; Zev Yaroslavsky, Cty Sup.

AGAINST: "Measure R does not conform with the voter mandated MTA Reform and Accountability Act to provide safe, efficient, and cost effective public transportation system. There are no effective cost controls. And it rejects light rail for the Wilshire corridor."

NO on R: LA County Supervisors, Gloria Molina and Michael Antonovich; Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard; Long Beach Council member Gary Delong; and Richard Close, Sherman Oaks Homeowners Association.

MEASURE TT
PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL ELECTION

To repair and/or replace deteriorating and outdated plumbing, heating, ventilation, and fire alarm systems; replace aging portable classrooms; make disabled access improvements, implement energy-and water-saving projects; modernize or reconstruct kindergartens, cafeterias, multipurpose facilities and gyms; and make the district eligible for millions in State matching grants. Shall Pasadena Unified School District issue \$350,000,000 of bonds at lawful interest rates, with no money for administrative salaries, and spending annually reviewed by an independent citizens' oversight committee?

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR (Excerpt)
"The school district has made significant progress in recent years in student achievement and administrative accountability. Measure TT will give students and teachers the tools and facilities they need to continue this success." Endorsed by: Bill Bogaard, Mayor of Pasadena; Yvonne E. Pine, President, LWV Pasadena; Audrey Durden, Pres. Pasadena PTA Council; John Buchanan, Former Sierra Madre Mayor and Maureen Carlson, Pres. Pasadena Educational Foundation.

AGAINST: - No Argument was submitted.

For full text of both measures, go to: www.lavote.net/VOTER/PDFS/ELECTION_RELATED

From The Desk Of..Glenn Lambdin

WHAT TROUBLES THE MAN?

Last week I wrote a piece on my opposition to Prop. 8 that, frankly, I make no apologies for. While I realize it was only my opinion, and we all know about

opinions, I believe my quotes are accurate, as are my conclusions. As best as I am able, and to the best of my understandings, I attempt to validate my opinions based on factual data, logic, and reason. If my facts are wrong, I encourage correction.

Since that article, a letter to the editor was sent from a local resident, Mark Edward Smith, responding to my piece. First off, let me thank Mr. Smith for reading it and giving his opinion on the matter. And by the way Mr. Smith, good letter and touche.

While Mr. Smith, like myself and hopefully the majority of voters, is opposed to Prop. 8, he claimed he found my article, "quite a bizarre experience." Mr. Smith, if you think that is a bizarre experience,

wonder what troubles the man."

Fair enough. I'll be glad to tell you what troubles me. Just off of the top of my head and in no particular order, here are only some of the things that trouble me:

Politicians, religious leaders, and activists, at all levels, that would rather promote their agendas via exaggeration, false information, and hyperbole instead of facts and accuracy. They should at least have the courage to paint a target on their chest, take their hits, and stand on the merits of their convictions.

Cowards, bullies, and predators.

Any individual or organization that, in any way shape or form, discriminates against any specific class of people.

Politicians, lawmakers, etc., that ignore due process and equal treatment under the law.

Bigotry, racism, and hatred. War.

Violence against others, especially against the weak and

War And Terrorism: A Study In Contrasts

Perhaps no other area offers as significant a contrast between McCain and Obama as the Iraq war and the war on terrorism. The very fact that McCain sees each as part and parcel of the other while Obama sees them as competing distractions sets the two candidates' positions diametrically apart. Sadly, the stakes here couldn't be greater, and if we do not recognize the wisdom and experience in John McCain's approach, we will suffer the tragedy of Barak Obama's naivety and wishful thinking.

Throughout the entire campaign, Obama's message has been clear and consistent. He continues to assert that the Iraq war was a mistake, from the beginning through the surge and up to the present day, and that it is at best an irrelevant distraction from the "true" war on terror being fought in Afghanistan.

McCain, on the other hand, has learned well from history and personal experience that it is best to take one's adversaries at their word when they proclaim their intentions to formant war and terror. Osama Bin Laden told us he would attack us on our own soil to bring the great Satan to his knees, and so he did. Post 9-11, Osama Bin Laden has designated Iraq the "central front" in his continuing war against the United States specifically and Western Civilization in general, and he should be taken seriously.

The reason thousands of foreign jihadists have made their grizzly pilgrimage to the streets of Iraq has nothing to do with boredom or lack of economic opportunities and everything to do with the mobilization, logistical and financial support efforts of al Qaeda designed to create in Iraq another safe haven from which to continue the fight against the West.

History is full of examples in which the enemies of democracy fought on multiple fronts simultaneously, a fact which Barak Obama appears to be too young to understand. Hitler allied himself with Japan and Italy, forcing Roosevelt - a Democrat with a strong command of history and military strategy - to fight in Europe, Africa and the Pacific. The old Soviet Union launched proxy wars all over the globe, forcing Kennedy - another Democrat with a strong command of history and strategy - to defend liberty in South America, Europe and Southeast Asia.

What Obama under estimates is Bin Laden's and other terrorist's commitment to destroy us. John McCain gets it. He realizes that negotiations - let alone talks without any preconditions - are dangerous when the enemy seeks only your destruction. McCain, like any reasonable statesman, realizes that negotiations have their place, but they are best conducted from a position of strength, not weakness, and certainly never after your opponent has driven airplanes into buildings to kill thousands, exploded nail bombs in crowded marketplaces to maim thousands or slit the throats of aid workers to frighten thousands more. Those are acts of war and must be dealt with as such. Obama naively assumes that evil can be convinced to become good.

Whatever the reasons for going to war, the strategies for the conduct of the war also showcase the differences between the two candidates. Simply put, McCain had the foresight to advocate for a surge when it was wildly unpopular and the judgment to realize its success. Obama predicted its failure and still sees it as inconsequential to the dramatically improving results we are witnessing today. When military success became evident, Obama claimed that only political success in Iraq counted. As political success is now imminent, Obama remains silent. There is simply no comparison between the temperament and wisdom, or lack thereof, in these two candidates.

Lastly, and probably most importantly, McCain has a firm grasp of what retreat from Iraq would look like while Obama would remove troops precipitously. If Iraq is allowed to slip into anarchy and al Qaeda domination, Iran will advance to nuclear-armed domination of the Middle East, emboldened jihadists will swarm into Afghanistan to deliver a similar knock out punch to democratic aspirations, Hezbollah will resume its war against Israel, Russia will claim more of Georgia, Ukraine and it provinces of old, and China will seek to control the Pacific. A weekend United States emboldens dictators.

These are dangerous times on the world stage. It is certainly no time for inexperience or on-the-job training of a well spoken, but nonetheless naive, orator. The great irony here is that it is John McCain, the Republican candidate, who best embodies the last great Democratic president John Kennedy's commitment to pay any price and bear any burden to assure the survival of liberty. It is John McCain who realizes that the war on terror must be fought on the streets of Bagdad and Kabul or it will be fought on Main Street.

Gregory J. Welborn is an independent opinion columnist. He writes and speaks frequently on political, economic and social issues. His columns have appeared in publications such as The Los Angeles Daily News, The Orange County Register, The Wall Street Journal and USA Today. He can be reached at gwelborn@mvoobserver.com.

