

The Most Beautiful.....Sierra Madre Rose Float Association Brings Home A Trophy For The Fourth Year In A Row



Above: Bollywood Dreams won the Lathrop K. Leishman Award for Most Beautiful Non-Commercial Float. This is the fourth consecutive year that SMRFA has won a trophy. Photo By Dean Lee

Right: The 2009 Rose Parade Royal Court includes Sierra Madrean Molly Novell. From left to right, 2009 Rose Queen Courtney Lee, Princess Lauren Valenzuela, Princess Mary Gaule, Princess Molly Novell, Princess Quinn Young, Princess Jasmine Jenkins and Princess Bridget McDonald Courtesy 2009 TORP



The Snowman Returns

On New Year's Eve, Frosty returned to Kersting Court. According to Bill Coburn who snapped the photo below, this has been a tradition in downtown Sierra Madre since 1988. Frosty arrived courtesy Andrew Graper, Dave Forrester and/or Augie Beck.



Above: Everything's Coming Up Roses for float designer Charles Meier as appreciative SMRFA members and volunteers shower him in gratitude the day before the parade. Photo courtesy of James and Sara Fulton of Miami, Florida who were visiting Paul and Louise Neiby over the holidays.

The 2009 Tournament Of Roses Parade

By Dean Lee

Although one float in Thursday's Rose Parade had a grand wedding theme, prior to the start of the 2009 Tournament of Roses festivities, a couple truly tied the knot by getting married in front of a vacated car lot along the 5.5 mile parade route down Colorado Boulevard—a true first for a parade that has seen everything.

This was the Tournament of Roses Parade's 120th year and the weather could not have been better - sunny and warm, with temperatures into the 70s.

Sierra Madre's float "Bollywood Dreams" was a salute to the world's most prolific film industry, the cinema of India. The exotic entry recreated a classic Bollywood wedding scene, a common theme for an industry that produces 800 films yearly. The float was among 89 entries, including 46 floats, 22 marching bands, 18 equestrian units, 3 official vehicles. Leading the Bollywood entry

was a bride, Vernita Singh a city administrator, riding in a "dholi" carried by 12 SM Volunteer Firefighters. Her groom flowed atop the float, an ornately adorned elephant. It also won this year's Lathrop K. Leishman Trophy for most beautiful self built float. Sierra Madre was also one of only two floats that had to be towed.

An hour before the parade's start, and about three miles down the route, a real life local bride and groom got married, complete with a wedding gazebo of their own and a priest who read them their vows. A number of spectators, friends, family and news media looked on. "We waited a whole year for this," the bride said.

Kicking off the parade was a 49 foot tall robot, "ASIMO" who slowly doffed its top hat, then, shot fireworks and streamers into the crowd before turning the corner from Orange Grove Boulevard onto Colorado the official start of

the parade. The floats theme "Hats off to Celebration," was a tribute to this year's Tournament of Roses theme, "Hat's off to Entertainment" and won the Theme Trophy for excellence in presenting parade theme.

Although this year's Tournament President, Ronald Conzonire (Corky), owns a chain of 10 restaurants called "The Hat," he said there was no association. All of it was just a coincidence he said.

(cont. pg. 4)

Inside This Week

SMRFA Wins Again	Page 1
Calendar	Page 2
Around SGV	Page 3
Pasadena/Altadena	Page 4
Focus: Marlene Enmark	Page 5
OPINION	Page 6
Table For Two	Page 9
Senior Happenings	Page 10
One Of A Kind	Page 11

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prosperous New
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Weather Wise

5-Day Forecast
Sierra Madre, Ca.

Mon: Sunny Mid 50-60s Lows 40s
Tues: Sunny Mid 50-60s Lows 40s
Wed: Sunny Mid 50-60s Lows 40s
Thur: Sunny Mid 50-60s Lows 40s
Fri: Sunny Mid 50-60s Lows 40s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

Sierra Madre Chamber
Of Commerce Annual
Meeting
January 8, 2009
6:30 pm
SM City Hall

Ballots Will Be Counted
For 2009 Officers &
Board

Board Meeting
Immediately Following

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF:

With the close of 2008, we can review community safety and crime rates. The good news is that in 2008 there were no murders, robberies, or rapes reported in Sierra Madre. Crime decreased in several categories. Larceny (thefts over \$400.00) dropped 37%, from 132 incidents in 2007 to 83 incidents in 2008. The greatest decrease was in thefts from unlocked vehicles. Auto theft dropped slightly from 9 incidents in 2007 to 8 in 2008, an 11% decrease. Vandalism dropped 26%, from 120 incidents in 2007 to 83 in 2008. Crime increased in two major categories—assaults and burglaries.

Felonious assaults increased from 26 in 2007 to 29 in 2008, up 11%. About 75% of the incidents involved domestic violence against a spouse, cohabitant, or child. The remaining incidents occurred at parties, in bars, on the roadway, and at a school. The greatest crime increase was in burglary, up 47% from 34 incidents in 2007 to 50 incidents in 2008. At least 8-10 of the burglaries were believed to have been committed by the same suspects who were arrested in mid-2008. Some of our burglary victims' stolen property was recovered after search warrants were served on the suspects' homes.

It is important to acknowledge that crime statistics frequently change as cases are reclassified. For example, an officer may incorrectly classify a crime report and it may not be corrected in time to reflect accurate data reporting. This problem is common to nearly all police departments and accounts for some inconsistency in data.

In 2008 the Police Department increased its Neighborhood Watch programs, creating closer bonds within the community and providing tools to prevent and report crimes, especially burglaries. Each time a Neighborhood Watch presentation takes place, an officer identifies a block captain who is willing to be responsible for sharing crime information and reaching neighbors in an emergency. Several past participants in Neighborhood Watch presentations have subsequently called police to report events which have resulted in arrests.

During the rainy weather in November and December 2008 the City went to



**Marilyn Diaz, Chief
Sierra Madre
Police Department**

"Yellow Flag Alerts" in anticipation of debris and mud flows on the burned hillsides above the Canyon neighborhoods. The block captains were an invaluable resource. One of the methods City officials used to convey emergency information to the public was through the neighborhood block captains. This was especially effective in the Marlborough Terrace neighborhood where Kim Vollstedt, Catherine Adde, and Ted Saraf did an excellent job in reaching out to their neighbors.

Starting in January the Police Department will have a Citizen's Service Portal on the City website. This is an online reporting system for your convenience. You will be able to access a link on the City's website to reach the portal. Initially we will reserve this for reporting minor crimes and incidents that generally do not require follow up investigation, such as a lost property report. More information will be forthcoming.

The Sierra Madre Police Department welcomes your involvement in our crime prevention efforts. I encourage you to participate in a Neighborhood Watch program. You may call Sgt. Ruben Enriquez or Off. John Ford at 355-1414 for further information. I also invite any resident or business employer or employee to come on a ride along with an officer. We will try to accommodate you whenever possible. Just call 355-1414 and ask for the watch commander. If you have any questions for me, I welcome your call at 355-5247 or by email at mdiaz@cityofsierramadre.org. I wish all of you a Happy and safe New Year!

MountainViews-Observer

Where Your Community News Comes First

January 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Happy New Year				1	2	
4	5 Fire Safe Council City Hall 7:00	6	7	8 COORDINAT- ING COUNCIL 12:00 YAC 3:00 BARKS & BOOKS FOR KIDS SM Library 6:30 Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting City Hall	9	
11		13 City Council 6:30 pm	14 Arts Commission 6:30 pm Council Chambers	15 Planning Commission 7:00 Council Chambers	16	17
18	19 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr, Holiday	20	21 Tree Commission 7:00 Council Chambers	<div> Sierra Madre Little League Tryout Information for Spring 2009! All Tryouts at Heasley Field -Sierra Madre Bring your baseball equipment—Wear long pants and cleats and Arrive early to warm up Pick up your tryout number when you arrive <i>Wednesday January 7th</i> 11 year olds at 6:00 PM 12 year olds at 7:00 PM <i>Saturday January 10th</i> 10 year olds at 8:45 AM 9 year olds at 10:30 AM 8 year olds at 1:30 PM 7 year olds at 3:00 PM If you are unable to attend Tryouts you may participate in a make-up session: 11 and 12 year olds: Saturday, Jan 10th at 8am 7, 8, 9, 10 year olds: Tuesday, Jan 15th at 6pm If it is impossible to attend the scheduled tryout dates, contact Tim McKiernan, Player Agent, timmckiernan@yahoo.com or 836-3780 for a tryout. </div>		
25	26 CHINESE NEW YEAR YEAR OF THE OX	27 City Council 6:30 pm	28 Library Trustees 7:00 City Hall Conference Room			

You Won't Want To Miss This!

The SIERRA MADRE KIWANIS CLUB will hold its' first Evening Social of 2009 at The Only Place In Town on Tuesday, January 6 at 7:00 pm. You Don't Have To Be A Member To Attend. Come Out and Have Some Fun! Call 626-355-0728 for more info

Winter 2009 Registration-Time for Dancing!

Put on your dancing shoes! It's now 2009 and time to try some new dance moves! The Arcadia Recreation & Community Services Department is currently taking registration for a variety of styles including Line, Ballroom, Tap and Salsa.

We have Line Dance classes in a variety of levels on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights. This is a fun class for adults of all ages. Meet some new friends, listen to some great music and have a blast!

Tap into your inner Ginger Rogers or Fred Astaire and learn to tap dance! Already a seasoned tapper? We have classes for all levels on Monday and Thursday evenings. Pam Kay of Tap Chicks will teach you the basics or challenge you to more sophisticated routines on Mondays. DannaLou offers her exciting Tappercize class on Thursdays. Join us!

Go to www.ci.arcadia.ca.us to view our course schedule or call 626.574.5113 for more information.

Christmas Tree Recycling

Sierra Madre - Athens will pick up your Christmas Tree for recycling from December 26, 2008 until January 17, 2009. Please put your tree at your curb side or next to your bin on your pickup day. Please be sure all ornaments, stands, tinsel, popcorn etc. are removed leaving only the tree. (Plastic trees may be placed within recyclable containers.) For more information or questions, please call Athens Services at 888-336-6100 or the City of Sierra Madre Public Works at 626-355-7135

Pasadena - City of Pasadena residents have several options for disposing of their holiday trees, compliments of the Department of Public Works. Participants are asked to remove all stands, ornaments and lights so that the trunks and branches may be recycled as compost. Residents may drop off their holiday trees for recycling Monday, Dec. 29 through Saturday, Jan. 3, at: *Eaton Blanche Park, 3100 E. Del Mar Blvd., parking lot on Millicent Way; or *Robinson Park, 1081 N. Fair Oaks Ave., parking lot on Morton Street. Residents with trash pickup services from city of Pasadena may place their trees curbside, to be picked up on their regular trash pickup day. Trees will be picked up January 5 through 16. For more information call Street Maintenance & Integrated Waste Management Division at (626) 744-4087.

Arcadia - *Single-family Residential:* Holiday tree recycling begins December 26 and ends January 12, 2009. Trees should be placed at the curb on your regularly scheduled trash collection day. Waste Management will pick up the old trees and recycle them in an environmentally sensitive manner. All tinsel, ornaments, stands, and nails must be removed. A separate truck will collect holiday trees, so please do not place your holiday tree in front of your regular refuse/recyclable carts. *Multi-family Residential:* . Please call Waste Management Customer Service at (800) 266-7551 to arrange for your holiday tree to be picked-up and recycled.

Monrovia - The City of Monrovia has franchised residential waste hauling to Athens Services. Athens may be reached at (626) 336-3636.

