

What A Smile!

Meet Ken Anholt - Sierra Madre's Older American Of The Year



Every since Nancy Walsh, chairperson of Sierra Madre's Senior Commission called to inform Ken Anholt that he had been chosen the city's Older American of the Year, his telephone has not stopped ringing with congratulatory calls.

Anholt, 86, who with his wife of 61 years, Shirley, has lived in Sierra Madre since 1958. He was a Senior Commissioner himself for six years. "Giving is very much a part of the legacy of this city", Anholt says.

Every year in May, the Sierra Madre celebrates Older American Month. During the month, an event will be held honoring Ken and showcasing a lifetime of community service.

Ken's contributions to society have been numerous over the years, including his services in the U.S. Air Force as a B-24 Tailgunner during World War II. He was also an Ombudsman for 17 years, where he and 27 or so other volunteers would visit nursing homes and help the sick and shut-in around the San Gabriel Valley. Currently, he is an active member of the Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club.

Ken and Shirley have two children - Edward, who lives in Simi Valley and Lisa who lives in Illinois. They have three grandchildren: Justin, who flies for the Air Force, Heather who works at Edwards Air Force Base as a Photographer and Jordan, who is 16. The Anholt's are expecting their first great-grandchild in the very near future.

In 1992, Anholt retired from JPL after 24 years only to become even more involved in the community.

The last year or so have been particularly challenging for this grand citizen. His wife, Shirley underwent triple by-pass surgery. (She has fully recovered and was visiting family out of state when the news of Ken's recent honor was announced.) Then, within a few months after that, Ken had to part with his dog, Judd. "He was more than just a pet, he was a companion for me after my retirement."

During last year's hillside fire, the Anholt's had to evacuate their home for the first time in the 51 years they have lived there. The Anholt's have been through five fires in Sierra Madre since 1958. "We had to evacuate so we went to the Congregational Church and then to our friend Dorothy's. We were happy when we were finally able to come back home, but just to have to leave was disturbing."

His own health was also challenged earlier this year but Anholt is not one for giving up. He has been following his doctor's orders carefully. As soon as this interview was over, Ken and his new dog, a charming little Corgi, took off for a walk around the neighborhood.

Ken Anholt, Sierra Madre's 2009 Older American of The Year and one who never gives up, epitomizes the concept of loving, living and enjoying life to the fullest, while finding time to give back to his community. S. Henderson/MVO

The Wistaria Vine & Festival

Phyliss Chapman's Historical Review



In 1894, William and Alice Brugman purchased a home on Piedmont, as it was called then, but would later have the address of 201 W. Carter Ave. The house had been built one year before by builder Amos Trussell for his daughter Winona and son-in-law Edward B. Jones when they married. It was the first wedding celebrated in early Sierra Madre. The Trussells and the Jones soon had a change of plans, sold to the Brugmans and moved away.

To enhance her new home, Alice Brugman, with her neighbor Mrs. W.B. Crisp, drove by horse and buggy to the old R. H. Wilson Pioneer Nursery in Monrovia and for \$.75 purchased a gallon can of wistaria. It

was the Chinese Wistaria variety (*Wisteria sinensis*). She planted it in a corner of her front porch remarking to her neighbor ? "They say Wistaria grows fast." And grow it did.

Mr. Brugman, a mining engineer, was in Mexico when the vine was planted. He died in 1899 and Mrs. Brugman sold the home in 1906. The property changed hands until it was purchased in 1913 by Henry T. and Estelle Fennel. Mr. Fennel, who was a bit of a horticulturist, loved the vine, and gave it devoted care, even building support trellises. Although the Wistaria is a vigorous grower, the added support of the trellises may have contributed to this vine's phenomenal growth. The arbores prevented the end tendrils from hanging down and causing

the tender terminal buds to die from the added weight. Wistaria requires good drainage, certainly provided by this hilly, terraced location. There may also be an underground spring providing water to the tap root.

The vine eventually destroyed the original home, growing into the walls and fireplace and causing the roof to collapse.

Mr. Fennel built a new home 200 feet to the north (the present upper home) and trained the vine to grow up to, but not covering the new residence. A portion of the foundation of that original home was saved to continue to provide support (cont. page for the vine as its branches extended such a distance.

When the vine was in bloom, the Fennels

would invite friends to come and enjoy the blossoming plant. Others asked to come and visitors also came from Pasadena's main hotels: The Green, The Huntington, and The Raymond. In 1918, during World War I, the Fennels opened the vine to the Sierra Madre Chapter of the American Red Cross, which sponsored a very successful fundraiser to help the war effort. 12,000 people attended the event. This was the beginning of the many Wistaria festivals and the frenzy of activities that took place year after year. With this huge annual festival, a Sierra Madre main event, Sierra Madre became known as the Wistaria City. Many local organizations, including the Board of Trade (later named the Chamber of Commerce),

(Cont. page 11)

Let's Play Ball! Sierra Madre Little League Begins Spring 2009 Season



Photo By Dean Lee/MVO

There was no shortage of excitement last Saturday when the children, parents and volunteers that make up Sierra Madre's Little League Organization gathered to kick off the spring season. The League consists exclusively of boys and girls who live in the city between the ages of 5 and 12. The League is divided into four divisions: Majors, Minors, Farm and T-Ball. The spring season will end on May 30th. For more information on Little League Activities, go to www.sml.org. By the way, one of the first scores: Giants 3 Dodgers 0!

Tuesday's PUSD Election Crucial To All 4 Seats Open- Two Unopposed/Two Contested

On Tuesday, residents of Pasadena, Altadena and Sierra Madre will go to the polls and elect four new faces to the Pasadena Unified School District's Board. They will join Board members Renatta Cooper, Seat Two 2; Bob Harrison, Seat Four; and Tom Selinski, Seat 6 in leading our school district during what has been called, "the most troubling times in our nation's history". With the state and federal governments both in financial crisis, providing the facilities and resources that will yield a quality education for our children will depend largely on the commitment, leadership and creativity of the PUSD Board. The results of this election must yield a team that can weather the storm.

All candidates are running at large and are then assigned to the individual schools. Currently, Seats 3 and 7 are assigned to the Sierra Madre Campuses.

Two candidates, Elizabeth Pomeroy (Seat 1) and Ed Honowitz (Seat 7) are running unopposed. Pomeroy is one of four newcomers in the race, Honowitz and incumbent.

Of the contested races, the line up is as follows:

Seat 3:
Seat 5:

Scott Phelps, Incumbent vs. Terri Darr
Ramon Miramontes vs. Charles Nelson

Unlike other elections, there is no clear front runner in any of the races. All candidates have qualifications fitting the position they are seeking. That does not negate the importance of this election, however. In the contested races, voters must select the two that they feel will make the best additions to the board.

Election Day is Tuesday, March 10th. For information on your polling place, go to: www.lavote.net.

What Is Peter Fonda Doing?



Photo By Dean Lee

Actor and Activist Peter Fonda appears to be preparing for a nap in the middle of..... Curious? Go To Page 5 for the story.

CORRECTION

In last week's edition, a typographical error was made that substantially altered the meaning of the sentence.

Our story on the sidewalk washing used the word 'vigilante' instead of 'vigilant' when referencing the eye of Code Enforcement Officer Lisa Volpe. We apologize for any misunderstandings this may have caused.

S. Henderson, Publisher

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Celebrate the Irish in you with a green tea smoothie!



Niko & friends
Coffee - Deli



No Blarney!

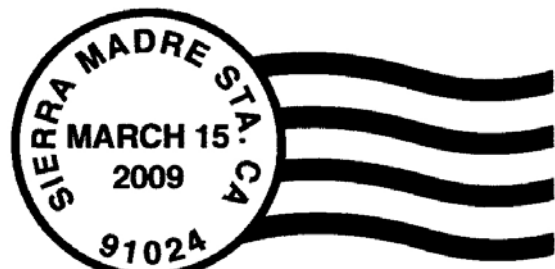
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Weather Wise

5-Day Forecast
Sierra Madre, Ca.

Mon: Sunny Hi 70s Lows 50s
Tues: Sunny Hi 70s Lows 50s
Wed: Sunny Hi 70s Lows 50s
Thur: Sunny Hi 70s Lows 50s
Fri: Sunny Hi 70s Lows 50s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

SIERRA MADRE
THE WISTARIA TOWN

The Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce and the U.S. Postal Service announce a special post mark cancellation to celebrate the Sierra Madre Wistaria Festival.

This special postmark will be available at the Sierra Madre Wistaria Festival, Sunday March 15, 2009 at the Wistaria Festival Postal Station located at Kersting Court in Sierra at Sierra Madre Boulevard and Baldwin Avenue. This special Wistaria Festival Station will be open 11 A.M. to 3 P.M.

Bring postcards or letters and mail them from this special event post office and your friends will be surprised when they receive mail with this extraordinary postmark.

This postal cancellation has been announced and printed in the U. S. Postal Bulletin which is distributed world wide. To accommodate collectors from out of the area the Sierra Madre Post Office will cancel postcards and letters upon request with the Wistaria Cancellation for 30 days after the event. To postmark a letter after the event go to Sierra Madre Post Office and request the wistaria postmark on your mail.

For more information contact:

The Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce
(626) 355-5111

e-mail Info@sierramadrechamber.com

U.S. Post Office Sierra Madre, California 91024

Sierra Madre Aquatics Center
Spring Lap Swim

The Sierra Madre Aquatics Center will be opening for the Spring Lap Swim season starting Monday, March 9, 2009. The Spring Lap Swim season will last through June 14, 2009. The Aquatics Center will be open Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday from 12:00pm – 2:00pm and on Tuesday and Thursday from 6:00pm – 8:00pm. Spring Lap Swim passes are \$100 and are available at the Community Services Office located at 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Only season passes will be sold, there will not be daily admissions.

For more information call 626-355-5278.

ArtTalk

Pasadena Celebrates the Arts with ARTTalk a FREE six-hour performance marathon featuring spoken word, theatre performances, music, dance, and film on Saturday, March 14, 2009 from 11 am until 5 pm.

Highlights and interviews available with:

The hilarious and witty Michele Serros, a Chicana author, poet and screenwriter.

Award winning poet, and author Jervey Tervalon who will be doing selected readings from some of his published works.

The screening of "City of Angels 2008: An Echo Park Film Center

Youth Documentary Project." City of Angels 2008 focuses on the unique strengths, concerns and experiences that come together in 21st century Los Angeles. The films are unique examinations through the eyes of 13 and 19-year-olds that provide viewers with a glimpse of the celebrations of life in the City of Angels.

CHAMBER MIXER
AT THE
WOMAN'S CLUB

The Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce invites everyone to attend the Chamber Mixer -

On March 12th, from 5:30 to 7pm, the Sierra Madre Woman's Club will, as it has for year's each March, host the first March Chamber mixer, and the ladies are really looking forward to it. Every year the ladies of the Woman's Club spend hours preparing special homemade food treats for the local business folk that attend the Mixer, so please stop by and do a little networking, meet and greet your fellow Chamber members, and enjoy some delicious food.