Letters To The Editor:

LEAF BLOWER FOLLOW UP

Bravo to the Council members for listening, at least somewhat. They have decided to spare the community early and late hour noise from the gardeners and maybe even a Sunday ban. This is a good thing and thank you Council for this. Eliminating blowers is also what many of us want though for some reason it appears like that is too much for the City now. As one Councilman more or less said, "I just can't get my head around it yet, though I would like to ban them." 100's of cities have done so but all must be right for it to happen here I guess. For all of you that emailed and talked to the Council members don't stop now. Let them know how you feel about their decision, make sure they go ahead with their promise and if you want more now or in the future let them know. The blowers are still blowing, air pollution and noise continues! And even in this time of economic desperation local issues shouldn't stop. Some peace here at home would be a good thing, so keep communicating!!!! Call City Hall and leave a message at 355-7135

City Hall website at <http://cityofsierramadre.com/> and then click on contact us and leave an email for the Council members.

J. Allen, Sierra Madre Hscrag@gmail.com

Dear MVO:

I guess every small town has its ration of characters, and we certainly do have our share. But Glenn Lambdin, a person who some claim to take seriously as a political figure, strikes me as having truly gone around the bend on the question of religion. He really needs to consider that the whole "village atheist" routine is not only an amusing cliché for some, but also a lifestyle most would not regard as the mark of a serious man. And reading his most recent screed on religion here has convinced me that Glenn could be but one sad step from standing atop a soap box in front of St. Rita's and bellowing about lightning bolts and plagues of locusts.

Now I too am opposed to Prop 8. In my opinion what people do with their private lives is their own business, and that others should just butt out. If two people want to get married, then God bless them. It is as simple as that. No portion of our population should be legally prevented from marrying, or shielded from it, either. But to read Glenn's most recent ranting on the topic was quite a bizarre experience. I mean, claiming that St. Paul, the Biblical figure many feel is the true father of many Christian churches, is also somehow responsible for Prop 8? Goodness gracious.

You can only wonder what troubles the man.

Mark Edward Smith, Sierra Madre

Dear Editor:

Bond Measure TT is appropriately titled: Terrible Tax! Before you vote on any of these measures, especially Measure TT, you should study your 2008 Property Tax Bill, especially under the heading of "Voted Indebtedness." Are you ready for another "voted indebtedness" of \$44.63 per \$100,000 assessed value (average amount for the life of the Bond) for the next 30 years? I'm not. For many homes in the area, that would mean another \$210+ tax on our properties. This is not the time to vote us into more indebtedness since the State is billions in debt now, the country is trillions in debt. We can't even balance our local budgets and this measure would add more debt to us. I say no. This is not the time.

There was a wonderful article in the Pasadena Star News on October 15, outlining all the reasons not to vote for Measure TT and I agree wholeheartedly with them. It is absurd that the local administrators, budget analysts and financial planners in our cities do not have the foresight to plan ahead with their budgets to make sure improvements are included on an ongoing basis. The people who are supporting Measure TT always depend on the taxpayer for bailing them out of the situation they got themselves and us into. Stop this madness of always putting a bond measure on the ballot, and start being responsible. VOTE NO ON MEASURE TT!

Pat Holland, Sierra Madre

you should try going through life's journey with what goes through my mind on a daily basis. Anyways, Mr. Smith concludes his letter with the statement, "You can only

defenseless.

Deficit spending. Irresponsible spending.

Debt not backed by investment, both personal and governmental. Those that attempt to control others or inflict their will on others. Entitlement mentalities. I believe we are entitled only to that which has been earned.

Those that are convinced that God is against the same people that they are against.

Oppressive doctrines; social, legal, and religious.

Increased taxes. Ungratefulness. Laziness. And, out of tune guitars

So Mr. Smith, there you have just some of what troubles me. I hope that answers your question. Oh, and by the way, I never claimed that "St. Paul is somehow responsible for Prop. 8," as you claim I said. However, I do believe you would be hard pressed to present a reasonable and accurate argument that could conclude that Paul's writings do not have a direct influence on the doctrines that are the impetus behind Prop 8. In my opinion, the responsibility for Prop. 8 falls directly on those that put it on the ballot.

Don't forget to vote!



FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-1889712

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **A&C TAX SERVICES**, 9519 TELEGRAPH RD. STE. H, PICO RIVERA, CA 90660. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **AUDIA AYALA**, 8249 NORWALK BLVD., WHITTIER, CA 90606. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. **Signed:** **CLAUDIA AYALA**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/23/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 11/1/2008.

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: MountainViews-Observer

Pub. 10/27, 11/03, 11/10, 11/17/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-1890169

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **ALPHA TRANSMISSIONS**, 711 S. SOTO ST., L.A., CA 90023. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **ANDRES NUNEZ**, 3713 PALM AVE., LYNWOOD, CA 90023. This Business is conducted by: **CO-PARTNERS**. **Signed:** **ANDRES NUNEZ**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/23/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 7/14/2005.

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: MountainViews-Observer

Pub. 10/27, 11/03, 11/10, 11/17/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-1881657

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **AMERICAN AND ASIAN ATTORNEY SERVICES**, 288 W. VALLEY BLVD. #208, ALHAMBRA, CT, 91801. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **MING- TA CHIN**, 288 W. VALLEY BLVD. #208, ALHAMBRA, CA 91801. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. **Signed:** **MING-TA CHIN**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/22/08**. 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: MountainViews-Observer

Pub. 10/27, 11/03, 11/10, 11/17/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-1856579

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **ASN WHOLESALE**, 839 ALFORD ST., GLENDORA, CA 91740. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **ARNOLD NILLASCA**, 839 ALFORD ST., GLENDORA, CA 91740. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. **Signed:** **ARNOLD NILLASCA**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/17/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 8/28/1998.

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: MountainViews-Observer

Pub. 10/27, 11/03, 11/10, 11/17/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-1882383

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **BUMP-N-SAVE**, 3833 E. 2nd ST. #205, LONG BEACH, CA 90802. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **WACKY LLC**, 3833 E. 2nd ST. #205, LONG BEACH, CA 90803. This Business is conducted by: **A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY**. **Signed:** **PATRICK BRADY**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/22/08**. 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: MountainViews-Observer

Pub. 10/27, 11/03, 11/10, 11/17/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-1890052

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **CAPILLA DEL ROSARIO RESTAURANT**, 654 N. HOOVER ST., L.A., CA 90004. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **CLAUDIA FRANCES O'SULLIVAN**, 25 S. MICHILLINDA AVE., PASADENA, CA 91107. This Business is conducted by: **HUSBAND AND WIFE**. **Signed:** **CLAUDIA FRANCES O'SULLIVAN**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/23/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 10/22/2008.

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: MountainViews-Observer

Pub. 10/27, 11/03, 11/10, 11/17/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-1873615

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **FLOWER COMMERCIAL CLEANING SERVICES**, 1305 BRIARGATE LN., COVINA, CA 91722. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **RUBEN ALVARADO**, 1305 BRIARGATE LN., COVINA, CA 91722. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. **Signed:** **RUBEN ALVARADO**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/21/08**. 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: MountainViews-Observer

Pub. 10/27, 11/03, 11/10, 11/17/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-1882378

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **INES RODRIGUEZ DELIVERY**, 927 VICENTIA AVE. #D, CORONA, CA 92880. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **INES RODRIGUEZ**, 927 VICENTIA AVE. #D, CORONA, CA 92880. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. **Signed:** **INES RODRIGUEZ**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/22/08**. 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: MountainViews-Observer

Pub. 10/27, 11/03, 11/10, 11/17/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-1890572

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **J.B. GIFT SHOP IMPORT/EXPORT**, 720 W. ROSECRANS AVE., COMPTON, CA 90222. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **JAMES HARVIN BROWN**, ELLA MAE BROWN, 720 W. ROSECRANS AVE., COMPTON, CA 90222. This Business is conducted by: **CO-PARTNERS**. **Signed:** **JAMES M. BROWN**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/23/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 5/21/2008.