Duarte -Collection from Dec. 26 to Jan. 17 The City of Duarte through its franchised trash hauler, Burrtec Waste, will provide a Christmas tree collection service for residential customers in conjunction with the Los Angeles County Sanitation District's annual Christmas Tree Recycling program. The trees will be ground up for composting or used for the County Sanitation Districts' landfill Cover Project. Christmas trees will be collected on regular trash collection days. All decorations must be removed. Flocked trees are acceptable. For more info call Burrtec at (1-800) 325-9417



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A Word From The Publisher and Editor

ENERGY WISE

energy (n): usable power;
wise (adj.): capacity for sound judgment

First and foremost, let me wish each of you a very happy and prosperous new year. While I know that the notion of a 'prosperous' year in light of our current economic crisis sounds like an impossibility, let us remember that prosperity is not just measured in dollars and cents. Our personal prosperity - our mind, body and soul, will be the only thing that will carry us through 2009 and beyond.

We have witnessed what we could not possibly have imagined, happen right before our eyes. While we were busy 'living' the bottom fell out of our nation's financial structure, the 'real' estate that we owned lost its value, our 'savings' dwindled involuntarily. Jobs disappeared and life as we knew it changed.

And that's where we are at the start of 2009. There is no clear fix in sight. Mostly because those who should have seen it coming didn't and those who did kept it to themselves and protected their own self interests. On a national level, we do have a new leader that may not be able to solve our nation's problems, but he does bring hope back into the equation.

In the meantime, while our nation, state, county and city are fighting to keep their heads above water, as citizens, now more than ever we have to take responsibility for our future. We have to use all available resources to help us through this crisis and mold the direction of our future. We cannot afford to sit back idly and let things get this out of control every again.

How, you ask? Well, first of all, the level of concern and participation that lead all of us to the polls in November, regardless of who we voted for, needs to be maintained. We must continue to exercise the power given to us as citizens and while using sound judgment elect competent, committed and honorable individuals to public office. And nowhere is responsible voting needed more desperately than right here in Sierra Madre.

In April, we will have three city council seats up for grabs. Joe Mosca, Don Watts and Kurt Zimmerman's seats are open and whether or not they choose to run again, we need to make certain that we only elect those who are interested in truly representing the entire community and not just select groups of individuals. Now is not the time for cronyism and immaturity. Our city is barely surviving financially and things will certainly get worse before they get better as the county, state and federal governments are out of money and will not be able to keep all of their commitments to local governments.

Secondly, we need to use the power within us to stop trying to tear down what has been accomplished and start trying to preserve this town. We have lots of unfinished business to be taken care of that if left unaddressed, will not be good for this town. We have boarded up and possibly soon to be abandoned buildings right in the heart of town. We have to learn to pool our resources together

and save our town.

Recently, there have been a lot of recruiting efforts for volunteers to help keep this city the gem of the San Gabriel Valley that it is. Sierra Madre is special because of the way that residents volunteer. This was most recently evidenced with the magnificent award winning float that volunteers constructed for the Rose Parade. And while all of the volunteers were not from Sierra Madre, the spirit of volunteerism in the city helped draw others to the project.

Don't think that there isn't something you can do. Go to the city's website and look at the list of 'volunteer opportunities' that we currently have. If you have the time and the talent, we can use you. And if nothing else, when you see someone doing a good job, just tell them so. It will mean a lot.

I must admit, when I first moved here almost six years ago, I really did not know or understand the importance of volunteering as it relates to the city of Sierra Madre. Hundreds of man/woman/child hours go into making this town work. Those hours also save the city thousands of dollars. Volunteering epitomizes being 'energy wise'. It is part of the reason that we are able to provide so many services to residents.

It is the spirit of volunteerism here that made me commit to publishing a newspaper that would put community news first. The publication of this newspaper is not a profit making venture, (but neither are the Los Angeles Times and other print media), and it takes a tremendous amount of time and money to make it work. In fact, I just realized that for the past 112+ weeks, without fail, I personally have spent between 70 - 100 hours per week, not counting the hours put in by staff and supporters, producing over 140,000 pages of information for our community. And let me tell you, it is hard but we do our best. We truly thank all of you who have supported these efforts.

It is so important that we start this year with a clear focus on what needs to be done. Don't be discouraged by your current commitments and/or schedules. There is something that can be done, even if it is just becoming knowledgeable of what is going on and telling your neighbors. Concentrate your energy on making things better and be leery of those who do not. Don't let spoiled apples distract you. I certainly don't. As has been said many times, empty wagons make the most noise. And when you come across those empty wagons ask them a simple question, "what have you done lately?". You will know by their answer what is really on their minds.

So, let's start this year out in a positive manner, committing to do what we can to keep this a great place to live. Use your energy to do something useful and needed.



Susan Henderson

TaxCredit“WindowOfOpportunity”
Reopens In 2009

(NAPSI)-Between 25 and 50 percent of energy used in a home goes right out the window--literally. That's because, in most homes, windows provide the biggest openings between ambient indoor air and the elements outside--and the biggest opportunity for valuable energy to escape.

Heat always moves toward cooler air and windows are often a home's only protection against unwanted heat gain in the summer and heat loss in the winter. As many homeowners are seeking ways to save on energy bills and reduce their impact on the environment, windows have become a primary focal point.

With nearly 40 percent of home remodeling incorporating sustainable, green materials, the U.S. Department of Energy and the National Fenestration Rating Council have established a new, stricter set of criteria for windows carrying the ENERGY STAR label, which will take effect in 2010.

"These changes to ENERGY STAR will help homeowners distinguish between the quality of different window systems," said Tracy Rogers, window expert and technical director for Ohio-based Edgetech I.G. "Only windows with the best materials, such as all-foam, dual-seal spacers, will qualify for the ENERGY STAR label."

Additionally, the federal tax credit for installing energy-efficient windows is once again available for improvements made from January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009. More information can be found at www.sustainaview.com or www.energystar.gov.

Superefficient Windows

The green movement and ENERGY STAR enhancements have resulted in a climate change among window manufacturers who are now designing and building what some call "superefficient" windows--triple-pane rather than double-pane.

Triple-pane windows are most effective when constructed with high-performance materials, such as nonconductive dual-seal foam spacer systems, low-emissivity (low-e) coatings and argon or krypton gas filling. According to Rogers, the spacer system is a key element to promoting sustainability in window systems because it provides the seal between the indoor and outdoor air.

"Properly constructed 'superefficient' windows will stand the test of time," Rogers concluded. "Regardless of the climate, these windows are sure to cut energy costs and reduce carbon emissions from the home for many years to come."

For more information on where to buy superefficient windows with sustainable components, visit www.sustainaview.com.

Superefficient windows can help homeowners save on both their energy bills and, with federal credits, their tax bills.

Medicare AAA Screening Benefit
Now Offered For 12 Months

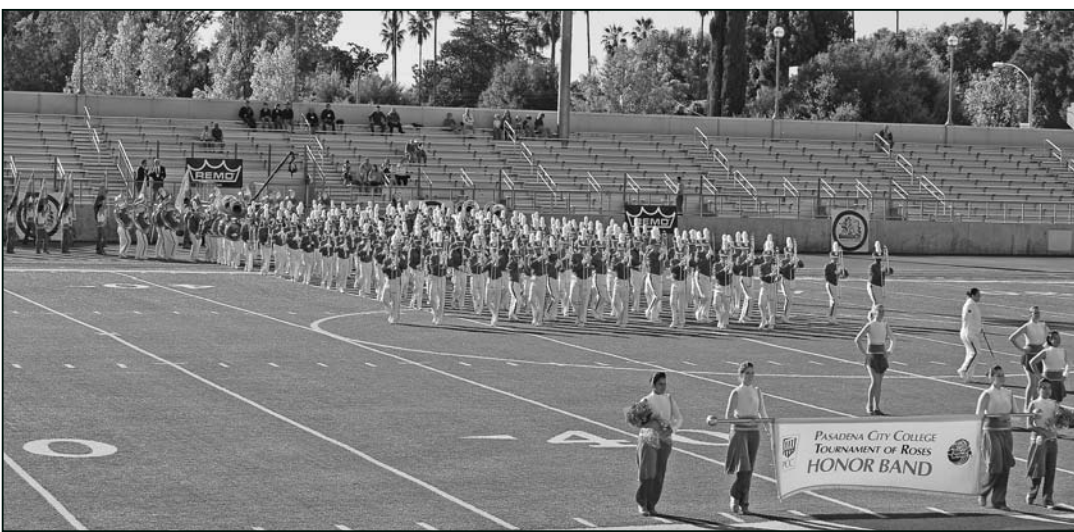
(NAPSI)-A one-time, free Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA) screening for at-risk Medicare beneficiaries is now available for 12 months after enrollment. Men who have smoked sometime during their life, and men and women with a family history of AAA, qualify for the free screening benefit as part of their Welcome to Medicare Physical Exam.

AAA is an enlargement or "bulge" that develops in a weakened area within the largest artery in the abdomen. The pressure generated by each heartbeat pushes against the weakened aortic wall, causing the aneurysm to enlarge and, in time, weaken. If undetected, the aneurysm becomes so large, and its wall so weak, that rupture occurs.

Nearly 200,000 people in the United States are diagnosed with AAA annually; approximately 15,000 of these cases may be severe enough to cause death if not treated. Talk to your family physician about being screened for AAA and see a vascular surgeon if AAA is detected. Visit VascularWeb.org for more vascular health information.

Before The Parade There Was.....BANDFEST

Photo By Chris Bertrand



The PCC Honor band performed at all three pre-parade concerts held December 29-31st this year at Pasadena Community College. Both college students and extraordinary high school musicians comprise the Honor Band. All the bands marching in the parade perform during one or more of the concerts, and perform their field shows for appreciative audiences from around the world. Many Rose Bowl Tours include this as a stop on the lineup of festivities for Rose Bowl attendees.

The Most Viewed?

While Bollywood Dreams did not win the online 'People's Choice Trophy', at the Float Viewing for three days after the parade, it was clear by the crowds that the SMRFA was one of the most popular, if not the most popular float.

This unidentified family posed for a quick shot of Bollywood Dreams for Photographer Dean Lee.

The float was the largest and most extravagant ever built by the SM Rose Float Association.

RESTORATION PROJECT CLOSES
MT. WILSON TRAIL Access Limited

The Skyland Slope Restoration Project on the Mt. Wilson Trail will cause the trail to be closed weekdays for the next two months. The Mt. Wilson Trail will be accessible on the weekends and holidays. The public is urged to please use alternate trails out of Chantry Flats or Bailey Canyon during closures.

Play Fastpitch Softball in Sierra Madre
SIERRA MADRE GIRLS SOFTBALL
ASSOCIATION

Register For The Spring 2009 Season

(Sierra Madre Residence NOT Required)



SMGSA offers one of the oldest Amateur Softball Association (ASA) girls fastpitch softball programs available in the area. Compare before you decide where to play softball next spring!!

- No residence restrictions. All age-eligible girls are invited to play ASA softball in Sierra Madre. Friends, classmates, and neighbors from all cities are welcome.
- No experience required. Beginners are welcome in all age divisions.
- Safety is a top priority. Reduced Injury Factor softballs are used in 8U and 10U Divisions. Approved batter's helmet faceguards required in ALL divisions.
- SMGSA has been an ASA registered league since 1994.
- SMGSA is the largest league in the area. Last spring over 350 girls played on 29 teams in four age divisions.
- SMGSA offers extensive postseason opportunities for those selected to all-star teams. All regular season players are eligible for all-stars. There are NO residence boundaries. In 2008 our seven all-star teams played dozens of games throughout Southern California.