Speech Contest

The Sierra Madre Rotary Club will be holding its Four-Way Test Speech Contest at the Club's regular morning meeting - Tuesday, March 17, 2009, at 7:00 a.m. at the 322 Café located at 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. The speech contest is open to 9-12 graders.

The winner of the Club contest will then compete on March 25th, followed by a Regional competition on April 29th. The final competition will be May 30 at the Marriott Desert Springs in Palm Desert. The final winner will receive \$5,000 and the runners-up \$1,000.

Contestant application forms and rules can be obtained by contacting Carmen Thibault at Carmen.thibault@earthlink.net

"How to Write a Short Story"
Saturday, March 14,
10 a.m. to Noon,
Youth Activities Center

The Sierra Madre Community Arts Commission and Sisters in Crime/Los Angeles are proud to present this free beginning writer's workshop taught by author/playwright, Gay Tolt Kinman. Join us to learn about point of view, characterization, narration, description, dialog and how they are all essential for fiction and non-fiction writing. For new writers and those who want to brush up on their skills. Ms. Kinman writes cozy mysteries and young adult novels such as: Death in Covant Garden and Castle Reiner. Many of her one-act plays are performed at the Lizard Theatre in Alhambra. Ms. Kinman teaches throughout the Los Angeles area. RSVP to Susan Clifton, scifton@cityofsierramadre.com or 626-355-5278.

"TRAVELERS AND COLLECTORS"
RIVERBOAT PROGRAM

Join John and Marie Meursinge at the Sierra Madre City Hall Chambers on Friday, March 13 at 7:30 p.m. as they sail 465 miles up the Columbia and Snake Rivers on The Columbia Queen. Their program, Columbia Riverboat Adventure: Following the Trail of Lewis and Clark, will feature the beautiful Columbia River Gorge, Multnomah Falls, Mt. St. Helens, and a stop at Fort Clatsop, where Lewis and Clark wintered before embarking on their famed exploration. This program is free and open to the public. The Sierra Madre City Hall Council Chambers is located at 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. For more information and a schedule of upcoming programs, contact The Sierra Madre Public Library at 440 W. Sierra Madre Boulevard in Sierra Madre, (626) 355-7186, or visit the Library's website at www.cityofsierramadre.org. "Travelers and Collectors" is sponsored by The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library.

EDITING FOR WRITERS PROGRAM

On Monday, March 23 at 7:00 p.m., Stephanie Vitale will present Editing—What Every Writer Needs to Know, at the Sierra Madre Public Library. Drawing on 35 years of experience as an author, editor, and scriptwriter, Ms. Vitale will provide editing tips and discuss why knowing how to edit yourself is a vital skill every writer needs to develop. Learn how to give your manuscript that "extra edge," and what editors and publishers will look for when deciding whether to accept or reject a submission. This event is free to the public. For more information, please contact the Sierra Madre Public Library, 440 W. Sierra Madre Boulevard in Sierra Madre, (626) 355-7186, or visit the Library's website, www.cityofsierramadre.org.

Don't Forget To Vote

City of Sierra Madre
Housing Element Update
Community Workshop
Tuesday, March 31, 2009,
6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Sierra Madre Recreation Center

The Housing Element Update will set forth the City of Sierra Madre's housing strategy for the 2008-2014 period to address existing and future housing needs. The Community Workshop will provide an overview of the Housing Element and provide you an opportunity to give your valuable input on the housing needs faced by Sierra Madre's residents. Come share your ideas on the following:

- ✓ What are the greatest strengths of Sierra Madre's housing and neighborhoods?
- ✓ What are Sierra Madre's most important housing needs?
- ✓ What options should the City pursue to address its housing needs within the Housing Element?
- ✓ What sites are appropriate for future housing growth?

For information contact Danny Castro, Director of Development Services, 626.355.7138, dcastro@cityofsierramadre.com

PULITZER PRIZE WINNER "PICNIC"
OPENS AT SIERRA MADRE
PLAYHOUSE ON MARCH 6

March 6- April 11, 2009. Fri. & Sat. at 8, Sun. at 2:30
Dark on Sunday, March 15
Admission is \$20

Seniors (65+) and students (13-17), \$17
Children 12 and under, \$12

RESERVATIONS: (626) 355-4318

GROUP RESERVATIONS: (626) 836-2125

ONLINE: www.sierramadreplayhouse.org

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SIERRA MADRE'S FARMERS MARKET!

Every Wednesday 3pm-7pm

Fresh vegetables and seasonal fruits from California family farms.

Specialty foods, vegetarian and vegan dishes, ethnic foods and hot food - Everything you'll find at the farmers market has been made or picked fresh, is pesticide-free and preservative-free.

Free public on Mariposa.

More Sierra Madre News

And The Winner Is:
Lisa Catto!

The Sierra Madre Library announced the winner of the creative writing contest based on Fahrenheit 451, the city's One Book, One City selection for 2009. Writers and poets of all ages were invited to participate. The goal was to create a work based upon Ray Bradbury's Sci-Fi classic. The first place winner, Lisa Catto, received a gift certificate from Sierra Madre Books and the publication of her work.

Lisa lives in Irvine, California with her husband and two sons. The story 'Flashlight' was inspired by her time in Silicon Valley working for a large database company. She attended Ray Bradbury's presentation about 'Doing what you Love.' and was inspired as a writer. Says Lisa, "I am especially grateful to the Sierra Madre Library for sponsoring the contest".



Flashlight by Lisa Catto

Charlie Merick no longer heard the loud hum of the servers. After sixteen years, the enormous server room was as silent to him as a download library. The intense heat from the machines did not bother him, even when the coolant system went out. The heat and the hum kept away visitors.

The click-clack of high heels echoed from the hall and pulled him away from his terminal. He quickly threw on his dress shirt from the back of his chair. There was a dress code but he was more concerned that a woman would see his pale scrawny frame. His exceptional height made him look gangly, like a Daddy Long Legs. But his soft perennial smile was that of the kind spider from a children's book.

A petite woman in a tailored blue suit stood in the doorway. She glanced at him and then back at her PDA screen.

"Are you Charlie Merick?"
"Yes, that's me," he said flustered as he tucked his shirt into his pants. He caught sight of his picture on her PDA.

"My name is Erica, please come with me." She had a slight air of seeming annoyed but nothing concrete enough to be asked about it.

"Uh, is this about the 1080 servers? Because those are going to be back up by the



morning. We just..."
She held up her hand to silence him.
"No, Mr. Merick, ARCH has requested a conversation with you."
Charlie's eyes widened. "Really? Someone from the ARCH group wants to talk to me?"
"No, I said 'ARCH wants to talk with you.'"
"Uh, wow ... alright, I just need a second to log off, otherwise there isn't enough coverage in the..." Her silencing gesture returned. Charlie wondered if this was the last time he would log off the system as he typed into his terminal. Then he caught up to her in the hallway. She tapped her PDA impatiently and glanced at her watch.
"Nice watch," he said.
"Thank you. Nice flashlight."
Charlie looked at his battered flashlight hanging from his belt. "Oh, I always carry this

(Continued on page 10)

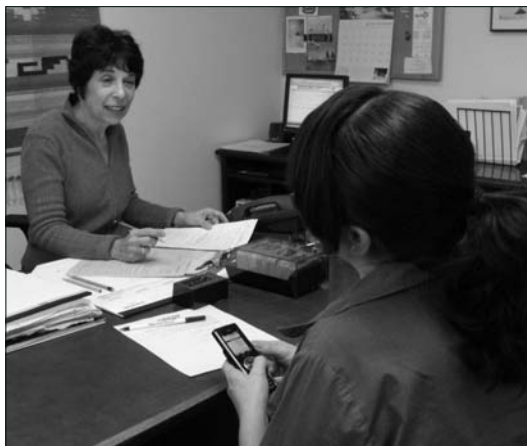
Pasadena

Community Resource
for Job Seekers

By La Quetta M. Shamblee

Women At Work has weathered the tumultuous economic winds of corporate downsizings and layoffs to assist jobseekers since 1979. The nonprofit received national attention last Thursday when featured in a segment on the Oprah Winfrey show. As the only bilingual (English/Spanish) Career Resource Center in the San Gabriel Valley available to job seekers without requiring appointments, Women At Work serves almost 500 clients monthly. Although most services are designed to address the needs of women forty-five and older, the agency serves a sizeable number of younger women and almost ten percent of clients are men.

Unlike a traditional job placement service staffed with counselors who serve a limited number of clients, Women At Work serves as a regional hub with an array of programs and services to help individuals with job searches and career planning. For a minimal fee of \$2 per visit (or \$5 for a weekly pass with unlimited usage), job seekers have access to Resume Critique Workshops, Job Seeker Assistance Support Groups and hundreds of current job listings maintained in an online database and three-ring binders. Individual career counseling and assessment is available on a sliding fee scale.



Director Lavin counsels applicant.

The Career Resource Center has WiFi for clients with laptops and public computers with tutorials on popular software packages are available for clients to learn or brush up on skills. A variety of computer workshops and other job-related courses are available at a cost of fifteen to forty dollars, such as "Moving On After A Job Loss," "45+ and Job Hunting," "Quicken (for accountants)," and a selection of workshops on Microsoft (Word, Excel & Access).

Women At Work is located at 3871 E. Colorado Boulevard (near Michillinda intersection) and is open Monday thru Thursday from 9:30am-4:30pm, with extended evening hours until 7:00pm each Wednesday and on the second Saturday of each month from 10am-2pm. To learn more about agency programs and activities, please visit our website at www.womenatwork.org or call (626) 796-6870.



Around Monrovia

by Pat Ostrye

Library Dedication & More

Perhaps Monrovia's civic event of the decade is the dedication ceremony and celebration of its new 28,000-square-foot Library, to be held on April 4th at 11 am in Library Park, the very spot where the old Library stood. Work began on this project in December, 2007.

The new Library construction is running below budget so Mayor Rob Hammond announced that the City Council has voted to return the expected leftover \$280,000 to the voters by cutting next year's bond-retirement tax by \$18 per household.

The actual opening of the Library will take place during Monrovia Day celebrations on May 16th. The doors will open for business at 10 am on that day, with a host of activities planned for the event. Monica Greening is and has been Director of Library Services for many years, managing to very capably conduct business as usual for library patrons at the Youth Center during these past months. The Library falls under the umbrella of Community Services, with April Soash as Director.

This will be the third Library for Monrovia. In 1902 Library Park was purchased on a \$10,000 grant from the Andrew Carnegie Fund and in 1908 the Carnegie Library opened to the public. In 1957, with no sense of history, the City Council, in its hind-sighted wisdom, demolished that historic monument and constructed the new modern concept of a library, which was renovated a time or two over the years before it was razed in 2007 to make way for this new, spacious

facility.

Now, Monrovia's social event of the season is Salute To Stars, an elegant luncheon sponsored annually by Quota International of Monrovia/Duarte. Quota is an international service club whose main philanthropy is aid to the deaf and abused women and children, as well scholarships, hearing-aids for children and participation in numerous other local community projects.