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: MountainViews-Observer

Pub. 10/27, 11/03, 11/10, 11/17/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-1856525

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **MATCHBOX SHEETBOARDING**, 11337 COLLINS ST., N. HOLLYWOOD, CA 91601. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **JAMES DANIEL KEEPING**, 1712 N. BUENA VISTA CT, BURBANK, CA 91505, KASEY SPECTOR, 11337 COLLINS ST., N. HOLLYWOOD, CA 91601. This Business is conducted by: **CO-PARTNERS**. **Signed:** **JAMES DANIEL KEEPING**, **KASEY SPECTOR**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/17/08**. 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: MountainViews-Observer

Pub. 10/27, 11/03, 11/10, 11/17/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-1872899

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **MH ENTERPRISES**, 825 S. LOS ROBLES AVE., PASADENA, CA 91106. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **MYOUNG-HEE CHRISTIANSEN**, 825 S. LOS ROBLES AVE., PASADENA, CA 91106. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. **Signed:** **MYOUNG-HEE CHRISTIANSEN**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/21/08**. 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: MountainViews-Observer

Pub. 10/27, 11/03, 11/10, 11/17/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-1873102

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **OSMANI TELECOM**, 373 S. HOOVER ST. #206, L.A., CA 90020. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **REZAUR R. OSMANI**, 373 S. HOOVER ST. #206, L.A., CA 90020. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. **Signed:** **REZAUR R. OSMANI**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/21/08**. 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: MountainViews-Observer

Pub. 10/27, 11/03, 11/10, 11/17/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-1856312

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **RESEDA VILLA SOBER LIVING**, 7436 CAPPAS AVE., RESEDA, CA 91335. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **ROHAN JOSEPH ABEYSINGHE**, 7436 CAPPAS AVE., RESEDA, CA 91335, KURUKULASARIYA MARIE ABEYSINGHE, 8419 YOLANDA AVE., NORTHRIDGE, CA 91342. This Business is conducted by: **CO-PARTNERS**. **Signed:** **ROHAN JOSEPH ABEYSINGHE**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/17/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on JAN. 2008.

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: MountainViews-Observer

Pub. 10/27, 11/03, 11/10, 11/17/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-1856918

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **YUZY'S PERFUMES AND CLOTHING**, 1947 E. 73rd ST., L.A., CA 90002. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **YUZELY V. TELIZ**, 1947 E. 73rd ST., L.A., CA 90001. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. **Signed:** **YUZELY V. TELIZ**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/17/08**. 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: MountainViews-Observer

Pub. 10/27, 11/03, 11/10, 11/17/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-1890043

The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name: **CAPILLA DEL ROSARIO RESTAURANT**, 654 N. HOOVER ST., L.A., CA. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 11/06/2007, in the county of Los Angeles. The original file number of 2007-2492742. The business was conducted by: **HUSBAND AND WIFE**. The business 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.) **SIGNED: MANUEL MARTINEZ MALDONADO, JOSEFINA MARTINEZ RAMIREZ/OWNER**.

Publish: MountainViews-Observer

Pub. 10/27, 11/03, 11/10, 11/17/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-1830511

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **MESTIZO RECORDS**, 4440 DISTRICT BLVD. STE. 305, VERNON, CA 90058. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **MANUEL RAMIREZ**, 4440 DISTRICT BLVD. #505, VERNON, CA 90058. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. **Signed:** **MANUEL RAMIREZ**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/14/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 1/2/2002.

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: MountainViews-Observer

Pub. 10/20, 10/27, 11/03, 11/10/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-1830289

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **DIAZ GARAY CONSTRUCTION SERVICES**, 925 S. 8th ST. #D, ALHAMBRA, CA 91803. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **MIGUEL F. DIAZ**, 925 S. 8th ST. #D, ALHAMBRA, CA 91803. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. **Signed:** **MIGUEL F. DIAZ**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/14/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 1/2/2002.

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: MountainViews-Observer

Pub. 10/20, 10/27, 11/03, 11/10/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-1838849

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **CUDAHY SMOKE SHOPS**, 7603 ALLANTIC AVE., CUDAHY, CA 90201. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **HILARIO FELIX**, 4336 HARTLE AVE., CUDAHY, CA 90201. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. **Signed:** **HILARIO FELIX**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/15/08**. 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: MountainViews-Observer

Pub. 10/20, 10/27, 11/03, 11/10/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-1837528

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **WILLIE'S CUSTOM CABINETS**, 1311 W. EL SEGUNDO BLVD., COMPTON, CA 90222. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **WILLIE W. BUYYCKS**, 509 PARTRIDGE LN., SAN JACINTO, CA 92582. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. **Signed:** **WILLIE W. BUYYCKS**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/15/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 3/1/2003.

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: MountainViews-Observer

Pub. 10/20, 10/27, 11/03, 11/10/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-1821153

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **CANYAN'S CUSTOM CABINETS**, 1311 W. EL SEGUNDO BLVD., COMPTON, CA 90222. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **WILLIE W. BUYYCKS**, 509 PARTRIDGE LN., SAN JACINTO, CA 92582. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. **Signed:** **WILLIE W. BUYYCKS**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/15/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on OCT. 6, 2003.

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: MountainViews-Observer

Pub. 10/20, 10/27, 11/03, 11/10/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-1821756

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **EL RINCONITO MEXICAN AND SEAFOOD RESTAURANT**, 10618 INGLEWOOD AVE. #4, LENNOX, CA 90304. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **MARIBEL ARCHUNDIA**, 4142 W. 168th ST., LAWNDALE, CA 90260. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. **Signed:** **MARIBEL ARCHUNDIA**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/16/08**. 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: MountainViews-Observer

Pub. 10/20, 10/27, 11/03, 11/10/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 08-1877748

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **LA BARATA LIQUOR MARKET**, 3428 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR BLVD., LYNWOOD, CA 90262. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **CHINH VA LOONG TAN**, SHI HAN TAN, 621 N. HUNTINGTON AVE., MONTEREY PARK, CA 91754. This Business is conducted by: **A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP**. **Signed:** **CHINH VA LOONG TAN**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/06/08**. 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

The Roots of Hallowe'en Go Way Back Before there was a City of Sierra Madre

by Christopher Nyerges

[Nyerges is the author of *Enter the Forest, How to Survive Anywhere*, and other books. He is the editor of *Wilderness Way* magazine, and a general commentator of human events. He can be reached at Box 41834, Eagle Rock, CA 90041, or www.ChristopherNyerges.com.]

Whoa!! It's only October and we're already seeing some Christmas ads here and there in Sierra Madre! That is totally unacceptable. Can't the people of Sierra Madre stick to the old-fashioned tradition of waiting til after Halloween to advertise Thanksgiving, and waiting til Thanksgiving is over to advertise Christmas? Or have we totally devolved into a year-round materialistic frenzy in lieu of Holy Day commemorations?

OK, enough of the rant. Hallowe'en is coming. But what's it all about? Today in Sierra Madre, when most people think of Hallowe'en, they think of children getting excited about a costume they're going to wear, and all the food and candy. (Well, we also think about the street where all the neighbors put out their best pumpkins....) But still, why do we celebrate this holiday? Is it simply a night of "fun"? How did this get started?

Historically, Hallowe'en had to do with the dead, with ghosts, with spirits. Let's turn back the clock a bit to explore the roots of this All Hallow's Eve.