Come to one of the registration dates listed above. Registration fee is only \$150 through January 10th. Registration forms available via download at www.smgsa.org/registration.html

For additional information, please visit our league website at www.smgsa.org. To reach a league representative, please call the league hotline at (626) 355-3899, or email SMGSA at smgsa@smgsa.org

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Spacious new state-of-the-art classrooms for three and four-year-olds.

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Dates for Admissions and Informational Meetings/Tours:

Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2008

Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2008

Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2009

Accredited by NAEYC. Members of The Alliance for Minority Affairs.

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Clairbourn SCHOOL

Pasadena Altadena

News From Your Community For Your Community

Cashing In On Waste

By Dean Lee

A group of local High School students knew what the right thing to do is when you have 20 to 30 tons of trash left from a parade that drew close to 700,000 people - recycle. And that's exactly what they did.

Wearing t-shirts that read, "Ask Me Why I'm Recycling," student in small groups from Gabrielino High School waked up and down the parade route Thursday picking up bottles, cans and plastic containers. The students said all the money they make will go to providing water purifiers in impoverished counties.

They also said they wanted to bring awareness to recycling which was clearly not on the minds of many parade goers. It was hard to estimate how much they were collecting but each of them had large trash bags filled with stuff.

The city Department of Transpiration, responsible for cleaning up the streets in the aftermath, said by 6 a.m. Friday it would be hard to tell there was ever a parade. One worker said they first go through picking big items, everything from sofas to cardboard to blankets, (left after keeping someone warm overnight). Then wash the street with power hoses.

Other treasure hunters, every year, also comb the rubble looking for TVs, radios and other valuables left.

Martian Pastucha said last year about 35 tons of waste was left after a 24 hour period. He said at the time it was hard to estimate, "I hate to give a number because it varies year to year." Fire officials estimated more people came out this year than last.

For more information call 626-573-2453.

Parade Day 2009

(Continued from Page 1)

Photos By Dean Lee

The Governor's Trophy for the best depiction of life in California went to the city of Roseville for their entree "Entertaining Dreams for a Century." This was a first for the city. The 55 foot long float portrayed an almost life-sized replica of a 1909 Union Pacific engine that made the Roseville-to-Sacramento run, pulling two Pullman cars. The train was a crowd-pleaser as smoke poured from the stack and as the wheels rotated. There was also a load roar as the real train whistle blew.

Although all of the floats were judged Wednesday, builders of another crowd pleaser did not find out they had won an award until Friday morning when "Seaside Amusement" was announced as KTLA's Viewer's Choice Award. Built by students at Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo and California State Polytechnic University Pomona, the float received 3,219 votes news anchor Wendy Burch reported. "The parade has gone interactive ladies and gentleman," she said about the newly added category that let people vote online.

Conzonire was on hand to present the award.

"It opens up a whole new approach —really," he said. "For people to



The Craftsman Trophy for exceptional showmanship for floats over 55 feet went to "Family Outing," Farmers Insurance Group.



Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard, wife and Sen. Jack Scott.

get involved in choosing an award for a float." The tournament chose KTLA to do the voting.

An official press release was sent out Wednesday by the school urging people to vote online, complete with a link. It was not immediately known how many of the total 10,618 votes submitted came from students, parents, alumni and university friends. Burch was unavailable Friday afternoon for comment.

Another first was the tournament granting special permission exempting a classic 1925 Cadillac Phaeton, on Farmers Insurance Group "Family Outing," the parade's rule that all elements on a float must be flower-covered. This led to criticism by some who thought the exemption could lead to, "nothing more than the Macy's Day Parade."

Rain Birds Corp.'s "Entertaining Expedition"

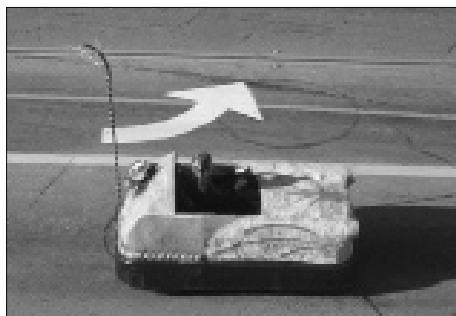
won the Sweepstakes Trophy for most beautiful entry with outstanding floral presentation and design. The 55 foot float showcased an African safari as Earth's purest form of entertainment.

The Mayor's Trophy for most outstanding city entry —national or international, went to the city of Huntington Beach for, "Surf City USA." The float consisted of a family of four riding a very large 30 foot wave.

There were a total of 16 cities that had float entries.

Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard and his wife Clair cruised down Colorado in a custom built 1927 Cadillac once use in 1934 to carrier Franklin D. Roosevelt on a tour of Glacier National Park. Rose Queen, Courtney Lee, and the Royal Court also made the trek without incident.

Police said 39 people were arrested most for public drunkenness.



Bumping up the fun from Cal Poly

Exempt?



The tournament, granting special permission to Farmers Insurance Group, exempting a classic 1925 Cadillac Phaeton from the parade's rule that all elements on a float must be flower-covered. This led

to criticism by some who thought the exemption could lead to, "nothing more than the Macy's Day Parade." Many also said the rule was the reason for the parade's very existence. This was a first.



Huntington Beach, "Surf City USA" won Mayor's Trophy



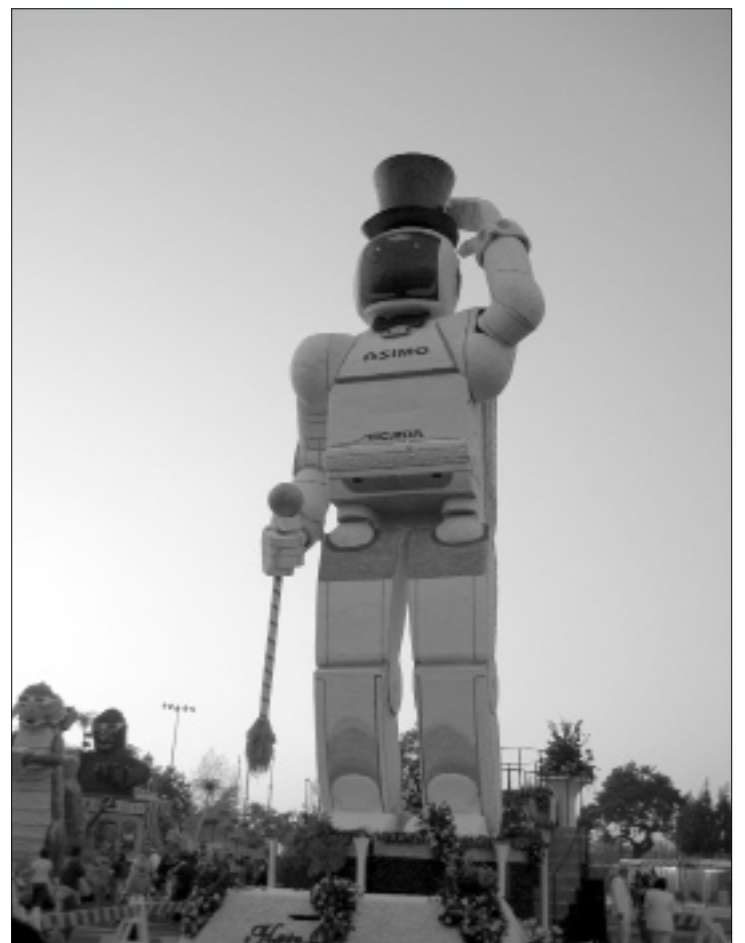
USC infamous marching band fights on



B1 bomber flyover



"Entertaining Dreams For A Century," City of Roseville won Governor's Trophy for best depiction of life in California



American Honda "Hats Off In Celebration."

A Weekly Spotlight on
Sierra Madre Volunteers

focus

MARLENE ENMARK

Marlene Enmark -- Spirit of Sierra Madre



Salute Marlene Enmark -- one of the real "Spirits of Sierra Madre."

It's not easy to catch Marlene Enmark for a few minutes between volunteering jobs. She's off to making life easier on many levels of Sierra Madre on most days.

Marlene was raised by a loving father, who, among other civic activities, was a city councilman in Orange, Calif. He would settle his two children (Marlene and her brother), ages 8 and 6, in the back of the council chambers while he helped to do city business.

When left with two young children to raise, her father stressed to them the importance of working as a team in order to stay together. Marlene states: "My father was an admirable and noble man."

Her paternal grandmother owned a small cafe, and Marlene lauds the experience there to her natural background in public relations and the enjoyment of cooking.

Marlene was business manager of Long Beach Community Hospital, a job she held for 20 years. She raised her three children there for 10 years before

taking a job with JPL, where she met and married Harry Enmark, a long-time resident in Sierra Madre. They will soon celebrate 30 years of marriage.

She and Harry both lost adult children in the early '90s, and Marlene's father passed away in 1990. Marlene has a daughter and son, and Harry has two daughters, one, Catherine Adde, living in Sierra Madre.

The Sierra Madarean has been an active participant in Civic Club for 26 years; currently, she and Joan Crow have been in charge of amenities for three years. Marlene is past president of Civic Club and has often run the kitchen for the Club's annual salad luncheon.

This year, to name a few, Marlene helped plant the rotunda at city hall, worked on Friends of the Library Cuisine and Wine Tasting. She was Friends Art Fair hostess and also worked on the Wine and Jazz Walk. Marlene is also active in the Red Hat Society, drives for Meals-on-Wheels when needed, and is chauffeur for those who don't drive. She is also known for her impromptu luncheons honoring friends' birthdays.

Marlene was Grand Marshal of the Fourth of July Parade in the '90s, honoring her volunteerism.

Shirley McGillicuddy, a friend of Marlene's, said, "Random acts of kindness describe the heart, soul and volunteer spirit of Marlene Enmark."

Volunteers are needed to help in a wide range of activities in Sierra Madre. Please contact De Alcorn at 626-355-4793 or dalcorn@cityofsierramadre.com for more information.



Environmentally Speaking, Did You Know?