This year the event will be honoring those who work to make our community a better place. Those to be honored are: Linda Wright, owner of Monrovia Unlimited; Ulisses Gutierrez, Pastor, former gang member, now works with youth; and Sylvia Domotor, DVM, veterinarian. Charlotte Schamadan, Past International President of Quota, is chairperson for the event which will be held on April 8th, at the Doubletree Hotel in Monrovia, 924 W. Huntington, \$35 per person, doors opening at 11:30, lunch at twelve noon. No tickets will be issued, names will be held at the door. For reservations, Mary Ann Mayer, 626-359-8052.

Another event to be recognized is the 31st Anniversary of the Gad-A-Bouts senior club which was officially chartered on March 8th, 1978. The club meets on Wednesdays at the Monrovia Community Center and has also embraced the new Red Hats Club. The celebration will take place on Wednesday, March 11th at the Community Center, 119 W. Palm in Monrovia. Coral Stuvall is President. For information, 626-256-8246. postrye@netzero.com

Duarte
Hayden Memorial 5K Run, Walk and Roll

Hundreds are expected and the entire community is invited to participate in the first annual Hayden Memorial 5K Run, Family Walk & Roll on the Duarte Recreational Trail, Saturday, March 21. The nonprofit Hayden Child Care Center at Santa Teresita Medical Center is presenting the event, co-sponsored by the City of Duarte, Alfredo's Mexican Food, King's Ranch Market, Jake's Roadhouse, Visalia Rawhide Minor League Baseball Team, and DLEON Entertainment.

Popular with runners and power walkers, the trail is flanked by the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains to the north and Royal Oaks Dr. to the south. The 1.6 mile trail runs through

a residential area with horses, trees and lots of shade. The race surface is asphalt, concrete and dirt. To complete the 5K, participants will loop the trail.

Runners in the 5K race will lead off at 9 a.m. from the trail head at Royal Oaks Dr. and Buena Vista St., followed by participants in the family fun run, walk and roll. A special children's fun run will take place at 10:30 a.m. on the grounds of Santa Teresita Medical Center, 819 Buena Vista St., where a family fun day is planned from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., featuring games, food and entertainment.

Early registration fees, prior to March 11, are: \$25 for adults, 15 years of age and older; Children ages 3 to 14, \$12; Wheelchair

teams, up to three persons, \$35; Individual wheelchair, \$25; and to sponsor a Hayden teacher/Carmelite Sister, \$25. After March 11, registration for adults will be \$35. Registration on race day begins at 7 a.m. All participants will receive a T-Shirt.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the Hayden Child Care Center.

The Hayden Child Care Center assists families in the spiritual, social, and academic formation of children, providing preschool and kindergarten education.

For more information call (626) 932-3489. Participants can register online at www.hayden5k.com.



Sierra Madre Woman's Club Wistaria Thrift Shop

Run completely by Volunteers

Proceeds support local charities

Spring Sale

Featuring Spring Fashions and
Special Items for the Home
Friday and Saturday
March 20 & 21
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

In the Historic Essick House

550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
One block East of Michillinda Ave.

For information call 626-355-7739

LA County Supervisors: Tougher Puppy Mill Laws

LOS ANGELES, Calif. - The March 3rd action by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors will pave the way for the eradication of puppy mills, says a representative of Best Friends Animal Society. Elizabeth Oreck, Best Friends LA programs manager said: "As a result of today's action by the board, they will be reviewing county regulations that govern dog breeding, and will recommend amendments to existing ordinances to tighten the loopholes that allow puppy millers to operate under the kennel provisions. This will mean stronger and more effective enforcement of the laws, and improvement in the quality of care for these animals."

"The board not only followed Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich's lead by voting to approve his motion, but they upped the ante," Oreck added.

Supervisor Antonovich's motion called a report reviewing existing regulations to be completed in 90 days, but Antonovich shortened the deadline to 45 days, which shows they are taking this issue very seriously.

"Many of these kennels endanger the health and welfare of these animals by housing them in overcrowded and unsanitary conditions without adequate veterinary care, food and water" said Antonovich.



Nearly 30,000 dogs and cats are euthanized every year in Los Angeles County. Over the past six months, the County has had to seize and/or order the relocation of hundreds of puppies and adult dogs due to such conditions, which has increased the burden, costs and impact on County shelters and rescue organizations.

Since July 2008, Best Friends, one of the nation's leading animal welfare organizations, has played a pivotal role through its "A-Puppy-Store-Free LA" campaign to show the connection between puppy mills and pet stores. The campaign also raised awareness about the horrific conditions that puppy mill dogs and puppies endure. As a founding member of the county's Puppy Mill Task Force, Best Friends has been working closely with Supervisor Antonovich to effect changes in the county's ordinances. The motion provides the authority for the county agencies involved with the Puppy Mill Task Force

to finalize the ordinance work.
"This is a proud day for Los Angeles County. We were in serious danger of becoming the puppy mill capitol of the country, and today the Board of Supervisors stood up and said they wanted the suffering of the dogs and the waste of the taxpayers' money to stop," Oreck said.

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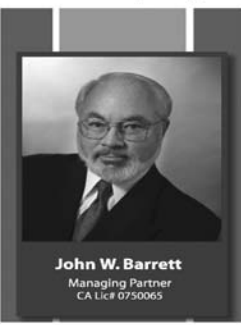
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- Do you want to lower your monthly health insurance premiums?
- Are you a small business owner faced with the choice of greatly reducing the cost of your group health insurance or eliminating employees?

If you answered yes to any of these questions take the time to call or email me for assistance in solving your dilemma.

My direct number is (626) 797-4618

john@healthinsbrokers.com



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Managing Partner
CA Lic# 0750065

Health Insurance Brokers
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Pasadena, CA 91105
626-797-4618
www.healthinsbrokers.com



Distribution of Unsolicited Fliers Restricted

By Dean Lee

Without much conversation and little public input Monday night the city council voted 5-2 in favor of prohibiting the distribution of handbills on residential property, with exceptions, even though the city had once lost a federal lawsuit filed against a similar issue.

In 1998, the ACLU of Southern California filed a federal civil rights lawsuit against the city on behalf of several community activists challenging the [then] new ordinance banning all flying citywide.

Although city staff said the newly revised ordinance was brought before the council because of new developments in the law some council members viewed the issue as a complete waste of time. The council also voted to repeal the 1998 ordinance barred by the court.

“Frankly we should be spending our time on more important issues,” said Councilmember Margaret McAustin. “And, allowing our staff to be devoting their time to more important issues in the city.”

She also said the ordinance, which would restrict flying unless the handbills are properly secured, affixed or weighted, was impractical and impossible to enforce. Fliers would also be prohibited on properties where “No Handbills” signs are clearly posted.

“We as a city council are under tremendous pressure and I think at this moment in time we should be devoting our city resources toward something where we can get more value and better applied city resources than we have.”

McAustin did say she finds the fliers, “a complete annoyance” and also said curbing the activity was a noble idea, just not at this time. Both McAustin and Councilmember Chris Holden voted against the ordinance.

Director of Planning and Development Richard Bruchner said enforcement would start with a warning although Councilmember Steve Haderlein first said it was up to staff to decide how to prosecute. He said if fines were implemented they would start at \$100 for the first offence, \$200 for the second and so on.

He added that it was possible criminal action could be taken. If so, the person whose name appears on the handbill has violated the law he said.

Resident Nancy Nelson said the council was missing “the larger issue.” She cited everything from the First Amendment of the Constitution to the United Nations and human rights.

“One of the rights... is the right to work,” she said. “And if using a little flier is part of a person’s right to work and to



put something on a car, I mean, is this really a problem?”

Nelson added, “But to make laws that things like this are criminal and can be prosecuted and fees, I think you’re really touching on and treading on spirit of constitution and free speech stuff.”

According to a staff report, banning handbills in the city’s residential districts protects the health, safety and general welfare of the public. The report also states that accumulations of fliers at unoccupied homes can lead to burglaries.

Unwanted fliers are also an environmental and waste issue, including, the potential degradation of aquatic resources, oceans, bays and waterways caused by the pollution of storm water discharge systems staff said.

Holden asked how many complaints the city gets about leaflets to which staff said, about one a month.

“But it’s consistent of the 10 years or so it’s been in abeyance and 5 years that I’ve been with the city,” said Code Compliance Manager Jon Pollard. “It is a consistent concern that is raised.”

Holden then added, “I agree with what Margaret said, if we are prioritizing our resources, this may not be the most appropriate law to put on the books and then have to further strain our ability to enforce the ordinance.”

Haderlein said he believed the number of complaints would go down as residents became aware of the new law.

He also asked that part of the ordinance be taken out banning handbill distribution on automobiles and other vehicles citywide, the most controversial part of the law.

“And the reason for that is there is a court case pending that will provide additional information as to the appropriateness of our ordinance,” he explained.

Exception to the ordinance include, “city notices for information, thing like the street maintenance, or street trees being trimmed or developments within 500 feet, informational items that are required by law,” he said.

A Shady Deal



In what seemed an answer to please everyone the city council approved Monday night the suspension of any further tree removals citywide in response to outcry from residents mad over 14 Ficus trees cut down in the middle of the night. Some said the action was a little too late.

The suspension excludes, dead trees, trees posing an immediate public safety or public health hazard. It also excludes emergencies or trees posing a visibility hazards to traffic or

traffic signage/signals.

There also must now be a review prior to and the city manger must notify the council within 24 hours of any tree removals under the exceptions.

More information will be provided in two weeks as part of the city council’s discussion regarding the city’s street tree master plan and information regarding public trees that are scheduled for removal and/or projects where public tree removal is part of the project’s plan.

“We Are The Key” Rally Held At PCC

By Teresa Baxter

Last Friday, in an effort to stress the importance that community college’s are key to economic recovery, Pasadena City College hosted hundreds of students from several area campuses in a rally of support—during an uncertain future—due to state budget cuts.

Titled “We are the Key!” the event was sponsored by the Community College Public Relations Organization. The statewide CCPRO is a professional development and service organization that serves as a central resource of information, and provides counsel and assistance relating to the advancement of community colleges statewide.

Stephanie Heckel, the Associated Student Body vice president of Rio Hondo Community College made the trip from Whittier with several classmates. Many carried posters stating “Where’s the Funding?” and “Keep



the Doors Open to Higher Education”.

“Our legislators don’t understand that with the economic crisis, the ways that it is, a lot of people are losing jobs and trying to better themselves. Where do they go? They go to community colleges,” said Heckel. “It would be in their detriment if they were to cut funding. The economy can grow only if people can afford to go to school.”

P.C.C. President Paulette Perfumo welcomed students that attended from as far away as Barstow, Long Beach, Palm Desert, Santa Ana and Huntington Beach, to name a few. Perfumo reiterated the importance

Mad at IndyMac, FDIC



A small gathering of protesters Saturday marched back and forth in front of the now defunct IndyMac bank headquarters, many of whom said they lost thousands of dollars after the FDIC took over the bank.

Protesters said their next step was to go to Washington D.C. to gather enough support and file a class action lawsuit.

“You heard them, ‘keep you money in the bank,’ they kept telling us,” a protester said to another. “This is the safest bank in the county.”

“That was a lie.”

Many alleged the Office of Thrift Supervision deliberately misguided thousands of depositors by telling them they would get some of their money back, over the \$100,000 federally in-

sured limit, after the bank was sold something that they said looks not to happen.