To the ancient Celts, there were six significant fire ceremonies during the year. The greatest of these were Beltane, the first of May, and Samhain, the last day in October. (Originally, Samhain was celebrated from October 31 through November 2). The Feast of Samhain (meaning "summer's end"), marked both their Feast of the Dead and the Celtic New Year. This time of the year, half way between the autumnal equinox and the winter solstice, was a time of decay and death on the earth. This was especially apparent in Western Europe, when the temperatures dropped and the rains fell.

Throughout much of Europe in past centuries, country people (nearly everyone) lived simple lives, and their Old Religion was based on the seasons, and on the recognition of the reality of the spirit world. They relied on their Old Religion with its ritualistic ceremonies for help and for guidance. They believed that on the Feast of Samhain, the spirits of their ancestors could and would rise from the cold barren fields to dwell in the warm cottages. There they must be greeted with food, decoration, and festivity if they were to protect the household.

Thus, in its origin, the Feast of Samhain was a rite designed to protect humans from the "evil" activities of the dis-incarnate. It was a bargain with the dead (and other spirits) so they'd stay away and cause no trouble during the next year.

In the 700s, the Roman Catholic Church au-

thorities accepted the fact that they had failed in their attempts to eliminate the "pagan" Samhain observances within the now-Christianized world. Thus, as has often occurred when New Religion clashed with Old Religion, the names of the holy days were simply changed. By changing the name from Samhain to Hallowed Eve, the Old Religion practice could continue. As a result, the members of the Catholic church were maintained, everyone was happy, and things went on as usual. In other words, Christianity stole the holiday, fair and square, from the so-called pagans.

The original custom of giving to the spirits spread through all cultures and lands with many variations. Today, the custom manifests by giving candy to the proxies of the spirits, the children who dress up like goblins and witches -- as well as whatever politician's masks are popular. (By contrast, in Mexico's Day of the Dead, there is no intent to keep the spirits away. The deceased spirits are invited back. For another view of this day, go to Olvera Street in downtown L.A. and see all the shrines.)

Unlike some religious groups who advocate complete abstinence from any so-called "pagan" Hallowe'en celebrations, my posture is not to turn a blind eye to what society is doing, but to find a way to elevate the day to one of personal growth and insight.

So what are some practical lessons we might learn from Hallowe'en?

In past years, my family and friends have gathered to view the classic "vampire" movie "Nosferatu," both the original and the 1978 Klaus Kinsie version. We gathered with large bowls of popcorn, and other refreshments, and explored the nature of fear. We remained focussed on finding the science within that movie as to how to deal with our own inner fears. Additionally, "Nosferatu" provides a pictorial view of how each of us succumb to our weaknesses, and how we "become someone else."

Another way to elevate our use of this Hallowe'en time is to re-consider our use of costumes. Do we not invoke the presence of those persons we choose to masquerade as? Rather than invoke the presence of dark entities, why not dress up as our role models, or Heroes, and Saints. Children -- and especially adults -- can use this time to invoke the presence of such historical great figures such as Florence Nightingale, Gandhi, Sequoia, Sitting Bull, Geronimo, or Abraham Lincoln.

By utilizing the ancient Holy Day of Samhain in this manner, we can rise out of the darkness of our own ignorance. By such practice, we can return to the roots of this ancient commemoration which we today call Hallowe'en.

The Mountain Clymer by Kim Clymer-Kelley

Train Wrecks of The Angeles (Part 4)

The drizzle continued to dampen me, the animals, the gully that Gus was now lying in, and my spirits. I watched in horror as the accident unfolded in slow motion behind me. "Come on, Cisco," I scolded, "Move it!!!! Get on over there!" He stood his ground, feet planted firmly, still pulling on poor Gus who was now muddy and trying to get his bearings enough to get back on his feet.... something that Cisco was not making it easy to do. Gus was a timid animal and tended to panic easily. He was now being pulled at both ends, and was not at all happy about it. As he struggled to his feet, Slim took a few steps forward to fight the tugging he felt on Gus's lead rope that was tied to his saddle. Gus, still trying to figure a way out of the situation tugged back, pulling Slim to the trail's edge. He fought to keep his footing on the trail, but again the fragile edge collapsed under his weight. I sat on Jake's back watching as Slim let out a mighty honk and slid down into the gully. Gus, now on his feet, bolted forward a step or two as his lead was yanked by his plummeting pal. This toppled poor Cisco over the edge of his side of ditch. Slim landed on top of young tree that was growing near the bottom of the bank. Because we were in the process of climbing a steep hill, he had a longer fall than Gus, but not nearly as far as poor Bill.... the next domino to fall. Bill rolled down the slope pulling on Bonnie. As she struggled against him to keep her position, I realized that I needed to act quickly to avoid the same fate. During the trip, I had taken Shonto's lead rope and wrapped it around the horn of Jake's saddle to relieve my hands from the stress of pulling the string along. By using the horn, I transferred much of the muscle work onto Jake. I had found that wrapping it once or twice around the horn was not enough. I still had to pull on it pretty hard to keep hold of it, so I had wrapped it quite a few times....too many. The rope, damp from the rain, had become quite tacky and gripped the horn quite well, and was wedged under it tightly. This

was serving me very well... until now. As I watched Bonnie tumble off the trail and down the hill, I struggled desperately with the rope. It was stuck!!! Often on our trips if an animal was going too slowly, or if someone stumbled, or sometimes for no apparent reason, the lead ropes between the animals would break. This would require a stop and a quick repair job before continuing on. I kept hoping that one of the ropes in the chain would break, but I had no such luck. Bonnie's tremendous weight took Shonto to the edge of the trail.

"I'm next!!!!" I remember thinking as I continued to frantically unravel the rope from Jake's saddle horn. Jake nervously danced on the trail pulling it tighter and making it even more difficult to un-loop. Time was up... Shonto lost her battle to stay atop the trail and she too rolled down the hill, pulling Jake with her. I had at least had the presence of mind to have removed my feet from the stirrups, so as Jake went over the edge, I leaned to the inside of the trail and rolled off his back to the ground with a thud as he slid out from under me and toppled down the 20 foot drop to the muddy bottom. I was left lying on the trail but sat up quickly to survey the scene. Everyone else was scattered all over the hillside and the bottom of the trench. The donkeys were all honking and braying and flailing about. Their saddles were yanked out of position, some pulled half way around their sides and others had come entirely off. Their cargo was strewn all over the vicinity, most of it in the mud. Slim was wedged up against the tree. Bill was below him and the rope between them was smashing Poor Slim's nose into the trunk. It was scratched up and bleeding. He was yelling for help. Shonto was lying on top of Bonnie in the mud at the bottom of the hill. The scene was very reminiscent of the many train derailments I had seen photos (cont. pg. 11)



Legal Notices (cont.)

#8, PASADENA, CA 91107. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: CHUNG YA CHANG.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/08/08**. 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: MountainViews-Observer
Pub. 10/13, 10/20, 10/27, 11/03/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. **08-1814680**
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **EL JEFFE**, 1018 FULTON MALL, FRESNO, CA 93721-2502. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **HUSSEIN M. HUSSEINI**, 6301 1/2 OTIS AVE., BELL, CA 90201. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: HUSSEIN M. HUSSEINI.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/09/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on JULY 9, 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)

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. **08-1814679**
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **EL PATRON**, 913 FULTON MALL, FRESNO, CA 93721-2508. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **ALI HUSSEINI**, 6301 1/2 OTIS AVE., BELL, CA 90201. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ALI HUSSEINI.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/09/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on JULY 5, 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: MountainViews-Observer

Pub. 10/13, 10/20, 10/27, 11/03/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. **08-1781009**
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **FELIPE'S IRON WORKS**, 1537 W. EL SEGUNDO BLVD., COMPTON, CA 90222. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **FELIPE M. RODRIGUEZ**, 349 FRASER AVE., L.A., CA 90022. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: FELIPE M. RODRIGUEZ.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/03/08**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 10/20/2000.