New Year's Resolutions That Are Doable

By Pat Birdsall

- 1- Look for Recycling Opportunities: With 2.8 million water bottles alone going into the trash each day in California, every container you recycle makes a difference. There aren't enough recycling bins in California and you can help change that. If your gas station or convenience store doesn't have a recycling bin, ask for one. If you ask for recycling opportunities, you'll get them (it's easier than you think). Visit www.bottlesandcans.com to learn more.
 - 2- At the Office: Start an office-wide recycling campaign, or put a bin next to your trash can for beverage containers and paper. The CRV funds collected from most beverage containers can help your company reduce costs. Call 1-800-RECYCLE for information.
 - 3- Reduce and Reuse: Help lessen the amount of waste by buying items that use little or no packaging, or "buy in bulk," which reduces unnecessary and excessive packaging. Also, find ways to use items over and over again, such as refilling a water bottle.
 - 4- Buy Products Made from Recycled Materials: Resolve to "buy green" by purchasing at least one recycled-content product on a regular basis, such as computer paper. Look for the recycling symbol or ("made from post-consumer material") on a wide range of products. There is a growing array of new products made from recycled beverage containers including backyard planter boxes and fleece clothing.
 - 5- Make Your Home a Toxic-Free Environment: Keep your home healthy by reducing unnecessary toxic chemicals. Paints, solvents and other chemicals should be disposed of safely, not flushed down the toilet or poured down the drain. Baking soda and vinegar substitute as great all-purpose cleaners. Clorox has a new natural all-purpose cleaner called "Green Works." I just bought some, and like it very much. Cut down on pesticides and fertilizers in your garden and you'll limit what gets washed into the ocean.
 - 6- Get Out of the car One Day a Week: Carpool, use public transportation or bicycle. Using alternative transportation a day or two a week is manageable, and getting out from behind the wheel can be relaxing.
 - 7- Start a Compost Pile to Feed Your Garden: Convert yard clippings, vegetable peelings and even coffee grounds into nature's fertilizer for your garden. Home composters can be found at most home and garden centers. Visit www.ciwm.ca.gov/organics/homecompost to learn about composting at home.
 - 8- Go Local: Resolve to improve your hometown environment. Sign up for the local clean-up day, tree-planting effort or community garden. Volunteer at a local park. Adopt your own space and turn it green.
 - 9- Conserve Energy: Cut your monthly energy bills 30 percent by replacing old equipment in your home with state-of-the-art Energy Star products. Turn off lights when you leave a room and keep thermostat 70 degrees or lower in cold weather months, 78 degrees or higher in the warm weather months. For more tips on conserving energy visit www.fypower.org
- (All are recommendations from the California Department of Conservation)

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rethink

Brought to you by:

Sierra Madre Environmental Action Council (SMEAC)
P.O. Box 85
Sierra Madre, Ca. 91025-0085

Fire Safe Council
"Announcements and Observations"

The January 5, 2009 Fire Safe Council meeting in the City Council chambers, 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. will have a special guest speaker from the Silverado-Mojos Canyon of Orange County (Fire Safe Council representatives) to speak to the residents of Sierra Madre canyons and foothills about this area's long-term activity protecting their homes from the brush fires of October 2007 and the subsequent mud and debris flows in the winter months of 2007 and 2008.

We have had both natural disaster events to contend with as well: Fire--April, 2007. Mud--May, 2008, October, November and December 2008. It is very difficult to predict the exact time of arrival of the Pacific storms that bring a concentration of rain to our fire denuded hillsides and to prepare the neighborhoods for evacuation and property protection. Some neighborhoods will be hit more heavily than others with the inconvenience of having to move cars, pets, people, etc. to stay out of harm's way.

Please attend this very important meeting and learn of how the neighborhoods have to work together and volunteer to help their neighbors through these very difficult years. The dangers cannot be ignored. The fire is over, the mud keeps coming. For further information, call Sierra Madre Fire Safe Council: 355-0741.

YOUR ATTENDANCE AT THESE MEETINGS IS IMPORTANT! FOR EACH SIGN-IN WE GAIN A VOLUNTEER "DONATION" OF \$20 TOWARDS THE MATCHING THAT WE NEED TO DO TO QUALIFY FOR OUR \$48,000 grant for FREE Curbside Chipper Brush Removal service to make our hillside neighborhood homes comply with state and insurance regulations for defensible space.

Sierra Madre Police Blotter

During the week of Sunday, December 21st, to Saturday December 27th, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 255 calls for service.

Sunday, December 21st:

12:53 PM – Arrest, Auburn Public Parking Lot. Officers arrested an intoxicated man who was lying in the Auburn public parking lot. The man was transported to the Pasadena Jail for remand.

Monday, December 22nd:

11:17 AM – Arrest, Auburn and Carter Ave. A sergeant stopped a suspicious car and found that the driver, a Crestline resident, had a suspended or revoked driver's license. The driver was issued a citation for the violations and released on a written promise to appear.

Wednesday, December 24th:

7:17 PM – Commercial Burglary, 25 East Laurel Ave, Ascension Church. A bag containing five Trader Joe gift cards and five tins of Trader Joe Peppermint candy was taken from the church office. The crime occurred on Wednesday between 4:55 pm and 6:30 pm. The loss was valued at \$175.00.

Thursday, December 25th:

12:17 PM – Auto Burglary, 93 North Baldwin Ave, Bethany Church parking lot. The front and rear windows of a parked Toyota 4 runner were smashed. A CUTCO knife set and a face plate from a SONY car stereo were stolen. The crime occurred between Thursday, 12/18 and Wednesday, 12/24. The loss was estimated at \$1100.

Saturday, December 27th:

2:44 PM – DUI arrest, 500 block W. Highland Ave. A motorist involved in a traffic collision with a parked truck stopped to exchange information with the owner. During the investigation the driver was found to be driving while under the influence of alcohol. The driver was arrested, taken to Pasadena PD for remand.

Arcadia Police Blotter

For the period of Sunday, December 21, through Saturday, December 27, the Police Department responded to 932 calls for service of which 135 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

Sunday, December 21:

1. Units responded to the 11900 block of Goldring around 6:47 a.m. in reference to an auto burglary that just occurred. Two victims advised that they had parked their cars next to one another around midnight and went to work. When they returned to their cars around 6:30 a.m., they saw a male Hispanic standing in between their cars and then he fled the scene in a vehicle. They checked their cars and found the car windows were broken and the contents of their glove boxes were scattered on the front seats. The victims then saw the suspect vehicle strike a curb in the 5500 block of Peck, the car came to a stop, and the suspect fled on foot. Further investigation revealed that the vehicle the suspect was driving was a stolen vehicle.
2. Between 5:00 p.m. and 11:20 p.m., mailboxes were vandalized in the 1600 block of Perkins. Unknown suspect(s) knocked or pushed six mailboxes onto the ground.

Monday, December 22:

3. A residential burglary occurred in the 600 block of South Santa Anita between 11:00 a.m. on December 21 and 12:10 a.m. on December 22. Unknown suspect(s) entered the house through an open window and stole two televisions. The reported loss was almost \$2,000.
4. Around 6:53 p.m., loss prevention personnel from Macy's advised that they had detained a woman for theft. The suspect was pushing a baby stroller with a Nordstrom shopping bag hanging from it. She selected merchandise, went into fitting rooms on two separate occasions, and concealed the items in the shopping bag. A private person's arrest was made, and the 58-year-old Asian was taken into custody for commercial burglary.

Tuesday, December 23:

5. Shortly before 6:00 p.m., a victim came to the station to file a fraud report. The victim discovered that her credit card was missing and contacted the credit card company. She discovered that an unknown suspect had made about \$10,000 in fraudulent charges to her account.
6. Loss prevention personnel from Ralphs, located at 1101 West Huntington, advised that they had detained a man for theft around 10:56 p.m. The suspect was seen concealing two bottles of wine in his waistband and left the store without making payment. When he was confronted outside the store, he physically resisted and struck an agent in the ribs with a closed fist. The 34-year-old Asian was taken into custody for robbery.

Wednesday, December 24:

7. A robbery occurred at East West Bank, 1300 South Golden West, around 10:04 a.m. A male Asian, in his 30's, presented a demand note to a teller and the note indicated that he had a gun. The teller removed cash from her drawer, placed it in a bag, and the suspect fled the scene on foot.
8. Around 5:42 p.m., loss prevention personnel from JC Penney advised that they had detained a male juvenile for theft. Two male suspects were seen taking merchandise and concealing them in a shopping bag. They were both confronted outside the store and were asked to return to the store. Once inside the store, one suspect dropped the bag with the stolen goods and fled on foot while the other suspect remained with agents. A private person's arrest was made, and a 17-year-old Hispanic was taken into custody for petty theft. He was later cited and released to his mother.

Thursday, December 25:

9. Between 9:00 p.m. on December 24 and 4:16 p.m. on December 25, a dark green 1996 Honda Accord was stolen from the 900 block of Arcadia Avenue.
10. An auto burglary occurred between 4:00 p.m. on December 24 and 4:30 p.m. on December 25. Unknown suspect(s) shattered a car window and stole clothing items from the backseat.

Friday, December 26:

11. At 1:15 a.m., units were dispatched to the 1020 Lounge located at 1020 South Baldwin regarding a fight in progress. Investigation revealed that a male suspect was involved in a physical altercation with a security officer and the victim tried to help. The victim was struck in the head with a glass candleholder by the suspect, and he sustained a two-inch laceration to his head. A 37-year-old Asian was arrested for assault with a deadly weapon.
12. Between 9:30 a.m. and 10:28 a.m., a residential robbery occurred in the 700 block of West Lemon. Two male Hispanics made forced entry into the victims' home by first knocking on the door and then pushing their way in when one of the victims opened the door. One suspect displayed a handgun and four victims were forced into a bedroom. A suspect watched over them as they were ordered to lie facedown on the floor, while the other suspect ransacked rooms and took property. The suspects then fled in a newer model truck.

Saturday, December 27:

13. A grand theft from a vehicle occurred between 12:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at 1580 East Clark. Unknown suspect(s) entered the vehicle and discovered that a laptop computer, iPod, and purse were stolen. The total reported loss was about \$2,000.
14. A victim came to the station around 9:16 p.m. to report a domestic dispute incident. She advised that during an argument, her husband pushed her onto a couch and grabbed her by the throat. At that time the children intervened and the suspect left the scene. An emergency protection order was requested and granted.

Call 626.836.8353
Fax 626.836.8373

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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.

Can America Be United?

*Gregory J. Wellborn*

With the holidays behind us, it's time to turn our attention back to the social and political debates which framed the 2008 election and which remain with us today. Barack Obama has promised to bring about change and, in doing so, to re-unite America. While I will grant him the sincerity of his desire to move beyond the Red America vs. Blue America division, I think he misunderstands the causes of that divide and will find his goal of somehow uniting America in pursuing a common vision elusive at best, if not actually impossible to achieve. There are significant issues which divide conservatives and liberals, and they have not disappeared with the passage of the November election.

Those who believe, as Barack Obama does, that America can be easily united right now are making the assumption that the left and right both want the same thing for America and that the only difference between them is a difference of opinion on how to attain this shared vision. Unfortunately, the problem is not that policies are different. The policy differences stem from distinctly different visions, which can't possibly be reconciled.

At the most basic level, the left wants America to have a secular government and to become a secular society. They want religion to be banished from the public square and practiced only in the privacy of individual homes or houses of prayer. The right, on the other hand, wants America to continue being the distinctly Judeo-Christian nation it has always been and to have a secular government which acknowledges and supports the moral grounding of our political debates and decisions. The left sees the increasing secularization of the U.S. as a good thing; the right sees it as an unfolding disaster.

The left-right divide over religion's place in society heavily influences each side's view of America's place in the world. The right acknowledges America's sins but also sees America as the greatest force for good in the world. The right self-identifies as being American, is proud of U.S. efforts to help the oppressed around the world, and believes the U.N. impedes these efforts more than it has ever helped. The left self-identifies as being world citizens, is hostile to any belief that America is exceptional in the world, and see the U.N. as the foremost arbiter of right and wrong.

The left elevates equality over most other social values, while the right elevates liberty. In pursuit of this, the left sees nothing wrong with – and in fact fully embraces – taking away in taxes more than 50% of somebody's income in order to achieve a greater equality of outcomes among citizens. The right believes in equality

of opportunity and believes that people of different skills, intelligence and drive will and should attain different levels of achievement. The right believes that punishing achievement through confiscatory taxation depresses overall economic vitality. When the gifted and motivated are allowed to become rich, society at large reaps the benefits.

The taxing of income is a proxy for the size and role of government where there are also keen differences. The left desires a large, strong and invasive federal government in order to enforce its vision for secularization and equalization. The right desires a much smaller government as the only way to guard individual freedom and protect against tyranny. The left believes that income inequality has been the greatest cause of war. The right believes that the tyrannical desires of strong dictators of powerful governments have caused these wars and forced the U.S. to free various parts of the world on multiple occasions.