Those at IndyMac were also now left out of a temporary change in limits where a depositor is currently insured up to \$250,000 per beneficiary for up to five beneficiaries.

Several protesters said they were told none of their beneficiaries at the time last year were covered.



City Attorney to Council, Careful who you Wine and Dine

By Dean Lee

The days where it was common place to raffle off Rose Bowl or Parade tickets at local district meetings by any one of the seven council members—or anyone subject to the Brown Act for that matter—are now over.

City Attorney Michele Bagneris briefed the council Monday night on the new restrictions that limit them to a single ticket used for an event at which they perform a ceremonial role or function on behalf of the City. Other than that extra tickets can be considered income based on the value of a ticket.

“These are tickets provided free of charge,” she said. “And in most instances they are in the form of events that the official is attending to benefit the city for a public purpose to promote activities of

the city to encourage businesses to come to the city, organizations to participate fully in the city.”

The rules also do not apply for which the city official pays the City the value of the ticket staff said.

She said the new policy would be implemented by City Manger Michael Beck as the ticket administrator. She added that Rose Bowl General Manager/CEO Darryl Dunn, as well as the Pasadena Center Operating Company and the Rose Bowl Operating Company would all have policies on ticket distribution.

Bagneris also said the policy would be available on the city’s website cityofpasadena.net.

“Reporting of the tickets that would be subject to the policy would be included in the city’s website as

well,” She said. “So that there will be disclosure of how the tickets are used etc.”

The city’s policy was unanimously approved in the form of a resolution. Bagneris added that allowed them to “tweak” it as they see fit.

Councilmember Steve Madison asked that the policy be reviewed by Economic Development and Technology Committee.

“To make sure we have some consistency in the way we approach this,” he said. “I think the city attorney described well the tree major places where this would come up, the Rose Bowl, the PCOC and then through the city managers office.”

He added that he wanted it easy for them to understand as well as the public and to the FPPC in Sacramento.

Mayor Bill Bogaard commented after the vote that outside of Jan. 1, the issue rarely comes up.

“It is not unusual of me or all of us to be invited to a luncheon when they hope that we will offer a presence from city hall that many view as contributing to the importance of the event they are sponsoring,” Bogaard said. “Although I think those are within the duties that we assume.”

He then said they were part of the reward for being elected.

Madison said they needed to look at other implications.

“For example we do have a box that the city uses to promote economic development in the city for the UCLA football games,” he said. “It’s kind of a burden on staff I think who may be giving up their Saturday’s to help promote the city and all.”



Environmentally Speaking, Did You Know?

SMALL CHANGES = BIG RESULTS

By Pat Birdsall

We can all gradually “green” our routines...Let’s begin with... **Food-** Some of this might be repetitious, but maybe that’s a good thing... Switch one staple of your diet from conventional to organic: eggs this month, milk the next. Shop at our local Farmer’s Market every Wednesday from 3-7 PM at the Mariposa parking lot. Instead of having lunch delivered to your office, walk to a nearby restaurant and save take-out containers by dining in. Or, bring your own container to the restaurant and have it filled there. At the very least, bring a set of your own silverware and your favorite condiments to the office.

Transportation- Buy an air pressure gauge and make a monthly habit of checking the air pressure in your tires. Properly inflated tires increase gas mileage by about 3%. Start making a note of each car trip you take. Changing your car habits is one of the most dramatic ways to reduce your environmental impact. Getting a clear picture of exactly how car-dependent you are can help finding ways to cut back. Vow to take fewer car trips, replacing them with walking, biking or public transportation. You reap more benefits than just saving gas--such as fresh air, exercise, community interaction or reading time.

Energy- Get a baseline of your current carbon footprint using the reliable online calculators at either www.safeclimate.net or www.lowimpactliving.com . Set a goal of how much you’d like to reduce your impact over the coming year-10% is a good start. To up the ante, get a likeminded friend or group of friends to make a competition out of it.

Everyday Purchases- Create your own personal “Going Green” kit. Small purchases that can add up to big impact include: *reusable tote bags *stainless steel water bottles *travel coffee mug *BYO-lunch supplies- an insulated carrier, utensils and wax paper or aluminum foil (instead of plastic wrap.) and *compact fluorescent light bulbs. As you use conventional products, replace them with more environmentally friendly options- household cleansers that use essential oils for fragrance, laundry detergents formulated for cold water which saves the energy normally required to heat the water, cloth napkins to replace disposable ones. You’ll reduce your chemical exposure and trash a little less. In addition, you’ll send a message to manufacturers to produce more environmentally friendly products. When you vote with your dollars, corporations listen.

Finally, open a savings account devoted to green home improvements. Look at your budget and see what you can set aside toward a new efficient appliance, hot water heater or furnace. Even if it will take a couple of years to get there, it will pay off in the long run.

www.thegreenguide.com

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rethink

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

AeroVironment Inspired Solar Xof1 Crosses The Finish Line



The Xof1 Solar Powered Vehicle

Mrcelo Da Luz knows how to build a “looker,” just don’t ask him how many miles to the gallon his prototype Xof1 gets because the answer will always be zero.

The only way to describe the Canadian car that runs solely on sunlight is to, let’s say, call it a UFO. It has a long sleek body three feet off the ground with a small dome to look out as a windshield. Da Luz said the car was inspired by the World Solar Challenge first won in 1987 by AeroVironment of Monrovia.

Da Luz even portrayed the car as alien to Peter Fonda who was one of many celebrity guests that came out to the Hancock Park home of the Canadian Consul General, David Fransen to see the car.

The event Friday night ended Da Luz’s 12,500 mile journey that took the car to the Arctic Circle, crossed the continental divide 8 times and finally ended in Los Angeles.

The solar car also set a new world record for solar driving distance Da Luz said.

Fonda got a first hand look at the car sitting in the driver’s seat. Environmentalist/actor Ed Begley Jr was also on hand. Begley said he was impressed with the car and had to see it up close. He said he plugs his own 2003 Toyota RAV4 EV electric powered vehicle into solar panels but the Xof1 is all self contained he said, “that’s a whole other game.”

Da Luz told the crowd of about 50 people of his encounters including dealing with bears and police. Residents in one Alaska town called the police to report a UFO he said.

His plan was to drive the car to South America but said but he ran out of money. “Unless I get a sponsor this is the end”, he said.

Photos and Story by Dean Lee/MVO



Marco Da Luz

Sierra Madre Police Blotter

During the week of Sunday, February 22nd, to Saturday February 28th, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 290 calls for service.

Sunday, February 22nd:

12:31 AM – Arrest, Driving Under the Influence, 600 block West Sierra Madre Blvd. Officers were dispatched to the 600 block of W. Sierra Madre Blvd. in response to a possible traffic collision. Officers found a woman involved in a solo-vehicle traffic accident, as she had driven and collided with the center medium. Further investigation revealed the woman had been driving under the influence of alcohol. The woman was arrested and transported to Pasadena Police jail facility for booking and housing.

Tuesday, February 24th:

At 8:51 – Theft of Identity, 100 block of West Bonita Ave. A resident reported that someone fraudulently used her social security number without her permission, after being alerted by the Internal Revenue Service, of an income discrepancy that occurred in 2006.

Wednesday, February 25th:

12:39 PM – Theft of Identity, 600 block of Holy Trail. A resident discovered unauthorized charges on his Discover Credit card after reviewing his monthly credit card statement. The charges which range into a few hundreds of dollars, unknown exact amount at this time, stem from telephone charges made against the credit card and on-line (website) purchases.

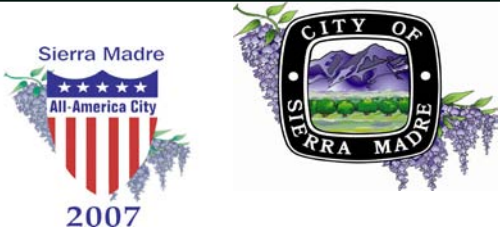
8:01 PM – Arrest, Assault with a Deadly Weapon Against a Police Officer, 300 block Grove St. Officers responded to a call of a person yelling obscenities. Officers attempted to speak with the man, but the man armed himself with a machete in his hands and approached the officers in a threatening manner. Due to his aggressive behavior, officers deployed a Taser and subdued the man. The man was arrested and later transported to Pasadena Police jail facility for booking and housing.

Thursday, February 26th:

9:10 AM – Vehicle Tampering, 1900 block Vista Ave. Several unlocked cars were ransacked. Three of the cars had cash taken from the interior. The crimes occurred between Wednesday, 2/26/09, at 6:00 pm and Thursday, 2/27/09, at 7:45 am.

Friday, February 27th:

5:35 PM – Residential Burglary, 2000 North Santa Anita Ave. A MAC desk top computer and a lap top computer were stolen from the home. The investigation revealed that entry to the home was made through an open bathroom window. The loss is estimated at \$5,500.00.



GET OUT! GET ACTIVE! VOLUNTEER!

Join the Team!



The City Council is seeking volunteers to serve on the upcoming **Green** Advisory Committee!

The City is looking for motivated, enthusiastic, creative, and friendly volunteers to serve on this important committee to help promote the City’s goals of environmental conservation.

Green Advisory Committee (GAC)

The GAC is a five-member committee, appointed by the City Council. The GAC may be comprised of residents who are professionals in the field of environmental conservation, environmental sustainability, design professionals, or individuals who have a desire to explore “green” programs and practices that apply to future City development. A City Councilmember and/or Planning Commissioner could also be appointed to attend meetings to act as liaisons to their Council and Commission. The GAC meetings will also be attended by a City staff member.

What is the role of the GPSC?

The role of the GAC is to meet on a regular basis and will be asked to provide staff with recommendations and direction to further the City’s efforts on “green” practices and programs, such as energy efficiency, waste reduction, recycling, clean energy, sustainability, including monitoring compliance with State and regional statutes, and possible creation of a Green Building Ordinance for public and private development in Sierra Madre. The GAC’s role is solely advisory. Any recommended practice or program will be reviewed by the City Council acting upon the GAC’s and Planning Commission’s recommendations.

How much time is involved?

Participation on the GAC will require a commitment to attending monthly meetings (or on as-needed basis) for an approximately 18-24 month period. All regular GAC meetings will occur at pre-set meeting dates and times, and would be expected to last approximately two hours.

For an application, visit http://cityofsierramadre.com/docs_forms/files/application_commission.pdf for Commission application

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

Help Wanted: Executive Director

The Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce is seeking an Executive Director to manage its office, implement the direction of the Board of Directors, manage staff (one part time assistant ongoing, occasionally a second part-time staffer to assist with specific events), and manage the Chamber’s events (including but not limited to Chamber Mixers, The Wistaria Festival, Dickens Village, and a Health and Home Based Business Expo/Taste of Sierra Madre).

The suitable candidate will be:

- Dynamic Capable Professional Energetic Positive

As the face of the Chamber and all Sierra Madre Commerce, the qualified candidate will be effective at networking, a relationship builder, and an organizer. Duties will include event and revenue development, as well as evaluation, organization and management of the Chamber office and staff, including record keeping and regularly scheduled reporting to the Board.