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: MountainViews-Observer
Pub. 10/13, 10/20, 10/27, 11/03/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. **08-1806763**
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **KATIE TRUCKING**, 17759 NEARBANK DR., ROWLAND HTS., CA 91767. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **PEITI TRUCKING**, 115 FERNPINE LN., POMONA, CA 91767. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: PEITI WENG.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/08/08**. 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
Pub. 10/13, 10/20, 10/27, 11/03/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. **08-1806765**
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **PEITI TRUCKING**, 115 FERNPINE LN., POMONA, CA 91767. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **PEITI TRUCKING**, 115 FERNPINE LN., POMONA, CA 91767. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: PEITI WENG.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/08/08**. 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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Pub. 10/13, 10/20, 10/27, 11/03/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. **08-1729764**
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **PRODUCTOS NATURALES 2, PURHEPECHA**, 2500 REJONDO BEACH BLVD., TORRANCE, CA. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **SALOMON BALDERAS GUILLEN**, 15322 VIRGINIA AV., PARAMOUNT, CA 90723. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: SALOMON BALDERAS.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **09/25/08**. 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: MountainViews-Observer
Pub. 10/13, 10/20, 10/27, 11/03/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. **08-1806764**
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **YINGJU WHOLE SALE**, 3857 DUFFEE AVE., EL MONTE, CA 91732. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **LUI JING CHEN**, 1513 W. HELLMAN AVE., ALHAMBRA, CA 91803. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: LUI TING CHEN.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/08/08**. 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
Pub. 10/13, 10/20, 10/27, 11/03/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. **08-1806766**
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **MORTGAGE SOLUTIONS GROUP**, 126 WEST COVINA, CA 91791. Full name of registrant(s)



By Peter Dills

TABLE FOR TWO

Who's The Best?

I just got my car fixed by my good friend, Nick Plati of Plati BMW Motors. He may be a restaurant critic on the side or applying for the job soon, because this man knows his restaurants in Pasadena. You can get a stubborn noise fixed and be given an insightful recommendation on a restaurant while he pampers your car.

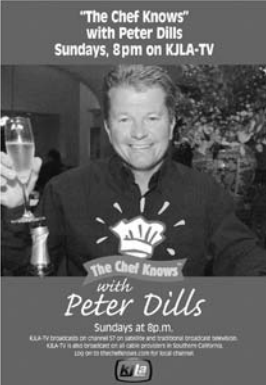
I ask, Nick, "where's your favorite Restaurant?" He said that he has a few, but the Arroyo Chop House in Pasadena tops his list. Okay, but anyone that has raised a fork and a knife in this town can pick that frontrunner. So, we started comparing notes and after about ten minutes he offers, Il Fornaio. Hmmm, that is interesting suggestion to consider. We both agree that we like the restaurant. It may not flaunt its sex appeal but there are no outrageous prices to scare away your wallet either. They don't offer a \$20 Martini here, so if you feel guilty for not showcasing your wallet, then this place may not be for you. A Blue Collar establishment, where a person who is acquainted with the finest will be able to find an appreciation for its simple appeal; very good food at very good prices.

I consider Nick's opinion on both cars and restaurants to be authoritative. What is the Best restaurant in our area? Our local competitor, "P" Weekly, just came out with their "Best Of" issue, giving their top prize to the Red White+Bluezz. Like Religion and Politics, everyone has their own opinion, so this is not a math question where the answer is absolutely verifiable. But Il Fornaio doesn't advertise with The MV-Observer, so I guess in this part of the country the judges are impartial. Is Il Fornaio the best in the area? That is a question that you and a dinner fork must decide for yourself. I do know one thing though, on which the area's funniest food critic and a car surgeon both agree, you can find us there!

Please Come Join Me Next Month!!!!

Join me at the historic Mijares restaurant on Wednesday, November from 5 to 6 PM, for some old country tequila tasting. Mijares, Executive Chef Campos, has paired up with Tequila Ocho for tastings of their first vintage tequila. Mijares offers outstanding Margaritas and appetizers. Price is \$50 in advance; space is limited so call today (626) 792-2763.

Il Fornaio, Pasadena 24 W. Union St. Pasadena (626) 683-9797
Mijares Mexican Restaurant, 145 Palmetto Dr. Pasadena (626) 792-2763
Arroyo Chop House, 536 S. Arroyo Pkwy Pasadena (626) 577-7463
Plati Motors, Raymond Ave, Pasadena



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is (are) YAFANG WANG, 1676 GAFFREY LN., W. COVINA, CA 91791. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: YAFANG WANG.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/08/08**. 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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Pub. 10/13, 10/20, 10/27, 11/03/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. **08-1806546**
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **SMART GENERAL CONSTRUCTION**, 5536 WELLAND AVE. #9, TEMPLE CITY, CA 91780. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **OSCAR DAVID CHAVEZ**, 5536 WELLAND AVE. #9, TEMPLE CITY, CA 91780. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: OSCAR DAVID CHAVEZ.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **09/24/08**. 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
Pub. 10/13, 10/20, 10/27, 11/03/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. **08-1721556**
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **MORTGAGE SOLUTIONS GROUP**, 126 ZAMARA ST., AZUSA, CA 91702. Full name of

registrant(s) is (are) **ROCHELLE FLORES**, 126 ZAMARA ST., AZUSA, CA 91702. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ROCHELLE FLORES.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **09/24/08**. 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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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. **08-1676262**
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **OSCAR DAVID CHAVEZ**, 5536 WELLAND AVE. #9, TEMPLE CITY, CA 91780. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **OSCAR DAVID CHAVEZ**, 5536 WELLAND AVE. #9, TEMPLE CITY, CA 91780. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: OSCAR DAVID CHAVEZ.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **09/17/08**. 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
Pub. 10/13, 10/20, 10/27, 11/03/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. **08-1772121**
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **POP MARKET**, 842 E. MISSION RD. STE.

D, SAN GABRIEL, CA 91776. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **PREM KUMARI BAHIL**, 129 S. WESTMORELAND AVE. #102, L.A., CA 90004. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: PREM KUMARI BAHIL.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/02/08**. 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
Pub. 10/13, 10/20, 10/27, 11/03/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. **08-1772188**
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **ROBERT AND SONS READER MIX**, 2758 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BLVD., LYNNWOOD, CA 90262. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **JOSE RIVERA**, 3920 ALANDRIA, COMPTON, CA 90222. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: JOSE RIVERA.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **10/02/08**. 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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Looking Up VOLCANOES MAY HAVE PROVIDED SPARKS AND CHEMISTRY FOR FIRST LIFE

With Bob Eklund

Lightning and gases from volcanic eruptions could have given rise to the first life on Earth, according to a new analysis of samples from a classic origin-of-life experiment by NASA and university researchers. The NASA-funded result is the subject of a paper in Science appearing October 16.

"Historically, you don't get many experiments that might be more famous than these; they re-defined our thoughts on the origin of life and showed unequivocally that the fundamental building blocks of life could be derived from natural processes," said lead author Adam Johnson, a graduate student with the NASA Astrobiology Institute team at Indiana University, Bloomington, Ind.