Lastly, the left sees race as one of the most important issues of our time. The right views race as insignificant and, oddly enough, fully embraces Martin Luther King's vision of a colorblind society. The right sees America as the least racist nation on earth with the best record, hands down, of assimilating foreigners of all races, religions and creeds. The left sees racism behind every social problem besetting inner city minorities. There is no sense of personal responsibility in the leftist view, only a sense of victimhood. The right believes that anyone can succeed in America if they want to do so badly enough and are willing to work hard enough.

Most of these views are irreconcilable. That doesn't mean that people can't be reconciled. We Americans do a pretty good job of coming together to help one another in tragedy and in such pedestrian pursuits as maintaining friendly relations with our neighbors and co-workers whatever their political beliefs may be. That is the great strength of America. But the political debate isn't going away any time soon, nor should it be swept under the rug in some false pursuit of cosmetic unity. Each side believes passionately in its vision for America. It is naïve to expect that either side will simply roll over and give up. If President Obama seeks to stifle the debate to achieve an appearance of unity, he will only fuel the fires of discord. If he is wise, he will encourage the debate and allow us to work out our problems in the loud, raucous, unpredictable, and almost always successful way we have been doing for more than 200 years. That also is the great strength of America.

Gregory J. Wellborn 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 gwellborn@mvoobserver.com.

2009 New Year's Resolutions

**Rich Johnson**

Time to dust off the old list of New Years Resolutions. Are you getting tired of the same ol' same ol'? Me too. I figure after 10 years of the same tired and unfulfilled resolutions it's time to think outside the box. And your intrepid reporter has found if you want to think outside of the box (especially an American box) those doggone Australians can be counted on to help come up with original New Year's resolutions. God bless 'em they haven't let me down. Here are some of the wonderful ideas tendered by the fair dinkum blokes and Sheilas from down under. Thanks to News.com.au for supplying me with the following "totally doable" suggestions.

Eat as many weird types of meat as you can. This might include raw yak, crickets, ostrich sandwiches and...well, good taste precludes me from mentioning any more.

A New Zealander actually came up with this suggestion: Learn a party trick – like some weird stomach contortion or belching out the alphabet and make it so utterly charming that people can't help but be impressed.

Another one suggested we try to get our problem with commas under control. I would add apostrophes to that list. Although I doubt I will have any better luck with grammar than all my other vices. Sara from Parramatta Australia has resolved to eat less Cocoa Puffs (actually they call them Coco Pops but I had my Australian/American, American/Australian dictionary handy. Bravo to Sara on her challenging resolution. I think it's particularly touching when people make deep-seated religious resolutions. Like Joz of Kartonkka, Australia who wants to sacrifice a Leopard to Mogo, God of war and felicity. Keep the faith.

Closer to home, someone told me of a plot twist in a John Water's movie that might make a good resolution. Resolve to go into supermarkets and play a game called "Shop for others." This pleasant little diversion invites you to sneak things into other people's carts without them knowing it. For Example, find some big, muscley jock and sneak a package of Depends in his cart. (You do that one).

Well I hope I have helped spawn some new ideas for you. If you come up with anything really clever, let me know. I will print them in my next column if they are tasteful. Let me end with a few quotes concerning New Years resolutions:

Many people look forward to the New Year for a new start on old habits. Anonymous

A New Year's resolution is something that goes in one Year and out the other. Anonymous

Now there are more overweight people in America than average-weight people. So overweight people are now average... which means, if you are average, you have met your New Year's resolution. Jay Leno

May all your troubles last as long as your New Year's resolutions! Joey Adams

From The Desk Of....Glenn Lambdin

Saving A Part Of Our Forgotten History: Part 2

As I mentioned last week, I nominated the old City owned Christian Science Church to the California Register of Historical Places since the City Council rejected my nomination to our local registry. Over the next few weeks, I will be sharing some of the history of the property and how Sierra Madre's contributions to the Christian Science and New Thought movements contributed to the overall cultural heritage at local, state and national levels. As far back as 1894, Sierra Madre had direct links with the Christian Science Movement and persons generally recognized and credited as pioneers in the Christian Science Movement and in the New Thought Era.

Local Historical Significance:

The City of Sierra Madre, California was founded by Nathaniel Coburn Carter, a Christian Science member. Prior to Carter's move out west in 1870, he and his wife Annetta lived in Lowell Massachusetts a suburb of Boston, the birth place of Mary Baker Eddy's Christ Science. It was because of failing health that Carter moved to California. While there is no known public record that confirms that Sierra Madre's founding father was a Christian Science member prior to his move to California in 1870, it is well documented that Mary Baker Eddy was teaching, openly practicing, and publishing her new "prayer based" healing religion throughout the greater Boston area as early as 1866 when she

discovered the religion. She formally established the Christ Science Church in 1879. It is very probable that due to Carter's geographic proximity to Eddy, and Carter's failing health, he may have very well embraced her prayer based healing doctrine while still in Massachusetts. Nonetheless, Carter and his wife Annetta were instrumental in the Christ Science movement in Sierra Madre. In a 1904, a publication of "Southern California Quarterly," printed Carter's death memoriam naming him a "devout believer in Christian Science" and that his burial service was performed by the Christian Science Society.

Over the next 7 years after Nathaniel Carter's death, the Christian Science movement grew larger in Sierra Madre. In 1911, the first recorded meeting of persons interested in Christian Science was held at the home of Mrs. Minnie E. Kimball. The readers at that service were Annetta Carter, Nathaniel Carter's wife, and Mrs. Kimball. Later, the meetings were held in the town hall. By October 1916, the group officially organized and voted to establish a Christian Science Society in Sierra Madre. A meeting place was secured at the Woman's Club House, now the location of the current Sierra Madre City Hall. In 1920, the Society purchased a lot at 186 W. Highland and started building their church edifice. The architect of record is A.D. Clough, a member of the Society. Clough was a local Sierra Madrean and lived at 44 W. Carter, across the street from Carter's estate. It is reported that Clough not only planned the building, but designed every aspect of the

building including the furniture and electrical fixtures. The building contract was handled entirely by W. E. Walker. "From

the first design to the completed work, practically every step represents the work of members of the society, an interesting fact which the members are justly proud." (Sierra Madre News, May 5, 1922) The entire building and lot represented a total valuation of about \$15,000 when completed. The first service was held in the incomplete chapel on Thanksgiving Day, 1921. The cornerstone was laid in January, 1922 and the building was dedicated in August 1925 when the property was completely paid for. A charter was granted by the Mother Church, The First Church of Christ Science in Boston in 1929 and the Society officially became the First Church of Christ, Scientist, Sierra Madre. In 1973, the members of the church formally voted to disband. Shortly after, the property was purchased by the Gloria Dei Evangelical Lutheran Church. In 1995, the building was purchased by the City of Sierra Madre and has remained vacant with the exception of a few years when it was used as a temporary Youth Activity Center, commonly called, "The YAC." Next week, I will discuss Sierra Madre's role at the national and state levels of these movements.

**Hail Hamilton****A Responsible, Phased Withdrawal**

Barack Obama believes 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 plan, a residual force will remain in Iraq and in the region to conduct targeted counter-terrorism

The following is the second of two articles about how President-elect Obama sees the War in Iraq and what he plans to do to end it.

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.

Encouraging Political Accommodation

Barack Obama believes 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.

Obama plan offers the best prospect for lasting stability in Iraq. A phased withdrawal will encourage Iraqis to take the lead in securing their own country and making political compromises, while the responsible pace of redeployment called for by the Obama plan offers more than enough time for Iraqi leaders to get their own house in order. As our forces redeploy, Obama will make sure we engage representatives from all levels of Iraqi society—in and out of government—to forge compromises

on oil revenue sharing, the equitable provision of services, federalism, the status of disputed territories, new elections, aid to displaced Iraqis, and the reform of Iraqi security forces.

Surging Diplomacy

Barack Obama will launch an aggressive diplomatic effort to reach a comprehensive compact on the stability of Iraq and the region. This effort will include all of Iraq's neighbors—including Iran and Syria, as suggested by the bi-partisan The Iraq Study Group Report. This compact will aim to secure Iraq's borders; keep neighboring countries from meddling inside Iraq; isolate al Qaeda; support reconciliation among Iraq's sectarian groups; and provide financial support for Iraq's reconstruction and development.

Preventing Humanitarian Crisis

Barack Obama believes that America has both a moral obligation and a responsibility for security that demands we confront Iraq's humanitarian crisis—more than five million Iraqis are refugees or are displaced inside their own country. Obama will form an international working group to address this crisis. He will provide at least \$2 billion to expand services to Iraqi refugees in

neighboring countries, and ensure that Iraqis inside their own country can find sanctuary. Obama will also work with Iraqi authorities and the international community to hold the perpetrators of potential war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide accountable. They will reserve the right to intervene militarily, with our international partners, to suppress potential genocidal violence within Iraq.

The Status-of-Forces-Agreement

Obama believes any Status of Forces Agreement, or any strategic framework agreement, should be negotiated in the context of a broader commitment by the U.S. to begin withdrawing its troops and forswearing permanent bases. Obama also believes that any security accord must be subject to Congressional approval. It is unacceptable that the Iraqi government will present the agreement to the Iraqi parliament for approval—yet the Bush administration will not do the same with the U.S. Congress. The Bush administration must submit the agreement to Congress or allow the next administration to negotiate an agreement that has bipartisan support here at home and makes absolutely clear that the U.S. will not maintain permanent bases in Iraq.

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File No. 08-2277006
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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. 01/05, 01/12, 01/19, 01/26/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 08-2277432
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **BOCA DEL RIO, INC.**, 3706 WHITTIER BLVD., L.A., CA 90023. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **BOCA DEL RIO, INC.**, 3706 WHITTIER BLVD., L.A., CA 90023. This Business is conducted by: **A CORPORATION**. Signed: **DAVID MACIAS CABRAL/PRES.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/31/08. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on MAY 15, 2007.

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. 01/05, 01/12, 01/19, 01/26/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 08-2274646
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **JUST GLASS FUSING**, 14930 GOODHUE, WHITTIER, CA 90604. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **TRONNIE VAN WINKLE**, 14930 GOODHUE, WHITTIER, CA 90604. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. Signed: **TRONNIE VAN WINKLE**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/31/08. 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. 01/05, 01/12, 01/19, 01/26/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 08-2276486
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **MAKE-UP BY LALA**, 22898 HILTON HEAD DR. #323, DIAMOND BAR, CA 91765. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **LAURA ARGOMANIZ**, 22898 HILTON HEAD DR. #323, DIAMOND BAR, CA 91765. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. Signed: **LAURA ARGOMANIZ**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/31/08. 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. 01/05, 01/12, 01/19, 01/26/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 08-2274756
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **SOPHIE GIRL CO.**, 505 N. ETHEL AVE., ALHAMBRA, CA 91801. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **SOPHIE HOWETH BLONDEL**, 505 N. ETHEL AVE., ALHAMBRA, CA 91801. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. Signed: **SOPHIA HOWETH BLONDEL**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/31/08. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 12/30/2008.