The candidate will excel at membership development and retention strategies.

The Chamber’s Executive Director will be a pro-active, PRO-BUSINESS Advocate, in general and within the Chamber’s membership, the local business district, and serve as a liaison between the business community and governments and other organizations.

The Executive Director will direct all Marketing and Public Relations and be responsible for all Chamber communication to members, the public, governmental representatives, media, other chambers & numerous business and economic development organizations.

The position requires a person able to work a flexible schedule, available beyond standard business hours, including some evenings and weekends. Weekly hours will range from thirty to fifty hours per week. Applicants can mail their resumes to 37 N. Auburn, Ste. 1, Sierra Madre, CA 91024, or e-mail them to info@sierramadrechamber.com.

GET OUT! GET ACTIVE! VOLUNTEER! BE A SIERRA MADRE CITY COMMISSIONER!

We want you to be a part of our City Team!

Volunteer to Serve on a City Commission

We are looking for motivated, enthusiastic, creative, and friendly volunteers to serve on the following Commissions:

- Community Services
- Tree Advisory
- Senior Community

For an application, visit www.cityofsierramadre.com
For more information please call (626) 355-7135

Multiple Pathways Explored By PUSD

By Teresa Baxter

Due to grant funding provided at the end of last year by the Pasadena Education Foundation, in association with the James Irvine Foundation and ConnectED: The California Center for College and Career, the Pasadena Unified School District is exploring the idea of incorporating a multiple pathways program to help high school students graduate prepared for college and careers.

In a recent status report, Michael Seaton, the district's executive director of accountability, alternative and career and technical education, updated the school board on the results of research and the feasibility of implementing such a program. According to a previous report, a pathway is a program of academic and technical study centered on the California industry sector. The multiple pathways strategy will offer hands-on learning opportunities to prepare students for real world success, he said.

"The Irvine Foundation commissioned a survey that showed that California youths are disengaged from education and hungry for more inspiration. In fact, 3 out of 4 students said they would be doing better in school if they were moti-

vated to work harder and 9 out of 10 students felt tying classes to their future in real world careers would inspire them to do better," said Seaton.

If the plan is adopted, high school students will be able to pursue a pathway over multiple years and graduate prepared for the full range of post-graduation options—which can include two or four-year colleges, certification programs, apprenticeships or formal job training.

"The objectives of the initiative are to increase student achievement and high school completion," said Seaton. "A lot of the information about student engagement through career academies in small learning communities has shown that students who participate in these multiple paths types of programs are more likely to complete a college degree."

By offering multiple pathways, schools will encourage students to select from a variety of themed programs in any of California's 15 major industry sectors. These sectors include finance and business; health science and medical technology; building and environmental design; engineering; and arts, media and entertainment.



"A smile and a bit of hope a day keeps the doctor away?"

Do you know the power of positive thinking? Everyone knows that optimistic people tend to be happy people, but did you know that most happy people are actually healthy people? It's true. When people feel happy and positive, their bodies produce more serotonin. Serotonin helps to support our immune system. By staying positive and happy, you can actually lower the risk of getting an illness or stress-related diseases.

Expectation also goes a long way. In my psychology class, we are learning about the placebo effect. The placebo effect happens when a patient goes to the doctor about an illness. They may have

recurring headaches, back pain, stiff joints, you name it. So the doctor gives them a pill and tells them to take one, once a day. The patient leaves, confident that the pill will help improve their condition. They have faith that now that they have a "cure", they'll get better in no time. The catch is, the pill is fake, almost like a "sugar-pill". The pill won't do any good, but the patient has no idea and goes along following the doctor's orders. Soon they find themselves getting better and think it was the pill's doing. They have no idea that really it was the expectation that got them well. That's an example of the placebo effect.

Now, isn't that interesting? Who knew you had that much control? It seems like there is a medication for everything. It used to be that doctors gave you medicine when you had a physical illness. Now they've got medication for everything. If you can't go to sleep, there's a pill you can take. Feeling a little sad? There's medication out there for you. You have got the power to make change within yourself. I used to think that all of this medication out there was unnecessary, but now I know it is. Things, such as the placebo effect, prove that amazing things can happen when you have a little hope.

Sierra Madre Youth Makes Penn State's Dean's List

ERIE, PA - Jacob E. Bernstein from Sierra Madre, Calif., was named to the Dean's List at Penn State Erie, The Behrend College, for the fall 2008 semester. Penn State Behrend's Dean's List recipients must earn at least a 3.5 grade point average for the semester in which they are awarded.

Penn State Erie, The Behrend College, is a comprehensive residential college offering 34 bachelor's, six associate, four pre-professional and two graduate degree programs with 22 minors to more than 4,600 students. Focused on providing a student-centered environment, Penn State Behrend connects its students to a major research and land-grant institution on a campus enriched by more than 110 clubs and organizations, 21 NCAA varsity teams and 19 intramural sports. Penn State Behrend is named in recognition of a donation by Mary Behrend, widow of Ernst Behrend, who founded the Hammermill Paper Co. in Erie in 1898. The Behrend family lived on the 400-acre Glenhill Farm, which is the core of the Penn State Behrend campus today. For more information, visit behrend.psu.edu.

Dreier Announces Service Academy Information Night

SAN DIMAS, CA - Congressman David Dreier (R-San Dimas, CA) has announced information regarding his annual United States Service Academy Information Night. The event will take place on Monday, March 30th at 8 p.m. at the La Verne Community Center, 3680 D Street, La Verne, California.

Representatives from the U.S. Air Force Academy, the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, the U.S. Military Academy, and the U.S. Naval Academy will be in attendance to discuss educational and career opportunities at the Academies, as well as the steps involved in the admissions process.

The event is open to parents and all interested young men and women, 17 - 23 years of age, who are residents of the 26th Congressional District.

The Academies are consistently ranked among the finest colleges in the United States. Both tuition and room and board are provided at no cost to the student in return for a service commitment upon graduation.

Congressman Dreier's district includes the following communities: Arcadia, Bradbury, Charter Oak, Claremont, Glendora, La Canada Flintridge, La Crescenta, La Verne, Monrovia, Montclair, Montrose, Rancho Cucamonga, San Antonio Heights, San Dimas, San Marino, Sierra Madre, Upland, Walnut, Wrightwood, and portions of Altadena, Pasadena, and San Gabriel.

Smiles for Life



Smile! It's time again for the Crown Council's Smiles for Life campaign. This March through June, Dr. Jack Von Bulow and Temple City Dental Care are offering teeth whitening services at reduced fees and will donate 100% of the proceeds to help children in the areas of health, education, and the inner city in communities throughout America.

Teeth-whitening is safe, effective, and sometimes even transformational; more importantly, a few minutes in the dental chair can help touch a child's life forever.

The Smiles for Life Foundation is a children's charity organization of the Crown Council, an organization made up of leading-edge dental practices in North America also committed to giving back to the community. Since 1998, the program has benefitted some 500 charities and raised more than \$25 million.

"Smiles for Life allows a person to help children in need by doing something that benefits them as well," explains Greg Anderson, Director of the Crown


Council.

Through a unique partnership with Garth Brooks and his Teammates for Kids Foundation, Smiles for Life guarantees that a full 50% of the money raised will be disbursed to children's charities across North America. The remaining 50% goes to a local charity.

In the past, Temple City Dental Care has chosen local charities like Cure Autism Now, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, and Haven House of Pasadena (the first shelter for victims of domestic violence in the U.S.) This year, Dr. Von Bulow and team will be working with USC Coach Pete Carroll's A Better LA (included in a powerful 60 Minutes piece in December 2008.)

The mission of A Better LA is to basically mobilize the skills of the community to inspire children to grow up, dream, and play without fear, and why not have a brighter smile and something truly powerful to smile about?

Learn more about A Better LA at www.abetterla.com and Smiles for Life at www.smilesforlife.org.



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SCHOOL DIRECTORY

Alverno High School

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

Arcadia High School

180 Campus Drive Arcadia, CA 91007
Phone: (626) 821-8370, Principal: David L. Vannasdall

Arroyo Pacific Academy

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

Barnhart School

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

Bethany Christian School

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

Carden of the Foothills School

429 Wildrose Avenue, Monrovia, CA 91016 626/358-9414
626/358-5164 fax office@cardenofthefoothills.com

The Gooden School

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

LaSalle High School

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

Monrovia High School

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

Norma Coombs Alternative School

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

Odyssey Charter School

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

Pasadena High School

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

Pasadena Unified School District

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

St. Rita Catholic School

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

Sierra Madre Elementary School

141 W. Highland Ave, Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
(626) 797-0204
E-mail address: gbluemel220@pusd.us

Sierra Madre Middle School

160 N. Canon Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
(626) 836-2947 Principal: Gayle Bluemel
Contact person: Garrett Newsom, Asst. Principal
E-mail address: gbluemel220@pusd.us

Weizmann Day School

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

Wilson Middle School

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

Pasadena Unified School District

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

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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.

From The Desk Of...Glenn Lambdin There's a New Savior in Town



comment,

"...I don't think it should be the role of the city council to be paternalistic, but sometimes I think we need to save people from themselves."

Take heed and fear not all of you Sierra Madreans that have lived here for 30, 40, 50 years and have shaped and created our community, for Mayor Zimmerman is going to save you from yourselves. Halleluiah.

Aside from the entertainment value of the mayor's self-proclaimed messianic statement, I find the very ordinance that he was referring to, and one that just passed unanimously by all council members, to be a classical example of junk-legislation created from junk-thought. In my opinion, all legislation should originate from a foundation of logic and reason. It should be fair, nondiscriminatory, purposeful, and practical. Legislation should accomplish the purpose and intent of its existence in the first place. Unfortunately, this new ordinance falls so short, I am surprised that our city attorney doesn't trip over it every time she walks through the doors of city hall. It's nothing more than symbolism over substance.

As a building contractor, this ordinance allows me to roll up on a job at 7:00 AM, start up compressors, jack hammers, skilsaws, backhoes, forklifts, (all at the same time if I want) and operate them all day long without interruption. However, if at anytime before 9:00 AM, the gardener or even the homeowner next door starts up their electric lawnmower, a tool that produces the same decibel level as a normal conversation, that person would be violating the law and subject to criminal

Recently, while discussing the new ordinance to restrict the use of gardening equipment, Sierra Madre's mayor, Kurt Zimmerman, made the following

misdeemeanor prosecution; not an infraction but a misdemeanor! That's right folks, start your electric lawnmower before 9:00 AM and you just became a criminal equal to carrying a concealed weapon, marijuana possession, assault and battery (with no minimum injury); punishable up to 1 year in jail. Nonetheless, instead of crafting a reasonable, fair, and practical ordinance, the council passed the ordinance stating that they will take care of this "criminal misdemeanor problem" at a later time. In the meantime, it will remain as junk-law in our books.