From 1953 to 1954, Professor Stanley Miller, then at the University of Chicago, performed a series of experiments with a system of closed flasks containing water and a gas of simple molecules. At the time, the molecules used in the experiment (hydrogen, methane, and ammonia) were thought to be common in Earth's ancient atmosphere.

The gas was zapped with an electric spark. After running the experiment for a few weeks, the water turned brown. When Miller analyzed the water, he found it contained amino acids, which are the building blocks of proteins—life's toolkit—used in everything from structures like hair and

nails to processes that speed up, facilitate, and regulate chemical reactions. The spark provided the energy for the molecules to recombine into amino acids, which rained out into the water. His experiment showed how simple molecules could be assembled into the more complex molecules necessary for life by natural processes, like lightning in Earth's primordial atmosphere.

Miller came to the Chemistry Department at the University of California, San Diego in



Photo by Aaron Dominguez

1960. Professor Jeffrey Bada, a co-author of the paper, was his graduate student in chemistry between 1965 and 1968. Bada joined the faculty of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography (part of UCSD) in 1971.

"Stanley and I continued to work on various projects until he died in 2007. When Adam and I found the samples from the original experiments, it was a great opportunity to re-

analyze these historic samples using modern methods," said Bada. The team wanted to see if modern equipment could discover chemicals that could not be detected with the techniques of the 1950s. They analyzed the samples and turned to Daniel Glavin and Jason Dworkin of NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md., who helped with the analysis using state-of-the-art instruments in their Goddard Astrobiology Analytical lab.

Miller actually ran three slightly different experiments, one of which injected steam into the gas to simulate conditions in the cloud of an erupting volcano. "We found that in comparison to Miller's classic design everyone is familiar with from textbooks, samples from the volcanic apparatus produced a wider variety of compounds," said Bada.

"We discovered 22 amino acids, 10 of which have never been found in any other experiment like this," said Glavin.

GENESIS TIME

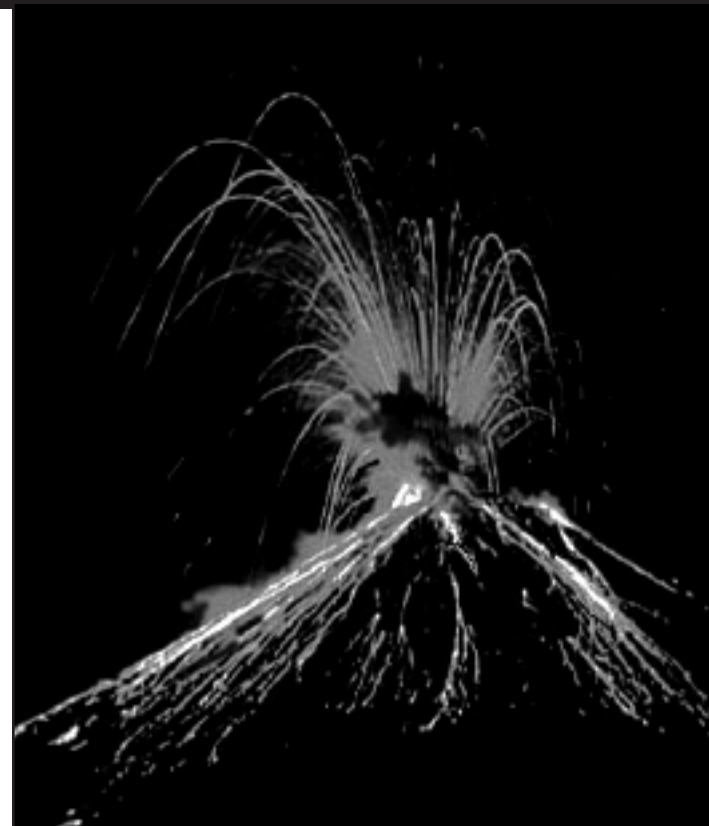
Amid chaotic

Cloudy nights and lightning strikes

Life is happening.

If you'd like to learn more, you can contact Bob at beklund@mvoobserver.com

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From the Inside Out: Health Fairs

By Mary Carney



When thinking about going to a "Health Fair," the question for me is, what should I expect? Well, I have to admit that the health fairs I've found myself at have been rather odd, from my point of view. Yes, the Lions may be there with eye tests, with someone else offering blood pressure checks; maybe there are hearing tests, a diabetic sugar test; maybe they've even been forward thinking enough to include lifeline screening. Depending on the time of year, someone might be offering flu shots. Maybe there's a chiropractor or two, massage therapists, a sports injury specialist. There are sure to be folks selling life insurance, health insurance, long-term care insurance. HMOs and PPOs are represented; assisted living services for seniors, in-home care groups. Hmmm.

If I were going to a Health Fair, I'd be interested in something other than the above. What are some ideas that might help me figure out what I need to do to take better care of me?

For example; info on food combining to enhance my digestion; info on Community Supported Agriculture groups in the area that deliver fresh garden produce or meats locally. Clean water - both for drinking and bathing. The value of alkaline and acidic waters as for both internal and healthy home cleaning media. Air cleaners. Non-toxic household cleaning supplies like the orange oil based ones. Non-toxic (ingestible) scent removal cleaning products if one has pets. A list of some really good books that point the way to basic self care, and even some books to buy. Specialists on body-mind-spirit interactions. Who's who in specialty self-care technologies. Colon cleanse, anyone? Who knows a really good lawyer who specializes in helping folks stand on their own two feet? If I want to say, "Ok, you say I have 'X disease', but I want to treat it this way instead of your standardized medical protocol way?"

and the pressure is on to make me change my mind, who can I get in my corner? They say "timing is everything." Is there any way I could find out when's the best time for me to take action? No point trying to take in oxygen if I'm in the process of breathing "out" ... what other things might I keep in mind?

And because we hear so much these days that the future of medicine is going to be "energy

medicine", I'd want to have a peek at what that means. What is "energy medicine", anyway? Where can I find out more about this? Is there a beginner's book list? What kinds of "energy generators" are out there that might be fun to try? Are there any that I'd like my health care professional to have?

For example, I'd love to have access to a Magnetic pulse thumper. Used correctly between 30 and 50 times within one or two months stimulates cell walls and flexes the eyeball so that eye muscles can once move the eyeball structure and enable close to a 20/20 focus capability. What's all this about red light frequencies for skin care? Is full spectrum light really important? Why? Are there any non-mercury fluorescents out there? What this about a cold laser which, when used with alkaline water, might help re-mineralize my teeth and eliminate small cavities? What's the difference between personal Rife equipment and molecular enhancers? And just what are they, anyway? What's an ionic footbath and what's its relationship to getting toxins out of my body? What's the scoop on infrared / Far Infrared? My immune system has been low - too many colds recently; instead of another flu shot, maybe I'm willing to try some precision far infrared sessions plus change my diet? I have friends with all kinds of challenges, is there any info here that might point them in a direction of something that might work for them?

Most of us have been well programmed to think that only the doctor knows what is good for us ... and we are understandably cautious about trying new things. But a well organized health fair is a perfect venue for exploring new possibilities - if there's one coming up in your area, why not take a chance and see what it's all about?

In addition to tables and booths and low- or no-cost demonstrations, there might even be some programs that give you real food for thought! And what more can you ask for than that? Healing - it's about balancing your own systems from the inside out.