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. 01/05, 01/12, 01/19, 01/26/2009

FILE NO. 2008-2277431
STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
 The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 7/16/07, in the county of Los Angeles. The original file number of 2007-1671826. The business was conducted by: **A CORPORATION**. 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: FERNANDO SALAZAR/PRES.**
 Publish: MountainViews-Observer
 Pub. 01/05, 01/12, 01/19, 01/26/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 08-2211110
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **ANN NAILS AND SPA**, 3718 BROADWAY,

LONG BEACH, CA 90803. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **HANH NGOC LUONG**, 11771 MORRIS AVE., GARDEN GROVE, CA 92840. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. Signed: **HANH NGOC LUONG**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/16/08. 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. 12/22, 12/29/2008, 01/05, 01/12/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 08-2226911
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **CALDERON'S COURIER**, 10614 S. HOOVER ST., L.A., CA 90044. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **PATRICIA ELIZABETH CANALES**, 10614 S. HOOVER ST., L.A., CA 90044. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. Signed: **PATRICIA ELIZABETH CANALES**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/18/08. 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. 12/22, 12/29/2008, 01/05, 01/12/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 08-2220164
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **CHINA BAKERY CHAIN**, 9436 JACOB LN., ROSEMEAD, CA 91770. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **ASAP SHOW, INC.**, 9436 JACOB LN., ROSEMEAD, CA 91770. This Business is conducted by: **A CORPORATION**. Signed: **NORBERT YUAN/V.P.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/15/08. 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. 12/22, 12/29/2008, 01/05, 01/12/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 08-2210878
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **DIRTY GORILLA PRODUCTIONS**, 4902 OLINDA AVE., L.A., CA 90043. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **FARSTAIRE QUINTIN BROWN II**, 4902 OLINDA AVE., L.A., CA 90043. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. Signed: **FARSTAIRE QUINTIN BROWN II**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/15/08. 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. 12/22, 12/29/2008, 01/05, 01/12/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 08-2201999
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **ENFINITY LLC**, 9 LOS FELIS DR., POMONA, CA 91766. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **ENFINITY LLC**, 3914 SEATON PL., LAS VEGAS, NV 89121. This Business is conducted by: **A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY**. Signed: **PAUL JOHNSON/PRES.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/15/08. 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. 12/22, 12/29/2008, 01/05, 01/12/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 08-2201039
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **1.OOOUT.COM 2.CHINA EQUITY EXCHANGE**, 9436 JACOB LN., ROSEMEAD, CA 91770. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **ASAP SHOW, INC.**, 9436 JACOB LN., ROSEMEAD, CA 91770. This Business is conducted by: **A CORPORATION**. Signed: **NORBERT YUAN/V.P.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/15/08. 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. 12/22, 12/29/2008, 01/05, 01/12/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 08-2211110
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **ANN NAILS AND SPA**, 3718 BROADWAY,

File No. 08-2210209
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **ORIENTAL DAY SPA**, 2929 E. SPRING ST., LONG BEACH, CA 90808. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **KEBIN LIU**, 6654 CHESHIRE PL., RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91739. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. Signed: **KEBIN LIU**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/16/08. 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. 12/22, 12/29/2008, 01/05, 01/12/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 08-2226500
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **TINY SPIRIT HOME SERVICE**, 9208 ROSE ST., BELLFLOWER, CA 90706. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **GJA CAPITAL, INC.**, 1117 DESERT LN., LAS VEGAS, NV 89102. This Business is conducted by: **A CORPORATION**. Signed: **MARQUEZ JORDAN/PRES.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/18/08. 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. 12/22, 12/29/2008, 01/05, 01/12/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 08-2200991
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **ROCKY MOUNTAIN CREEK DR. #5**, WALNUT, CA 91789. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **TNT ADVENTURES, INC.**, 2011 LAKE CANYON DR., WALNUT, CA 91789. This Business is conducted by: **A CORPORATION**. Signed: **RENU TAGHABONI/PRES.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/15/08. 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. 12/22, 12/29/2008, 01/05, 01/12/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 08-2165141
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **A L I E D TAX CONSULTANTS 2. ALLIED INCOME TAX**, 13862 PADDOCK ST., SYLMAR, CA 91342. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **JOSE LOPEL**, 13862 PADDOCK ST., SYLMAR, CA 91342. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. Signed: **JOSE LOPEL**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/09/08. 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. 12/15, 12/22, 12/29/2008, 01/05/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 08-2174414
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **BRIGHTER DAY COMMUNITY SERVICE, INC.**, 9144 MANZANAR AVE., DOWNEY, CA 90240. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **BRIGHTER DAY COMMUNITY SERVICE, INC.**, 9144 MANZANAR AVE., DOWNEY, CA 90240. This Business is conducted by: **A CORPORATION**. Signed: **RENEE YVONNE DAY/PRES.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/10/08. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 11/5/1999.

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. 12/15, 12/22, 12/29/2008, 01/05/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 08-2034207
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **EL VIEJITO TRUKING**, 2916 LIBERTY BLVD. #A, SOUTH GATE, CA 90280. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **CLAUDIA C.**

MALDONADO, 2916 LIBERTY BLVD. #A, SOUTH GATE, CA 90280. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. Signed: **CLAUDIA C. MALDONADO**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 11/18/08. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 08/18/07.

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. 12/15, 12/22, 12/29/2008, 01/05/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 08-2156631
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **FEDERICO RELIEF**, 3925 N. ROSEMEAD BLVD., STE. 205B, ROSEMEAD, CA 91770. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **JENNY LIN**, STE. OFFICE, 3925 N. ROSEMEAD BLVD., STE. 205B, ROSEMEAD, CA 91770. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. Signed: **JENNY LIN**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/08/08. 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. 12/15, 12/22, 12/29/2008, 01/05/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 08-2184419
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **IRIDESCENT IMAGE**, 7927 6th ST. DOWNEY, CA 90241. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **WENDY MILLER**, 7927 6th ST. DOWNEY, CA 90241. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. Signed: **WENDY MILLER**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/11/08. 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. 12/15, 12/22, 12/29/2008, 01/05/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 08-2156236
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **LAST WORLD**, 5211 WASHINGTON BLVD. #2-110, L.A., CA 90040. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **MUHAMMAD ARSHAD**, 5211 WASHINGTON BLVD. #2-110, L.A., CA 90040. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. Signed: **MUHAMMAD ARSHAD**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/08/08. 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. 12/15, 12/22, 12/29/2008, 01/05/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 08-2156922
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **MAS AUTO REPAIR & ELECTRICAL**, 7801 OTIS ST., CUDAHY, CA 90004. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **MATIAS VILLANUEVA**, 5951 MCKINLEY AVE., SOUTH GATE, CA 90280. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. Signed: **D GUERRERO**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/08/08. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 12/08/08.

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. 12/15, 12/22, 12/29/2008, 01/05/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 08-2149922
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **PINK HOUSE PHOTOGATES**, 696 LANTANA ST., LAVERNE, CA 91750. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **MARY C. LAYMAN**, 696 LANTANA ST., LAVERNE, CA 91750. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. Signed: **MARY C. LAYMAN**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/05/08. 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. 12/15, 12/22, 12/29/2008, 01/05/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 08-2164165
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **LUMBING BY ENRIQUE**, 7729 MIRAMONTE BLVD., L.A., CA 90001. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **ENRIQUE PLATA**, 7729 MIRAMONTE BLVD., L.A., CA 90001. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. Signed: **ENRIQUE PLATA**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/09/08. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 10/10/2008.

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. 12/15, 12/22, 12/29/2008, 01/05/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 08-2118141
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **CENTURY COMMERCIAL CLEANING**, 14151 FOREST HILLS BLVD., HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA 92649. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **JOSEPH FELIZ**, 16387 FORREST HILLS LN., HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA 92649. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. Signed: **JOSEPH FELIZ**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/02/08. 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. 12/15, 12/22, 12/29/2008, 01/05/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 08-2165035
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **PUPPY SALON**, 14151 FOREST HILLS BLVD., HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA 92649. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **JUNG SOOK CHO KIM**, 1145 5th AVE. #2, L.A., CA 90019. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. Signed: **JUNG SOOK CHO KIM**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/09/08. 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. 12/15, 12/22, 12/29/2008, 01/05/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 08-2118449
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **JD TRAVEL & TOURS**, 2008 W. CARSON ST., STE. 204, TORRANCE, CA 90501. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **JOVI BEN DUMABOC**, 519 W. 220th ST. #30, CARSON, CA 90701. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. Signed: **JOVI BEN DUMABOC**. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/02/08. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 12/02/08.

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. 12/08, 12/15, 12/22, 12/29/2008

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 08-2139355
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **KRMA CLOTHING**, 2202 S. FIGUEROA ST., L.A., CA 90007. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **MARIA C. LINERO**, 846 S. BROADWAY #802, L.A., CA 90014. This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL**. Signed:

Looking Up

With Bob Eklund

THE WORLD LOOKS UP IN 2009



With 2009 upon us, stargazers around the world are celebrating the International Year of Astronomy, which marks the 400th anniversary of Galileo's first astronomical observation through a telescope. Some 135 nations are collaborating in the year's activities.

The International Year of Astronomy 2009 (IYA2009) has been launched by the International Astronomical Union (IAU) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) under the theme "The Universe, yours to discover."

The official IYA2009 Opening Ceremony will take place in Paris on January 15 and 16. It will feature keynote speakers, including Nobel Laureates, and live video feeds to scientists working in remote locations.

The Cosmic Diary is an example of a global activity occurring during 2009. The project concerns the daily lives of full-time astronomers. More than 50 bloggers—professionals from over 35 countries employed by organizations such as ESO, NASA, ESA and JAXA—have already begun producing content, writing about their lives, the work they conduct, and the challenges they face. The public can see what being an astronomer is really like, and how groundbreaking research is conducted.

Another project, 365 Days of Astronomy, will publish one podcast per day over the entire year. The episodes will be written, recorded and produced by people around the world.

100 Hours of Astronomy, another IYA2009 Cornerstone Project, is a worldwide event taking place from April 2-5, with a wide range of public outreach activities including live webcasts, observing events and more. One of the key goals of 100 Hours of Astronomy is to have as many people as possible look through a telescope, just as Galileo did for the first time 400 years ago.

The From Earth to the Universe (FETTU) Cornerstone Project is an exhibition arranged by IYA2009 that will bring large-scale astronomical images to a wide public audience in non-traditional venues such as public parks and gardens, art museums, shopping malls and metro stations.

The World at Night is an IYA2009 Special Project that is producing and bringing to the public a collection of stunning photographs and time-lapse videos of the world's landmarks with the sky in the background. The World at Night is preparing more than 30 exhibitions and educational events around the world.

During 2009, the sky will provide some exciting events, including the longest total solar eclipse of the 21st century, occurring July 22 and lasting 6 minutes 39 seconds over a narrow corridor through countries including India, Bangladesh, and China. A strong shower of Leonid meteors is expected in mid-November, with forecasters predicting upwards of an incredible 500 shooting stars per hour. In mid-October in the northern hemisphere, Jupiter will be visible at dusk, a perfect time to show the public the giant planet and its moons. This is an impressive sight through even a small amateur telescope.

A list of event highlights is available on the official IYA2009 website, www.astronomy2009.org/highlights.

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

Paul the Cyberian: MY NEW TOY

I put off becoming one of the people one often sees with the latest electronic gizmo jacked into their head, oblivious to all that may be going on about them, for just about as long as I could. I hate to admit it but every once in a while the sight of one of these hipsters gets my "these kids today" nerve all twitchy especially if I spot one of them weaving in and out of traffic or not paying attention to something that should be paid attention to like crossing the street or something like that. Now it seems that I may just need to heed a bit of my own advice.