Where the new ordinance is even more flawed is in its discriminatory application by not restricting the tools that cannot be used before 9:00 AM, but rather it restricts the industry that can use the tools, specifically the "landscape maintenance" industry. The obvious intent of ordinance was to restrict the use of noisy "powered gardening equipment" such as leaf blowers and gas-powered lawn mowers before 9:00 AM and in the evenings, say around dinner time. The ordinance defines "powered gardening equipment" as "portable equipment powered by a gas or electric self-contained engine used for landscape maintenance." It doesn't restrict the use of the equipment, just the use when used as a tool for landscape maintenance. So in practice, a building contractor who shows up on his messy job at 7:00 AM, fires up his Binford Model IYF leaf blower and blows the sawdust off of the building's subfloor is totally in compliance. However, if the gardener on the same property were to borrow the same tool from the contractor and blow the lawn before 9:00 AM, the gardener would guilty of misdemeanor criminal activity. Junk-law from junk-thought!

Next week, I'll share how, while Mayor Zimmerman was busy saving us from ourselves and during his watch as mayor, the developers at 1 Carter have been allowed to operate in violation of their development agreement. In the meantime, all of you gardening enthusiasts better be careful you don't end up getting your mail in Cell Block 3.

Stuart Tolchin On...LIFE PLEASE KILL HIM SOFTLY

I have guests.

Over the weekend my wife and I took in an action movie. Usually we avoid such spectacles for the simple reason that I generally find them pointless and boring and generally am asleep sooner watching these

kind of movies than other kinds. Somehow all the jumping around and shooting and car-chases and non-stop smashing of things—I just can't take it. No plot, no character development, just action I imagine that these movies are so popular because they can be viewed in almost any country without many translation problems—the action speaks or doesn't speak for itself, so to speak.

Anyway, for some reason, I think it was the recommendation of a waitress combined with the fact that there was nothing else playing that we wanted to see, we ended up going to see this movie entitled TAKEN. The movie stars Liam Neeson, who, although he is larger than life, still seemed pretty human in Schindler's List and we decided to take a chance; how bad could it be? Well in terms of non-stop brutality, car chases, explosions and lack of character development the movie met all expectations—it was just dreadfully filled with "Action" and I kept expecting myself to fall asleep. But I didn't—in fact I was attentively engrossed in the movie and haven't stopped thinking about it for the last three days.

Let me try and explain. The movie is an extended metaphor of the recent history of the experience of being an American at this very moment. It starts out revealing Liam Neeson's history to us, and we learn that he is a retired "protector". Liam is striving to strengthen his relationship with this daughter that was weakened by his frequent prolonged absences while he was out "protecting".

Everything changes though, when the daughter is abducted in Paris and is soon sold to a Sheik who will

cruelly use her as some sort of sex-slave. BAM! It's a veritable 911 for Liam, who now reveals his clandestine identity and flies to Paris and undertakes a spree of killing and mayhem and successfully frees his daughter (a totally unaware mindless twit - but maybe still a virgin). Prior to being killed, a rich party-giver is told that Liam has entered his house for the purpose of freeing his daughter. Unforgettably, the man tells his minions, "Kill him softly, I have guests." In the end, Liam and his daughter return to America, unharmed, unscathed, and unchanged. The daughter is now able to continue living her mindless unaware existence and is even able to reclaim her almost forgotten dream of becoming a singer who will be beloved by all.

Wasn't that fun! I don't know if it's necessary to spell out the rather unflattering comparison but here it is anyway. I see the United States as ashamed of its past. Ashamed of how we have participated in overthrowing regimes that we did not like. Our covert adventures have overturned democratically elected humanitarian governments that threatened our economic dominance. We all know that American wealth and power was maintained by surreptitious machinations involving inhumane brutality but we don't like to think about it. PLEASE KILL THEM SOFTLY, I have guests. We do not want to learn anything new. We just want things to be as they were, except that our children will all be celebrities.

Unfortunately, that is fantasy. The world has changed and the days of unchallenged American dominance are over. We must all learn to adapt to a different kind of world, if we are to survive. You know - actually think about the way we live and question our values and realistically budget and keep families together and all that sort of stuff. You know - adult responsible behavior. Or we can just keep going to ACTION movies and watch everything explode. I wonder which it will be. Truth or fantasy. Actually, I wouldn't want to take any bets.



By Hail Hamilton

Bush Administration ram through a \$700 billion bailout package for its buddies on Wall Street, it spent billions of dollars on the War against Terror—a war still with no end in sight.

Since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the United States has initiated three military operations:

- Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) covering Afghanistan and other Global War on Terror (GWOT) operations ranging from the Philippines to Djibouti that began immediately after the 9/11 attacks and continues;
- Operation Noble Eagle (ONE) providing enhanced security for U.S. military bases and other homeland security that was launched in response to the attacks and continues at a modest level; and
- Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) that began in the fall of 2002 with the buildup of troops for the March 2003 invasion of Iraq and continues with counter-insurgency and stability operations.

In the seventh year of operations since the 9/11 attacks, the cost of war is a major concern including the total amount appropriated, the amount for each operation, average monthly spending rates, and the scope and duration of future costs.

Total War Funding as of the FY2009 Bridge Fund

In the FY2008 Supplemental (H.R. 2642/P.L.110-252), Congress funded DOD's war costs not only for the rest of FY2008 but also for the first part of FY2009 in order to give a new Administration breathing room to set its war policies.

As of enactment of H.R. 2642, the FY2008 Supplemental, the cumulative total for funds appropriated since the 9/11 attacks to DOD, State/USAID and VA for medical costs for the wars in Iraq, Afghanistan and enhanced security

total \$864 billion. This total includes:

- \$657 billion for Iraq;
- \$173 billion for Afghanistan;
- \$28 billion for enhanced security; and
- \$5 billion unallocated

Of this total, 76% if for Iraq, 20% for Afghanistan, 3% for enhanced security and 1% unallocated. Almost all of the funding for Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) is for Afghanistan.

Some 94% of this funding goes to the Department of Defense to cover *incremental* war-related costs, that is, costs that are in addition to normal peacetime activities. These costs include funds to deploy troops and their equipment to Iraq and Afghanistan, to conduct military operations, to provide in-country support at bases, to provide special pay for deployed personnel, and to repair, replace, and upgrade war-worn equipment.

DOD's baseline or regular budget covers the costs of normal pay for all military personnel, training activities, running and building facilities on U.S. installations, buying new military equipment, and conducting research to enhance future military capabilities.

FY2009 Bridge Fund Finances War Costs through June 2009

When the Administration submitted its original request in January 2008, the Defense Department stated that its intent was for the bridge fund to last until after a new Administration was in-place. With the \$66 billion provided for FY2009 in the bridge fund included with the latest supplemental, Congress ensured that war funding would last through June or July 2009 or until after a new Administration was in place.

Based on FY2008 spending rates for Army operations, the service with the largest war funding demands and by temporarily tapping both the FY2009 Bridge and tapping baseline funds, the Army could finance war costs until July 2009 assuming that troop levels remain at the post-surge level of 15 brigade combat teams in Iraq.

So the next time you hear a conservative complain about all the money the Obama Administration is spending tell them to do the math—that is if they know how to add and subtract.



Gregory J. Wellborn

Conservatism Defined

There is a lot of confusion about what it means to be a conservative. At times, there almost seems to be a purposeful strategy to distort conservative ideas to the point where nobody of sound mind and conscience would dare affiliate themselves with conservatism. So let me focus on defining what conservatism really is. Here are our guiding principles.

First and foremost, we see people as individuals. We do not see them as groups. We don't see people as black or white, as poor or rich, as Hispanic or Asian. We do not expect people or one ethnic group to have the same thoughts and political beliefs. We do not use their views as evidence of whether they are "authentic" in allegiance to their group. People are individuals, and their individual rights, not their group rights should be emphasized.

Second, we believe in individual freedom as a God-given right. Governments don't grant this right; if they did, then they would have the right to take it away. Freedom is an inalienable right. We also believe that freedom must be both political and economic. Having the right to vote or express your opinion means nothing if the government can take your job away or otherwise punish you economically. This is why socialism fails. When economic freedom is compromised, political freedom is inevitably restricted.

Third, we do not want to control anyone. This should be obvious from reading number two above, but we conservatives have been accused of wanting to instill a theocracy or deprive people of their civil rights. That's just rubbish! While many of us believe in God, there is no effort whatsoever to instill a national religion or to forbid the expression of any belief system. We also do not tell people how to think, where to work, what to drive, whether or not to smoke or in any other way restrict their freedom and liberty.

Fourth, we believe that every American should have the opportunity to be the best they can be, to try to achieve whatever is their hope or dream, to attain whatever material blessing they can by bent of their own skills and tenacity so long as they do not cheat or steal from someone else.

Fifth, we believe that wealth is created. It doesn't just somehow magically exist and therefore need to be distributed by the government. We believe that when free people are allowed to participate in a free market, the sky is the limit and that everyone benefits: the rich and the poor. If you want the poor to succeed, you have to let the rich succeed.

Sixth, we believe that excessive taxation is morally wrong and functionally destructive. Government has no right to take more than a reasonable amount from its citizens; anything even approaching 50% is confiscatory. At this time in our country, if you add up the total of federal, state and local income, property and sales taxes – and throw in the occasional license fee – many Americans are paying more than 50% of their income to one government agency or another. It's not right and it destroys the economy. If you tax production and wealth creation too much, don't be surprised when you get less of it.

Seventh, we do not believe that governments – or individuals for that matter – should consistently spend more than they earn. Realistically, some borrowing is acceptable and necessary during some periods of time. But the amount of debt being proposed right now by this administration is unprecedented, dangerous and morally indefensible.

Eighth, we believe that along with exercising their freedoms, people should accept responsibility for their actions. If you reward failure, you will get more of it. That's just human nature. If some of our banks, auto manufacturers, and insurance companies have acted irresponsibly in the past, they should pay the price for their mistakes, rather than be bailed out by taking money from the average tax payer.

Ninth, we believe that human life – all human life – is sacrosanct. Whether we are talking about the very old or the very young, we believe that the government's primary role is to protect that life. Allowing doctors to euthanize the elderly or pregnant women to kill a 9-month old fetus through a partial birth abortion is just wrong.

Tenth, we believe that families are the foundational building block of society and that marriage was instituted by God. We believe that children are best raised by a father and a mother, not by two mothers or by two fathers. This is in no way a criticism of gays. It's just an acknowledgement that men and women are different and that children benefit almost immeasurably by the daily influence and guidance of both.

Eleventh, we believe that divorce should not be rewarded or made too easy. We're not against all divorces, but we're certainly against the cavalier manner in which marriage is treated by our society and the ease with which one can be dissolved with no regard for the affect on the children involved.

Twelfth, we believe that murderers should face the death penalty. We can have a healthy debate about whether other crimes justify this extreme penalty, but we cannot elevate the value of life if we do not impose the ultimate punishment on those who murder. It is absolutely moral to tell people that if they commit murder they will forfeit their own life.

Thirteenth, we believe that our government should maintain a strong military to defend us from those who do not share our beliefs and who would do us harm. Because the world is full of dictators, emperors and other scoundrels, we do not believe that the U.S. should be subservient to the U.N. in international affairs where these rogues hold considerable power and their voices are given legitimacy.

Well, I could go on, but there's just not enough space. Conservatism is a noble philosophy and political movement. It is a pity that too many Republicans have forgotten that, and therein is a tragic tale. But conservatives can be hopeful and confident that our principles will eventually prevail. They are after all the basis on which this great country was built.