Mary Carney received her four-year degree in polarity healing energy work in 1987, is a Trinity College Certified Natural Health Practitioner, is studying to be a Naturopath,

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TRAIN WRECKS (cont. from page 10)

of on the evening news. Total chaos. I had to act fast. Since Shonto seemed to be getting to her feet and removing herself from Bonnie, I went to Slim first. I struggled to remove his halter, but there was too much tension on it, so I tried to remove Bill's so that he could move, but the same was true with his. I had to cut the rope, but with what? I looked around and found a rock with a sharp, thin, jagged edge and began to saw away at the rope with it. It worked like a charm, cutting through the rope in seconds and freeing Slim. He got to his feet with his saddle hanging from his side. Jake and Shonto had both gotten to their feet on their own, and Bill quickly stood once the tension of Slim's rope had slackened. I severed the rope between Gus and Slim and they both got up next. Bonnie did not move. She lay there in place, perfectly still, sweating profusely. I went over to her, cut the rope between her and Shonto and began to unload her saddle bags and remove them from her saddle. Then I removed her saddle. I was worried that she was injured and examined her legs and body for any signs of something being wrong. I took what was left of her lead rope and gently coaxed her to stand. Finally when she no longer felt as though she was in danger, she did. Relieved, I led her over to the lower part of the trail that we had been on just moments before, knotted her lead rope back together and tied her to a tree. I returned to the rest of the animals who were now all standing and apparently unharmed (except for poor Slim's nose) and one by one, I removed any luggage left in their bags, and then removed their bags and saddles and stacked everything on the trail. I took them one at a time and tied them to individual trees so that I could resaddle and reload each of them.

Sometime during this process, I became aware of the sound of voices and laughter coming through the woods. By this time I was overwhelmed and in tears and the sound of the approaching group pro

vided me with a great sense of relief and gratitude. As the first members of the group came into sight and realized what had happened, they quickly rallied everyone to help. With the extra hands, and their support and encouragement, things suddenly seemed much more manageable and nowhere near as dismal as they had seemed moments ago. I did some quick repair work on the broken straps and ropes with the bailing twine and duck tape that I had come to carry with me at all times I had learned how to use them for pretty much anything. Once everyone was saddled again, I organized the loads and the hikers helped load the gear back on each animal. I got back on Jake and we all continued on to camp. Though I thanked them all profusely, I do not think any of the will ever really know how grateful I was for their presence and their help. Though I am sure that I could have pulled it all together on my own, the emotional strain that those two days provided could well have been enough to do me in. Many times during my tenure at the station, my will was tested in dramatic ways. Each and every time I stuck hard to resolving the challenge at hand and did my best, and if it ever got to the point where it was all too much for me, my efforts were always rewarded with a little helping hand or morale boost from some guardian angel that would show up at just the right moment. It was here that I learned one of my most valuable life lessons...if you always put your best foot forward and if hold fast to faith, everything you really need will always come to you. Once I was awakened to that fact, I have witnessed it proven true time and time again...which has made my faith grow exponentially and has served to liberate me from most of the worry and stress in my life. If I had to choose one lesson I would hope to be passed on to my boys, it would be this one. It is priceless.

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Halloween Pet Safety

When it comes to Halloween the best way to keep pets safe is to keep them inside the home, not outside in the yard. Confine pets away from the front door in a separate room as this will reduce the chances of them biting strangers. You may open the door many times during the evening, allowing your pet to slip outside.

Do not share candy with pets, especially chocolate as it is toxic for animals. Chocolate can cause vomiting, restlessness, heart disturbances, and even death. This is especially true with dogs. Consult your veterinarian immediately if your animal may have consumed any.

Take extra precautions if you own a black cat by confining it in your house several days before Halloween. The mythology about black cats and witches can lead people to do harmful things to them; yes, even in the 21st century.

Make sure your cat or dog wears a current animal license tag on its collar. Put your phone number on it. Pick a collar that's reflective. If your pet is lost, it is 10 times more likely to be returned to you if your pet is wearing a license tag. This rule should apply to cats and dogs all year, not just for occasional use.

Don't Become a Fraud Victim

The holidays are a time that fundraisers for many worthwhile charities ask for donations. It is a wonderful thing to support these organizations as their work helps so many in need. One must be careful, though. This is the time of year that scammers come to prey on us and seek to exploit the holiday spirit of goodwill.

It's sometimes hard to tell if a sales pitch is legitimate or fraudulent. Good salespeople are convincing, but it's probably a scam if:

- 1) You get a call or postcard from someone telling you you've won a prize and asking for payment to buy something, for processing, administrative fees, or any other reason. Legitimate sweepstakes or prize offers don't ask for payment because it's illegal.
- 2) The person says you have to take the

offer immediately or you'll miss the opportunity. Legitimate companies don't pressure people to act without time to look into the deal.

3) The caller is asking for a donation but won't tell you exactly how the money will be used. Legitimate charities are willing to say what percentage of contributions is used for services and how much goes to overhead and fundraising.

4) The caller insists that you send your payment by a private courier or wire money. Legitimate companies don't try to keep people from checking the deal out and changing their minds.

5) The company asks for cash. Legitimate companies don't ask for cash.

6) The caller asks for your social security number. Legitimate companies don't ask for that unless you are applying for credit and they need to check your credit report.

7) The caller asks for your credit card number, bank account number, or other financial information when you aren't buying anything or paying with those accounts. Legitimate companies only ask for financial information to bill you or debit your account for purchases you've agreed to make.

8) Gift cards on display for sale at stores can be the target of fraud. Since the numbers can be viewed by anyone and written down, they may be used up for on line purchases after you buy them and before your special person has a chance to use them. If you are purchasing gift cards as a holiday gift, insist that the cashier gives you cards that have not been displayed on a rack. There is nearly always a back-up supply of cards behind the register. Ask that your cards be taken from that supply. If the cashier refuses, don't buy the card.

Got a question? Ask Bruce by phone- (626)335-3412 or e-mail: blamarche@verizon.net This article is provided by Bruce Lamarche, a member of Society of Certified Senior Advisors®, www.csa.us. Bruce's company, R & B Reverse Mortgage Services (Glendora) helps seniors make an informed decision about obtaining a reverse mortgage. www.LASeniorMortgage.com



BIRD'S EYE VIEW By Pat Birdsall

Flying Solo

There are many things only a person living alone can get away with. Since my divorce, I can relax a few of the rules of shared domicile etiquette. Did I say a few? Change that to many...The other night I was eating a steak and bit into that horrid; where-in-the-hell-did-that-come-from fat. Had I been with another, I would have discretely discarded the offending material into my napkin. Well, because I could, I just spit it out onto my plate. What have I become? What other things do I do now that I never would have dreamed of doing before? Okay, belching comes to mind. Not just a little feminine burp, but a real soft drink or beer BELCH. The kind that almost fizzes in your nose. Oh, my son would be so proud! Something else comes to mind, but I will spare you that one.

Moving on...I can eat the same thing a few days in a row, and not necessarily at

dinner time. I can wash dishes whenever the mood strikes. Only when I can write my name on the stove top do I feel the need to dust it off. I don't have to know where the steam iron is or whether I even have one. If I watch football, baseball or basketball, it's because I choose to do so. That fact makes it unnecessary to hide the remote control anymore; it can be in full view. Most importantly, I no longer have to worry about the configuration of the toilet seat. Will it be up, and in the middle of the night will I get an icy, partial baptismal? Or, will the lid be down so that my teeth get jarred by the unexpected rubber-meeting-the-road- syndrome?

You might ask whether my feet get cold on winter nights...Not a problem: "Here kitty, kitty, kitty."

Originally published October, 2006



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SENIOR HAPPENINGS...

By Pat Birdsall

FYI: Warning!

A stranger coming to your door offering to rake your leaves might seem like an innocuous circumstance, but in actuality, it could be the beginning of a con artist's scheme to separate you from your money and your valuables.