This Christmas I got a totally cool and totally unexpected gift: a Sony NW2-S615F MP3 Player. This little dandy has a 2GB\500 song storage capacity, Picture Storage and Full Video Playback (check <http://review.zdnet.com> for a product review). No doubt there are much more advanced products on the market but I was more than impressed with this little gizmo. In addition to the above-listed features it comes with a fully adjustable, software-controlled equalizer for customizing the listening experience. The display screen is sharp and clear and videos played on the unit are crisp.

The unit comes with standard-issue titanium ear buds but I opted to purchase some separate headphones. I chose the Sony MDR-NC6 Noise-Cancelling Headphones to go with my new toy (check <http://review.zdnet.com> for a product

review). These headphones are built with active circuitry that blocks external noise and this in turn enhances the listening experience.

Bundled with the Sony MP3 Player is a free 14-day Trial Subscription to the Napster Online Music service. Since I already had an account that I hadn't used in a year or so I used the free trial to re-activate my existing account. I was immediately prompted to upgrade my Napster software since they had changed revisions since my last use of their service. After connecting my new toy and having it be recognized by the software, I was pleasantly surprised to see that the unit had been automatically populated with all my old playlists and downloaded songs. Also new to the software was the 'Napster to Go' interface that allows for transferring songs by dragging-and-dropping songs in the user library directly onto an external MP3 player. Videos can be transferred to the unit by using Windows Media Player or some other video playback software capable of recognizing and external MP3/Video Playback Device.

The entire package (Sony NW2-S615F MP3 Player, Sony MDR-NC6 Noise-Cancelling Headphones and Napster Subscription Service) came in at just under \$125.-

I'll be sure to pay more attention when crossing the street nowadays since I'll be jacked in, too.

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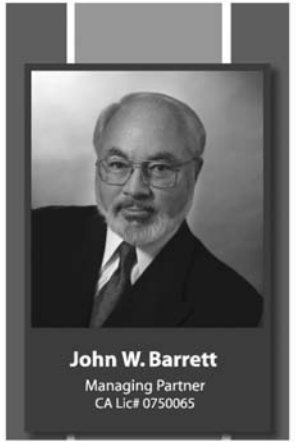
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An Invitation: Tuesday, January 13, 2009 Please Join In The Fun

There is another structure of Sierra Madre volunteerism that many aren't that aware of or participate in, and that's the Meals-on-Wheels program. You've heard of it? But do you know what these volunteers really do on a daily or weekly -- or even monthly -- basis?

Susan Clifton, Sierra Madre Senior Coordinator, suggests that those whose interest is piqued should come to a coffee at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 13, at the Hart Park House (Senior Center). And absolutely everyone is invited to attend the coffee and enjoy the camaraderie.

"Here's an opportunity to be involved as much or as little as you'd like," Susan said. "It's an opportunity for you to provide a much-needed service to Sierra Madre in no more than an hour at a time. A week, a month, whatever your schedule permits. It's the Meals-on-Wheels program," Susan explained.

What exactly do these volunteers do? Someone is needed only on Monday through Friday to drive around a specific route in Sierra Madre for about an hour to deliver meals to the permanently homebound citizens. Susan stated that it's also a service for those who have recently had surgery or an accident and need meals brought in for a short period of time. There are about 13 homebound in Sierra Madre now.

Helpers are needed for approximately an hour, beginning at about 11:45 a.m. Darlene Traxler is the volunteer Meals-on-Wheels coordinator, who schedules a monthly log of those who are able to assist in this program. The routes are planned to expedite the job. Darlene can be reached at 355-6220 or 355-0256 for more information.

Susan Clifton, senior coordinator, explained, "We contract the meals through YWCA Intervale Senior Services out of Covina. It's because of our volunteers that we're able to continue this very important service."

She described the program: "Volunteers drop off food once a day, weekdays only, which is the main daily hot meal for the homebound. Once a week on Wednesday two frozen meals are delivered so the recipients have meals for the weekend. There are two routes: northeast and southwest sections of town."

Susan said that two faithful volunteers -- Loyal Camacho and Nellie Haynes -- come in early to receive the food from the caterer and package each meal for the volunteer drivers.

Civic Club volunteers also provide tray decorations plus table favors for the senior center. They have available 70 favors monthly.

Susan said, "The Meals-on-Wheels program is very important in Sierra Madre. The size of the town makes it possible to offer this service. For some individuals it's not only a hot meal but also warm greetings, as well as an opportunity to check on your neighbors."

Susan concluded, "Here's an opportunity to encourage volunteers to participate in an already thriving program."



Volunteer Meals on Wheels drivers Marlene Enmark (L) and Sally Olsen prepare to deliver meals prepared by Volunteers Nelly Haynes (L) and Loyal Camacho (R) with the help of Intervale Staffer (C).
Photo By Bill Coburn

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January 13	Drink & Think Quiz Nite w/Quizmaster Midge
January 14	Too Many Guitars w/Tom McNamara and Van Webster
January 15	Thelonus Dub
January 16	John Mayer Trio
January 17	Rick Blessing
January 20	Drink & Think Quiz Nite w/Quizmaster Midge
January 22	Thelonus Dub
January 23	Ocho-X
January 27	Drink & Think Quiz Nite w/Quizmaster Midge
January 29	Thelonus Dub

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TABLE FOR TWO

By Peter Dills

Fu Shing Restaurant - the Pearl of the East - East Pasadena

I may just divulge all our national secrets for a few pounds of moist and succulent King Crab Legs. I am no John McCain, I tell you. King Crab is Royalty and Red Carpet and it is closely followed by the Knighted Maine Lobster which is featured today. You can unfold your napkin at a five star restaurant or a hole in the wall and find uneven results for each with this dish. It begins and ends with freshness and without it even the greatest chef will not be able to raise Lazarus. Fortunately Fu Shing has a large turnover of seafood so your chances are exceptional that you will encounter a shellfish that was recently displaced from its home.

Fu Shing Restaurant in East Pasadena, like almost all Chinese restaurants offers a dynamic selection of seafood dishes. One of their specialties is the live Maine Lobster. At Fu Shing it is served three ways: Steamed; which is my favorite, also garlic and finally sesame. The Chef prepares the last two in a wok and is served cut-up. If you are a lobster follower as I am, the price is typically about (\$1) or (\$2) above market price depending on the time of season, currently found at (\$14.99) for the meal. That is an unbeatable deal; you can impress a date with a lobster dinner and not lose a limb in the exhibition! You have my word on this one; women love two things, okay, two that I will talk about, shopping and lobster. I can't keep you away from the first one but I can make the second a big smile for you when the bill arrives!

Not good enough, you say Peter. Their Great Wall of China is the Explorer Dinner; it is a multi course dinner for four that parades some of Fu Shings finest dishes, currently priced at (\$23) per person. Please go to www.fu-shing.com for current menu and updated prices. For starters you will begin with a cold appetizer salad, a hot appetizer wonton with real crab meat in a tangy chili paste. Next you will move to the South Seas Seafood Fire Pot with features five different seafood items. The main course attacks both land and sea: Jumbo Scallops, Fire Cracker lamb, Mayo Shrimp with longan, Macadamia Nut Chicken, fresh catfish and a Buddhist Feast in a Noodle basket with fresh vegetables. For dessert you are bountifully gifted with an assortment of fresh fruit.

Bonus: Of course Fu Shing offers many Chinese entrees, if you like sizzling rice soup, order here and you will acquire a new favorite.

The restaurant features a patio and an upstairs for private parties. Prices per entree run between (\$8.95) to (\$23). Dress is casual. Reservations are suggested, especially for the Explorer Dinner Extravaganza. There is plenty of free parking to keep the wallet healthy.



Three stars
 Fu Shing Restaurant
 2960 E. Colorado Pasadena
 (626)792-8898
 Open daily from 11:30 AM to 10 PM.

Stop the Press - Important information has just reached my desk.
 Dateline Pasadena California:

The Chef Knows has moved timeslots to 3 PM on Saturday Afternoon on KJLA TV. Check out the show for more inescapable treasures and several fresh ideas before you head out to toast the town!



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GET OUT! GET ACTIVE! VOLUNTEER!

Join the Team!



The City Council is seeking volunteers to serve on the upcoming General Plan Steering Committee!

The City is looking for motivated, enthusiastic, creative, and friendly volunteers to serve on these important committees which help plan for the City's future

General Plan Steering Committee (GPSC)

The GPSC is a five-member committee, appointed by the City Council. A City Councilmember and a Planning Commissioner will attend meetings to act as liaisons to report the progress of the GPSC to their Council and Commission. The GPSC will be staffed by the Development Services Director and legal counsel.

What is the role of the GPSC?

The role of the GPSC is to meet on a regular basis to review the work products of City staff and consultant, provide input on those products, and provide the policy direction necessary to advance the update process. As initial tasks, the GPSC will be asked to provide staff direction as to the overall vision for Sierra Madre, priorities for development within the community, and more specific land use policies on which the GPSC will focus its efforts. The GPSC's role is solely advisory. Final approval of the updated General Plan can only be granted by the City Council acting upon the GPSC's and Planning Commission's recommendations.

How much time is involved?

The General Plan Update process is expected to take approximately 18 to 24 months to complete. Participation on the GPSC will require a commitment to attending monthly meetings for an approximately two-year period. If necessary, there may be occasions when the GPSC meets twice per month. There will also be occasions when GPSC members are expected to attend public workshops on Saturdays. All regular GPSC meetings will occur at pre-set meeting dates and times (pursuant to Brown Act requirements), and would be expected to last approximately two hours.

For an application, visit www.cityofsierramadre.com look for Commission application

For more information please call (626) 355-7135 and ask for Danny Castro, Development Services Director.

Winter 2009 Registration-Get Moving!

Trying to lose weight and tone your muscles after the holidays? Aerobics, Strength Training, Yoga and Line Dance classes are held Monday through Friday at the City of Arcadia Community Center, 365 Campus Drive, Arcadia, CA 91007. They will help you reach your goals in the New Year. These group classes will motivate you to stay on target and have fun at the same time!

For more questions, please contact Arcadia Senior Services at 626.574.5130.

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The Senior

By Bruce Lamarche

NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS??



Here we go again! It's time to make those New Year's resolutions that usually last about twenty four hours. Admit it, we traditionally say that we are going to lose 20 pounds, start exercising, stop smoking, and well . . . you get the picture. How about doing something different?

Perhaps improving the quality of your life is more meaningful. Think about spending more time with family and friends. We get so caught up with our routine that before we realize it, we're doing another new year's eve and wishing that we had more time with these special people in our lives.

Starting with our spouse, consider setting up Friday night as "Date Night". We get so used to a routine that we don't realize that the dating process should not stop with marriage. If anything, it is more important as the years pass. A special friend of mine told me of his Friday night date arrangement with his wife. Allowing for the stresses of his many activities and care for family members, it seems a healthy way to keep the specialness in a relationship. My wife and I have taken this habit and each of us plans alternate Friday nights. It can be as simple as dinner and a movie or a romantic walk holding hands and talking.

Inviting friends over for a simple plate of spaghetti, garlic bread, and a game of cards can be fun. Friendships can grow as we talk about our lives and laugh a lot. It doesn't have to be expensive or complicated. Don't over plan it, just schedule the evening and have fun.

Perhaps you and your spouse could volunteer at a community help organization. This can add much meaning to your life. We get so wrapped up in our own lives that we fail to realize how privileged we are. Consider going to a place like the Foothill Unity Center in Monrovia and offering help with food distribution. You can come away from a monthly experience like that with a great feeling of having something outside of yourself.

Take a class at the local community college. The cost is minimal and they offer many different types of interesting classes. Without the pressure of getting a good grade it's easy to enjoy an interesting subject.