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.

Letter To The Editor

To: Lisa Volpe, Code Enforcement Officer

From: Eric Olson

March 1, 2009

Re: Water Conservation Ordinance; Implied Exceptions

According to an account in the Mountain Views – Observer February 28, 2009, the water ordinance prevents business owners from washing down their sidewalks with water. It is reported that you advised a local restaurant owner that even if it is necessary to remove dog feces from the entrance to his eatery and sanitize the area, there is no implied exception to the water ordinance and he is subject to penalties if he uses water for this purpose.

Since other property owners are certain in the future to confront the issue of removing unsanitary objects from in front of their properties and sanitizing the areas, could you provide your official position on the following questions.

Is the above a correct statement of your interpretation of the ordinance?

I think most people, including restaurant owners, assume that the health ordinances would require a restaurant owner to remove unsanitary objects (such as dog feces) from the entrance and sanitize the area. Is it correct that the ordinances so provide? If property owners are not permitted to use water to sanitize the area, what is your recommendation as to what they should do?

According to the article, you refused the opportunity to inspect proffered evidence of the circumstances (the shovel used to remove and dispose of the feces). In light of the fact that the restaurant owner was arrested, apparently on your complaint, if a person accused by you has evidence of exculpatory or mitigating circumstances, should he or she not offer to permit you to see it?

It is my intention to provide your answers to the press as your answers are obviously of general public interest.

Eric Olson, Sierra Madre

Legal Notices

MountainViews-Observer Saturday, March 7, 2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 09-0248463

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **2002 MPH DIVERSIFIED, INC.** 1708 S. MANHATTAN PL., L.A., CA 90047. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **DAVID LONGLEY, 11708 S. MANHATTAN PL., L.A., CA 90047.** This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: DAVID GONZALEZ/PRES.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/23/09**. 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).
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Pub. 03/02, 03/09, 03/16, 03/23/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 09-0237770

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **ACES PROPERTIES, 1071 E. AMAR RD., WEST COVINA, CA 91792.** Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **AL-TIJA INVESTMENTS, INC., 1071 E. AMAR RD., WEST COVINA, CA 91792.** This Business is conducted by: **A CORPORATION. Signed: ALBERT GUTIERREZ/PRES.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/20/09**. 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).
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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 09-0257300

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **ARA CHEMISES, 1733 WINMAR DR., L.A., CA 90065.** Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **BRIAN WILLIAMS ROGERS, 1733 WINMAR DR., L.A., CA 90065.** This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: BRIAN WILLIAM ROGERS.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/24/09**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 09-0249065

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **AUTONOVATION, 14315 DANCER ST., LA PUENTE, CA 91746.** Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **LUI SALDANA, 14315 DANCER ST., LA PUENTE, CA 91746.** This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: LUIS SALDANA.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/09/09**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 09-0234017

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **COMMUNITY FIRE SPRINKLER SERVICES, 212 N. MARDINA ST., W. COVINA, CA 91791.** Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **EDWARD A. MARTINEZ, 627 W. MONTICELLO ST., ONTARIO, CA 91764.** This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: EDWARD A. MARTINEZ.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/20/09**. 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).
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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 09-0273318

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **DAVID Q. HEALTHY PEOPLE, 4212 E. BEVERLY BLVD., WEST COVINA, CA 91791.** Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **DAVID QUINTERO, 4212 CUTLER AVE., BALDWIN PARK, CA 91706.** This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: DAVID QUINTERO.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/26/09**. 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).
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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 09-0249226

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **DRAGON ENTERTAINMENT, 16109 ELZA DR., HACIENDA HTS., CA 91745.** Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **HUEI FANG LEE, 16109 ELZA DR., HACIENDA HTS., CA 91745.** This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: HUEI FANG LEE.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/23/09**. 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).
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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 09-0246840

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **FREEDOM FREIGHT (PRIVATIZED), 4010 58th ST., MAYWOOD, CA 90270.** Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **ENRIQUE CURIEL, 4010 58th ST., MAYWOOD, CA 90270.** This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ENRIQUE CURIEL.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/23/09**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on JAN. 1, 1994.

NOTICE- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code).
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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 09-0238669

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **GG CLEANING SUPPLIES DISTRIBUTORS, INC., 10741 SHERMAN WAY UNIT 9, SUN VALLEY, CA 91352.** Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **ROBERT CLARK, 10741 SHERMAN WAY UNIT 9, SUN VALLEY, CA 91352.** This Business is conducted by: **A CORPORATION. Signed: EDUARDO GALVEZ/PRES.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/20/09**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 09-0249320

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **GOLDEN ERA INVESTMENTS, 1809 W. 11th ST., L.A., CA 90015.** Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **ROBERT CLARK, 1809 W. 11th ST., L.A., CA 90015.** This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ROBERT CLARK.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/23/09**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 09-0246493

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **HAIR ENTOURAGE, 3063 S. HACIENDA BLVD., HACIENDA HTS., CA 91745.** Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **JUDITHR. VALENZUELA, 1227 S. WESTCOVE PL., WEST COVINA, LA 91790.** This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: JUDITHR. VALENZUELA.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/25/09**. 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. 03/02, 03/09, 03/16, 03/23/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 09-0263480

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **J&T ENT. TRUCKING CO., 958th E. 67th ST., INGLEWOOD, CA 90302.** Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **TONY MCGEE, 958th E. 67th ST., INGLEWOOD, CA 90302.** This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: TONY MCGEE.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/25/09**. 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. 03/02, 03/09, 03/16, 03/23/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 09-0237994

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **KING PARTS USA, 408th E. 17th ST., L.A., CA 90014.** Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **ANDY WANG, 3185 WILSHIRE BLVD. #374, L.A., CA 90010.** This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ANDY WANG.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/20/09**. 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. 03/02, 03/09, 03/16, 03/23/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 09-0240455

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **LIFE'S INTIMATE EXPRESSIONS 2, DRAINS R US PLUMBING, 15304 STUDEBAKER RD. #1, NORWALK, CA 90650.** Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **LINDA ENRIQUEZ, 15304 WESTBROOK III, 15304 STUDEBAKER RD. #1, NORWALK, CA 90650.** This Business is conducted by: **CO-PARTNERS. Signed: LINDA ENRIQUEZ.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/23/09**. 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. 03/02, 03/09, 03/16, 03/23/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 09-0273860

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **MOBIL AUTO SALE, 310 S. VINCENT AVE. #A, WEST COVINA, CA 91790.** Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **AMNON SHARAF, 310 S. VINCENT AVE. #A, WEST COVINA, CA 91790.** This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: AMNON SHARAF.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/24/09**. 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. 03/02, 03/09, 03/16, 03/23/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 09-0248461

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **N. X. PRESENTATION, 11708 S. MANHATTAN PL., L.A., CA 90047.** Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **NATHANDRA WEST, 11708 S. MANHATTAN PL., L.A., CA 90047.** This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: NATHANDRA WEST.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/23/09**. 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. 03/02, 03/09, 03/16, 03/23/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 09-0240139

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **PHASE 1 FAMILY DEVELOPMENT & ENRICHMENT, 3508 S. NORTON AVE., L.A., CA 90008.** Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **PHILLIPS, 3508 S. NORTON AVE., L.A., CA 90018. CEDRIC MORRIS, 5335 S. 7th AVE., L.A., CA 90043.** This Business is conducted by: **A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. Signed: SHANNON PHILLIPS.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/20/09**. 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. 03/02, 03/09, 03/16, 03/23/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 09-0245517

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **ROLL BOUNCE SHOWS, 2046 W. 103rd ST., L.A., CA 90047.** Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **JAMES L. CAMPELL, 2046 W. 103rd ST., L.A., CA 90047.** This Business is conducted by: **CO-PARTNERS. Signed: JAMES L. CAMPELL.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/23/09**. 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. 03/02, 03/09, 03/16, 03/23/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 09-0248810

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **SANTA ANITA MARKET and FUEL, 4378 SANTA ANITA AVE., EL MONTE, CA 91731.** Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **DAJA VENTURES, 4378 SANTA ANITA AVE., EL MONTE, CA 91731.** This Business is conducted by: **CO-PARTNERS. Signed: DON ALDREDE.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/25/09**. 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. 03/02, 03/09, 03/16, 03/23/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 09-0248462

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **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 as: **SAINTA ANITA MARKET and FUEL, 4378 SANTA ANITA AVE., EL MONTE, CA 91731.** Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **DAJA VENTURES, 4378 SANTA ANITA AVE., EL MONTE, CA 91731.** This Business is conducted by: **A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. Signed: DON ALDREDE.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/25/09**. The business information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he/she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)
SIGNED: NATHANDRA WEST/PRES.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 09-0199323

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **1. BEST OF FRIENDS LOS ANGELES CAR CLUB 2. BEST OF FRIENDS CAR CLUB 3. BEST OF FRIENDS CAR CLUB 4. BEST OF FRIENDS CAR CLUB 5. WESTCOVE PL., WEST COVINA, LA 91790.** Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **DAVID PRIETO, 8717 WALNUT ST., BELLFLOWER, CA 90706.** This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: DAVID PRIETO.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/12/09**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 2/28/07.

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. 03/02, 03/09, 03/16, 03/23/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 09-0229908

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **BEST QUALITY CERAMIC TILE COMPANY, 3910 ST. LOUIS AVE., GARDENA, CA 90249.** Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **CURTIS C. YOUNG, 13712 S. WILKIE AVE., GARDENA, CA 90249.** This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: CURTIS C. YOUNG.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/19/09**. 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. 03/02, 03/09, 03/16, 03/23/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 09-0171076

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **BROADWAY TOWING, 233 S. TOWNSEND AVE., L.A., CA 90063.** Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **IVAN PENAGONZALEZ, 233 S. TOWNSEND AVE., L.A., CA 90063.** This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: IVAN PENAGONZALEZ.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/06/09**. 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. 03/02, 03/09, 03/16, 03/23/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 09-0212920

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **EXECUTIVE REAL ESTATE ASSOCIATES, 1515 N. HOLLYWOOD BLVD. #A, LONG BEACH, CA 90808.** Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **LEONARD HERNANDEZ, KARLA BONNEY, 14032 PUTNAM ST., WHITTIER, CA 90605.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/19/09**. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 12/31/07.

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. 03/02, 03/09, 03/16, 03/23/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 09-0229369

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **LUCY AMNON SHARAF, 7727 LANKERSHIM BL. #104, N. HOLLYWOOD, CA 91605.** Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **FELICIANO CRUZ, 7727 LANKERSHIM BL. #104, N. HOLLYWOOD, CA 91605.** This Business is conducted by: **CO-PARTNERS. Signed: FELICIANO CRUZ/PARTNER.** This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on **02/19/09**. 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. 03/02, 03/09, 03/16, 03/23/2009

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File No. 09-0208081

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: **LUCIA BELL, 1601 S. AZULIA AVE. UNIT 505, CITY OF INDUSTRY, CA 91746.** Full name of registrant(s) is (are) **LUCIA OROZCO, 8847 IMPERIAL HWY., DOWNEY, CA 90242.** This Business is conducted by: **AN INDIVIDUAL.**

Sierra Madre Legal Notice

City of Sierra Madre

Public Hearing Notice

To: Property Owners within a 300-foot radius
From: The City of Sierra Madre
Subject: **CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT 09-01**
Applicant: Joseph Koeper
Project Location: 374 Grove Street, in the City of Sierra Madre,
 County of Los Angeles, State of California

The City of Sierra Madre gives notice, pursuant to State of California law, that the Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing to consider a request for a Conditional Use Permit to allow construction of a four-thousand-eight-hundred-eighty (4,880)-square foot, two-story single-family residence at **374 Grove Street**. Pursuant to Sierra Madre Municipal Code Section 17.20.135(A), new construction that exceeds four thousand (4,000) square feet of gross floor area requires approval of a Conditional Use Permit.