It is a fact that most people are generally cautious when they interact with strangers. Hence, a con artist has to break this coldness if he wants to cheat his victim. They typically warm up their targets by flattering them or by claiming that they have met before. They are usually very friendly, charming, persuasive and extremely nice; all of which serve to disarm prospective victims. They are great actors and like chameleons, they are able to change their personality to suit the the role they play. Once trust is established, the rest is easy.

KEEP YOUR GUARD UP AT ALL TIMES!

~Helpful Hints~

Take a old (or new) tennis ball and carefully cut a 2-inch slit along one seam--you now have an ingenious place to hide your small valuables at the gym, in a locker, in your car...anywhere.



Happy Birthday
Sole Krieg and Pat Birdsall

Recipe of the Month: A is for Apple

*Sprinkle thin slices of apple lightly with sugar, then sauté in butter for 5 minutes, until golden. Fold into mashed potatoes.

* Cut small cubes of apples and celery, then combine with walnut pieces. Toss with mayonnaise and season with chopped parsley, salt and pepper. This is a great autumn salad.

*Substitute chopped apple for chopped celery in tuna salad.

*Instead of lettuce, thinly slice apple on a turkey or ham sandwich. Top with mayonnaise or honey mustard.

*Note: Fuji and Gala are great for snacking. When slicing or cubing apples, dip in 1 or 2 tablespoons of fresh lemon juice to keep from browning. Drain and pat dry.

Sheila Lukins-Parade

For Your Funny Bone (All are guaranteed to provoke groans and boos)

Three vampires walk into a bar. The waitress comes up to them and asks what they'll have. The first vampire says, (Transylvania accent inferred) "I'll have a glass of O Positive." The second vampire says, "I'll have a glass of AB Negative."

The third vampire says, "I'm the designated driver, I'll just have a glass of plasma." The waitress turns toward the bartender and yells, "Gimme two bloods and one blood lite!" ~

What do you call someone who puts poison in a person's corn flakes?
A cereal killer.

Why do mummies have trouble keeping friends?
They're so wrapped up in themselves.

Quote:

Winter is an etching, spring a watercolor, summer an oil painting and autumn a mosaic of them all.
~Stanley Horowitz~

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 at the Intervale Café -12:00 Noon-Call (626) 355-0256 to make your daily reservation. Suggested donation \$2.00 for seniors (60+) and \$3.75 for visitors

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

Tuesday: Bingo: 1:30-3:30 PM .25c per card. Yoga- 5:30 PM- 7:00PM Instructor Andrea Walsh- \$6.50 for seniors (50 and over.) Call 355-5278 for more information

Wednesday: 1st & 3rd Wednesdays-Community Lunch & Learn Program

Thursday: Game Day- 1:00- 3:30 PM Poker, UNO, Scrabble, Cribbage, Chess, Checkers, Backgammon, Pinochle...you name it.

Yoga- 5:00 PM- 6:30PM \$6.50 for seniors (50 and over) Call 355-5278 for more information

Friday: Ping-Pong- 1:30 PM

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



Can you donate one hour of your time per month? Local volunteer drivers are desperately needed for the Sierra Madre Meals-on-Wheels program. Please call Darlene Traxler at 626.355.6220. You can make a difference in someone's life.

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
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One Of A Kind:

Featuring unique homes & gardens and the people who create them

By Chris Bertrand

1896 was a very good year! Venerable Pasadena estate offered for the first time in decades

You can feel that this is a comfortable family home as well as a majestic residence. Just off Orange Grove's "millionaire's row" this stately home offers a breathtaking bridge from elegant yesteryear to today's 21st century living.

Lovingly restored and maintained, the home offers a floorplan for grand entertaining, while maintaining the feeling of a real home. Family members can kick off their shoes and watch the big screen flat panel in the family room or actually sit down and read or study in the vintage designed library with one of the three fireplaces. Beautiful disappearing pocket doors allow the floorplan to be open and flow for a gathering of 200, or create privacy by closing off a section of the main floor.

Everything in the home is tastefully done, harmonious with the original period, yet very functional for today's lifestyle. I hesitate to use the word Victorian, because the home doesn't feel segmented into individual, non-integrated rooms the way many other Victorians do, making them a tough transition for homeowners who want historic architecture AND internet connections at the kitchen planning desk.

Originally designed by architect H.L. Smith for Mrs. Emily Macy in 1896, this was just ten years after Pasadena incorporated as a city, and years before they even began to issue building permits. A large addition and extensive alterations were accomplished in 1929 by Marston and Maybury. A 640 square foot "den" was added in 1972, though all appear seamless. Along the way, a three car garage was built in 1983, and new HVAC system went in during 2003.

There are still charming peeks into century old technology, like a control panel from the original intercom system. A three car garage and a long side drive provide ample off street parking for the owners and guests.

Come New Year's Day every year, you can even look forward to a priceless behind the scene glimpse of the Budweiser Clydesdale horses lining up in anticipation of the annual Rose Bowl Parade. That's about as steeped in tradition as you can ask for!

Listing agent, Tink Cheney, points out that this residence, located in the "Governor Markham Historical District" of Pasadena, might qualify for the property tax benefits of Mills Act status.

With four bedrooms on the second floor and three (originally intended for live-in staff) on the third floor, there's ample room for a large or extended family, au pair quarters, or large home offices for the owners.

The current owners are reluctantly ready for a single level home happily raised six children here, though the home doesn't show the wear and tear that might happen with a large family. In contrast to many large, vintage homes, all the rooms have been beautifully finished, even on the third floor.



The master suite is a closet lover's delight, with so many closets, I might have missed one! The dressing room is fabulous, and leads to an elegant, large master bath. On the other side of the master suite, a door connects to a full bath then to another bedroom. Perfect for nighttime access to a young child's nursery without disturbing the rest of the household... or a beautiful home office overlooking the magnificent grounds.

I'm sure the dining room has seen its share of magnificent dinner parties. It easily seats ten now, but could easily manage more. The up to date kitchen, with sparkling white cabinetry and deep green granite counters offers breakfast bar seating, a kitchen planning desk, a large exhaust hood and a huge vintage triple-wide Roper gas stove.

The landscape was redesigned in 1983 (remember that was after the house was already 96 years old!) by well known landscape architect

Michael Schmidt. The grand scaled back yard includes a beautiful pool and spa, paddle tennis and basketball court surrounded by expansive, lush lawns. I can just imagine a beautiful garden wedding here!

The home is currently offered at \$3,795,00 by Tink Cheney of Coldwell Banker. More information is available on the home's unique website: www.344Bellefontaine.com or call Cheney directly at 626-356-8129.

Know of a unique home, garden or person who helps create them? Contact Chris at Chris@BertrandOnline.com.



Chris Bertrand



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Canyon **Monrovia** **\$719,000**
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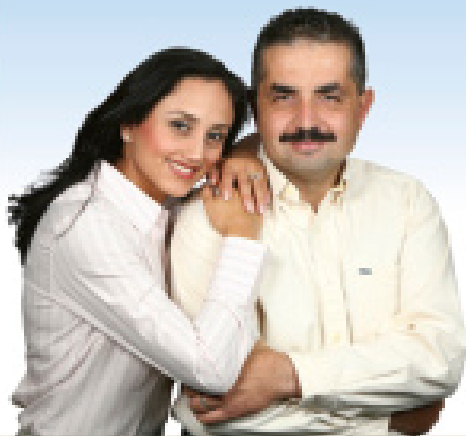
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