Whatever you decide to do, write it down and keep to your plan. Select something special to you and do it. Make sure you make it a new routine and that it is meaningful to you. Choose to make this a happy new Year.
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

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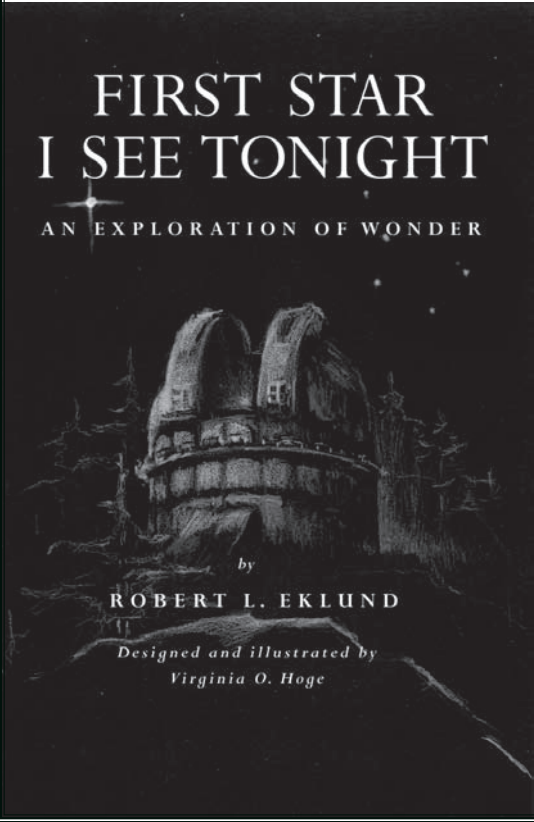


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See the "Senior Spot" column weekly!

THIS YEAR, FIND YOUR OWN CHRISTMAS STAR—AND SHARE THE WONDER.



FIRST STAR I SEE TONIGHT
AN EXPLORATION OF WONDER

by **ROBERT L. EKLUND**

Designed and illustrated by *Virginia O. Hoge*

Stroll through a starry night with astronomer-poet Bob Eklund and artist Virginia Hoge.

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SENIOR HAPPENINGS...

By Pat Birdsall

FYI:

Make 2009 the year that you make a scrapbook or a journal about your life. You have a great story to tell and your family and friends would love to experience it with you. For example: Where were you born, who was in your family, what happened to you as a child, when and whom you married, etc. Include pictures and other mementos. Getting started is the hard part but once you do, you'll find the journey rewarding.

Recipe of the Month:




Easy Slow Cooker Pot Roast- The Ultimate "Comfort Food"

4 pounds chuck roast
Salt & pepper to taste
1 packet dry onion soup
1 cup water
3 carrots, chopped
1 onion, chopped
3 potatoes, peeled & cubed
1 stalk celery, chopped
* Season roast with salt & pepper to taste. Brown on all sides in large skillet over high heat. Place in the slow cooker; add soup mix, water, carrots, onion, potatoes and celery. Cover and cook on low setting for 8 to 10 hours.

~Helpful Hints~

Tin cans--The Afterlife...*When you're having a large dinner party. Lock card tables together by setting adjacent pairs of legs into empty cans. You won't have to clean up any spills caused by the tables moving this way and that.* Make a birthday keepsake by decorating the outside of a small candy tin, line it with felt or silk, and insert a penny or, if you can find one, a silver dollar from the birth year of your friend or loved one.



Happy Birthday!

January Birthdays:
Mary Tassop and Loyal Camacho

For Your Funny Bone

Jack wakes up with a huge hangover after attending his company's Holiday party. Jack is not normally a drinker, and he didn't even remember how he got home. As bad as he was feeling, he wondered if he might have done something wrong. He forced himself to open his eyes, and the first thing he sees is a couple of aspirins next to a glass of water on the side table. Next to them, a single red rose! Jack sits up and sees his clothing all clean and pressed. He looks around the room and notices that it is in perfect order; spotlessly clean. He takes the aspirins and cringes when he sees a huge black eye staring back at him in the bathroom mirror. Then he notices a note hanging on a corner of the mirror written in red and a kiss mark from his wife in lipstick: "Honey, breakfast is on the stove, I left to get groceries to make your favorite dinner tonight. Love you! Jillian."

He stumbles to the kitchen and sure enough, there is hot breakfast, steaming hot coffee and the morning newspaper. His 16 year old son is also at the table eating. Jack asks, "Son, what happened last night?" "Well, a taxi brought you home after 3 A.M., drunk and staggering around. You fell over the coffee table and broke it; you puked in the hallway, and got that black eye when you ran into the door." Confused he asked his son, "So why is everything in such perfect order around here? I have a rose, and breakfast is on the table waiting for me?" His son replies, "Oh *THAT*...Mom dragged you to the bedroom, and when she tried to take your pants off, you screamed, "Leave me alone, I'm married!!"

Broken Coffee Table: \$239.99- Hot Breakfast: \$4.20- Two Aspirins: \$.38
Saying the right thing at the right time: PRICELESS!

Quote: An optimist stays up until midnight to see the new year in. A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves. ~ Author Unknown~

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

Tuesday: Bingo- 1:30PM- 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 Wednesday- Community Lunch & Learn Program

Thursday: Game Day- 1:00PM- 3:30PM- Poker, UNO, Scrabble, Cribbage, Chess, Checkers, Backgammon, Pinochle...you name it.
Yoga- 5:00 PM- 6:30 PM \$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

Monthly Excursions:
*For reservations and further information call Susan Clifton at (626) 355-7394 or stop by and see her at the Hart Memorial Park House- 9:00 AM- 2:00 PM

January 15, 2009- Senior Day at the Races- Santa Anita Park- More information to follow.

Free Blood Pressure Clinic- Second Tuesday of each month 11:00 AM- Noon No appointment necessary

Financial Consulting- 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Hart Memorial Park House from 10:00AM- Noon. Please call (626) 355-7394 for an appointment.

Meals-on-Wheels:
Meals are delivered to homebound seniors by volunteer drivers through the YWCA Intervale Lunch Program M-F (with frozen meals for the weekend.) \$2.00 suggested donation per day. Call Susan Garcia at (626) 858-8382 for more information.



MEALS-ON-WHEELS NEEDS VOLUNTEERS TO DELIVER MEALS TO OUR HOMEBOUND NEIGHBORS **ONCE A MONTH OR WEEKLY** Please contact Darlene Traxler at 626.355.0256.



THIS YEAR, FIND YOUR OWN CHRISTMAS STAR—AND SHARE THE WONDER.

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seniors requiring assisted living.

One Of A Kind: Featuring unique homes & gardens and the people who create them! Photos and Story By Chris Bertrand New In Sierra Madre.... "The Carter Place" Assisted Living Center

Argiri Bratakos has realized her dream and mission in life, recently opening "The Carter Place" assisted living. Located adjacent to Bailey Canyon Park, at 400 E. Carter in Sierra Madre, the home was redesigned and remodeled to accommodate up to six

from large windows.

The home has been extensively remodeled to accommodate senior living with two large living spaces, easily accommodating wheelchairs. A whole new section was added to the home, with private and semi-private bedroom suites with private baths. All the baths are handicapable, with easy walk-in showers. Motion sensors and a call system alert the 24/7 staff to a resident's movement and needs during the night, and the yard has been gated, and a ramp installed, for easy, safe outdoor ventures. Bratakos can furnish the resident's room or they can move in their own furniture, to feel more comfortable, familiar and home-like.



The Carter Place at 400 Carter - Sierra Madre

The first resident to this newly completed facility is already "part of the family," with another scheduled for move in soon, after a hospital stay. Bratakos now brings her residents for senior activities and exercise at Sierra Madre's Hart House located in Memorial Park. This keeps her residents connected to peers and the outside world. Bratakos has incorporated two special features into her state licensing. One is for space is for bedridden care, for seniors who are no longer mobile and need extra assistance. The second is for hospice care. When that end stage of life comes, it's nice to know there's a family around to accommodate and to help in such a difficult time.

To arrange a visit, contact Argiri Bratakos at "The Carter Place" at 626-374 4920, email to Argiri30@yahoo.com or visit their website at www.TheCarterPlace.com.

Though young in years, only 34, Bratakos has accumulated experience in several areas to prepare herself for this venture, which she perceives as a calling. She got her CNA nursing certification, and has worked as a behavioral therapist, a case worker and as a private caregiver, giving her critical, hands-on working experience in the various aspects of senior care and administration. Yet with all the experience in hand, it's Bratakos' warm and outgoing, yet serene countenance that forms the glue that binds this new offering together. "I want this to feel like a family living experience, not a clinical environment."

Her own grandmother, Kiriaka Babala, has lived with her for many years. When Babala moved here from Greece, and in with Bratakos, she was minimally responsive, undernourished and walking little. After a few months with Bratakos, her grandmother climbed many steps out of her retreat into Alzheimer's and dementia, and interacts well again with Bratakos, conversing in their native Greek. Bratakos attributes Grandmother Kiki's success and comfort to the attentive ministrations and stimulation of the loving environment here. Through her experience with her grandmother, Bratakos felt called to offer her help to others in the community by opening an assisted living home here.

Her toddler, Phaeton, brings joy to all around him, and a life force only a young child can offer; very important to engender interaction and adding to the family atmosphere at The Carter Place. Bratakos' own family lives in a second house on the property, offering additional twenty-four hour care to the residents.

The single level home gives the feeling of a mountain lodge, with high wood ceilings with exposed beams and a massive, dual facing fireplace in the two living areas. The living spaces look out to the trees of Bailey Canyon Park, with peaks of the mountains

behind, allowing those less mobile to enjoy the change of seasons, light and weather



Argiri Bratakos and son Phaeton



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From The Mountain Clymer...Kim Clymer Kelley



The canyon celebrates Christmas at the third annual Free Christmas Dinner at Mary's Market. Photo By Van Fox

This is indeed a magical time of year. And what better way to spend it than sharing a meal and some music with the very special people of Sierra Madre Canyon. Those who live here all know how blessed they are to be able to call this home....I know I do. With Mary's Market returning in a blaze of glory to resume its position as the hub of our humble (albeit somewhat eccentric) community, the neighborhood is once again complete.

On Christmas Day Mary's served as a center for canyonites to celebrate Christmas Day with feast and frolic. Approximately forty five people stopped by to dine on a wide variety of yummys provided by many of those who attended and to join in song with the musicians who so kindly played for us and Katelya Angus who entertained us all with her belly dancing to some Christmas classics. No party at Mary's is complete without its entertainment.



"Everybody sing!!!" Jody encourages the gang to join fellow musicians, Dave Jean, Barry and Van (out of frame) to join them in some traditional Christmas carols. Photo By Van Fox



Dinner guests chow down canyon family style. Photo by Richard Cummings



The kitchen staff Jeanne, Kim, Jeff, and Melinda share secret recipes. Photo By Dave Nickoloff

Again a special thanks to Caroline Dapper who resurrected Mary's Market for all of the canyon to love and who was kind enough to allow us to use her beautifully remodeled cafe for our celebration. Please stop by the store and meet her and taste the wonderful treats she whips up for her guests (ask her to make you some popovers). Also come join the weekly party now called Tapas Tuesday with delightful finger food and lively entertainment.

Thank you to all who attended and made the evening as special as it was. I hope you all enjoyed yourselves as much as I did. Best wishes for the coming year. Peace and joy and love to you all. Happy New Year!

- Kim Clymer-Kelley/MVO Staff

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