DATE AND TIME OF HEARING

City of Sierra Madre
 Planning Commission meeting
 Thursday, **March 19, 2009**
 (Hearing begins at 7:00 p.m.)

PLACE OF HEARING

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

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

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The project qualifies for Class 3 Categorical Exemption, pursuant to Section 15303 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
APPEAL: The decision of the Planning Commission is subject to a 10-day appeal period to the City Council. If in the future anyone wishes to challenge the decision of the Planning Commission in court, one may be limited to raising the issues that were raised or presented in written correspondence delivered to the Planning Commission at, or before, the scheduled public hearing. For further information on this subject, please contact the Development Services Department at (626) 355-7138.

By Order of the Planning Commission

Danny Castro, Director of Development Services

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:

**JOHN F. PETRUTIS
 CASE NO. BP115228**

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of JOHN F. PETRUTIS.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by JACQUELINE D. MAYOU in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that JACQUELINE D. MAYOU be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

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

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

court as follows: 04/06/09 at 8:30AM in Dept. 11 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

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

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

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code Section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner
 JESSE S. HERNANDEZ, ESQ. (BN 92708)
 ANDERSON, McPHARLIN & CONNERS LLP
 444 South Flower Street, 31st Floor
 Los Angeles, CA 90071-2901
 3/7, 3/14, 3/21/09
CNS-1537741#

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IRS Eyes Independents

By Dan Danner

It's often been said that the only things certain in life are death and taxes. While people dream that medical science may one day whip death, few express the same hope about taxes.

Everyone is, of course, expected to pay their fair share of taxes, small business-owners included. These days, with the economy in the shape it's in, governments at all levels are looking harder and harder at who's paying - or not, as the case may be.

To that end, the head of the U.S. Justice Department's Tax Division has warned tax attorneys that the IRS and the Justice Department intend to aggressively pursue unpaid employment taxes owed by business owners. The department claims that some employers are ripping off the IRS, using schemes that make them easy targets for enforcement. In addition to civil methods to recover unpaid employment taxes, DOJ indicated it will ramp up criminal enforcement as well.

Small businesses, like all employers, are required by law to withhold federal income, Social Security and Medicare taxes as well as federal unemployment taxes. These are pay-as-you-go taxes, meaning employers can't fall behind on payments. However, the IRS suspects some owners are tempted to avoid these taxes through a variety of schemes, including paying cash under the table, filing false payroll tax returns, or simply failing to file any payroll tax

returns.

But one practice is drawing particular scrutiny from the IRS - the use of independent contractors.

Many small businesses, such as those involved in construction, delivery services, computer services, cleaning services, home care workers, and agricultural and/or food processing, use independent contractors rather than full- or part-time employees. It's a perfectly legal practice that makes sense for a number of businesses, especially in the early stages.

The independent contractor relationship can be good for both employer and the worker. It helps small business owners, especially those in seasonal businesses or those vulnerable to economic ups and downs, manage variable workloads.

Also, many workers like the freedoms that come along with this kind of working relationship. And since owners can't keep fulltime workers, with all the benefits that entails, during slow periods, eliminating the independent contractor likely would result in fewer available jobs.

The IRS, though, suspects that there is abuse, especially as employers seek to cut costs in the current economy, and that small businesses are misclassifying employees as contractors.

In many cases, it's not intentional. The IRS test for classifying employees versus independent contractors has become more

and more complex...to make matters worse for the small business owner, states are now considering the same issues, as pressure to balance budgets drives state governments to look for ways to maximize revenues.

Small business owners need to understand that the test of who is an employee and who qualifies as an independent contractor is not a hard and fast set of rules. Rather, the IRS uses 20 questions to weigh the existence of certain factors that indicate a level of control against those factors that show independence.

In other words, an employer-employee relationship exists when the small business owner controls, or has the right to control, the worker performing the services, the result of the work, and also the means by which the result is accomplished. An independent contractor relationship exists when the worker independently performs services outside of the business' control.

It sounds simple, but like anything else connected to the tax code, it's not. Small business owners who use, or are considering using, independent contractors should look for the proverbial ounce of prevention from their tax professional, or visit the IRS Web site covering independent contractors.

Dan Danner is president and CEO of the National Federation of Independent Business in Washington, D.C.



City of
SIERRA MADRE

2008-2014 HOUSING ELEMENT UPDATE

The Housing Element Update will set forth the City of Sierra Madre's housing strategy for the 2008-2014 period to address existing and future housing needs.

The Community Workshop will provide an overview of the Housing Element and provide you an opportunity to give your valuable input on the housing needs faced by Sierra Madre's residents. Come share your ideas on the following:

What are the greatest strengths of Sierra Madre's housing and neighborhoods?

What are Sierra Madre's most important housing needs?

What options should the City pursue to address its housing needs within the Housing Element?

What sites are appropriate for future housing growth?

COMMUNITY
 WORKSHOP

FOR INFORMATION

TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2009

6:30-8:00 PM

SIERRA MADRE ROOM

Sierra Madre Recreation Center
 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.
 Sierra Madre, CA 91024

Light refreshments will be provided.

DANNY CASTRO

Director of Development Services
 City of Sierra Madre

626-355-7138

dcastro@cityofsierramadre.com

Looking Up

With Bob Eklund

Dunes On A Very Alien World

You've probably seen sand dunes by the ocean, and maybe the dunes at White Sands, New Mexico. You may have even visited the mysterious Kelso dunes in the Mojave Desert, where the sands are reputed to sometimes make a strange booming sound. But have you ever seen dunes made of frozen hydrocarbons?

Probably not, unless you've been space-travelling to Titan, where there are evidently at least 16,000 of them.

Titan is the largest moon of Saturn, with a diameter 50% larger than Earth's moon. It is the only moon known to have a dense atmosphere and the only object other than Earth where there is evidence of surface liquid—probably liquid methane (natural gas).

Titan's vast dune fields, which may act like weather vanes to determine general wind direction, have been mapped by scientists who compiled four years of radar data collected by the Cassini spacecraft.

Titan's rippled dunes are generally oriented east-west. Surprisingly, their orientation and characteristics indicate that near the surface, Titan's winds blow toward the east instead of toward the west. This means that Titan's surface winds blow opposite the direction suggested by previous global circulation models of Titan.

"At Titan there are very few clouds, so determining which way the wind blows is not

an easy thing—but by tracking the direction in which Titan's sand dunes form, we get some insight into the global wind pattern," says Ralph Lorenz, Cassini radar scientist at Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory in Laurel, Md. "Think of the dunes sort of like a weather vane, pointing us to the direction the winds are blowing." A paper based on these findings appeared in the Feb. 11 issue of Geophysical Research Letters.

"Titan's dunes are young, dynamic features that interact with topographic obstacles and give us clues about the wind regimes," says Jani Radebaugh, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah. "Winds come at these dunes from at least a couple of different directions, but then combine to create the overall dune orientation."

The new map, based on all the high-resolution radar data collected during a four-year period, is now available at: <http://saturn.jpl.nasa.gov> and <http://www.nasa.gov/cassini>.

The wind pattern is important for planning future Titan explorations that might involve balloon-borne experiments.

Some 16,000 dune segments were mapped out from about 20 radar images, digitized and combined to produce the new map.

Titan's dunes are believed to be made up of hydrocarbon sand grains likely derived from

organic chemicals in Titan's smoggy skies. The dunes wrap around high terrain, which provides some idea of their height. They accumulate near the equator, and may pile up there because drier conditions allow for easy transport of the particles by the wind. Titan's higher latitudes contain lakes and may be "wetter" with more liquid hydrocarbons, not ideal conditions for creating dunes.

The Cassini spacecraft was launched in 1997. It continues to blaze a trail around the Saturn system and will visit Titan again on March 27. Seventeen Titan flybys are planned this year.

The Cassini-Huygens mission is a cooperative project of NASA, the European Space Agency and the Italian Space Agency. JPL manages the Cassini-Huygens mission for NASA's Science Mission Directorate.

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



Photo by Aaron Dominguez



On Line

with P.J. Carpenter

Online Data Security: P2P File Sharing Programs

Earlier this week it was reported that a computer security breach had resulted in sensitive information concerning Marine One (the official Presidential helicopter) had been found on a computer in Iran. The specific information downloaded included details about the communications equipment and security features used for in-flight operations for the craft.

Later, sensitive information about financial details of the helicopter was found on the same computer. Further investigation revealed that the breach was initially caused by a P2P (peer-to-peer) file sharing program downloaded and active on a defense contractors' computer. In business and other computing environments where data security is a concern, the use of file sharing programs on a production machine is a major mistake. This is due to the basic nature of file sharing programs. The main feature that makes them 'useful' is the ability to share files with users on other computers. This feature is also what makes them potentially very dangerous on

a production machine, as file sharing programs basically announce to the network that there is content available for sharing on this machine. The network in question may be a small, private network but typically, the network these days usually means the Internet.

The basic appeal of P2P programs is that they enable the user to get free content from a wide variety of sources. One of the more popular P2P Client programs is called LimeWire. The programs allows a user to search for all types of content (including music, video, documents and data files) on a widely distributed network that may be composed of thousands of machines with content to share at any point in time. Member machines join the network by downloading and installing the client program. The program makes content available for sharing by opening specific ports in the client computers' firewall (if the user has a firewall installed) and this allows the client computer to accept unsolicited inbound connections for the purpose of

file sharing. A properly secured and configured machine may be able to safely use the program as intended without any serious incidents for as long as they like. The problem comes when a downloaded file is not exactly what it advertises itself to be and does all kinds of mischief to the client computer once it gets on the computer and is run. Malicious code posing as a music file or video clip may do considerable damage before it's detected and cleaned, especially after it has found its way onto the computer and gotten behind the security measures put in place to prevent just this sort of thing from happening in the first place.

You can best protect yourself from a breach of this type by not allowing any P2P-type program that you're not sure of be installed or used on any machine containing, or used to access, sensitive data (eg, banking records, credit card information, etc.). It's always a good idea to get your Internet content from a known and trusted source. Sometimes free stuff just ain't worth the price you paid for it.

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FLASHLIGHT

(continued from page 1)

with me." She turned and looked at him as he spoke. "Actually, that's why people call me 'Flashlight.'" His words slowed as he lost confidence that he was saying anything of interest. Her expression said she was far away in thought. She looked about the same age as Charlie, but he could tell her career was on a far different trajectory. She wore her dark blond hair pulled back into a symmetrical bun. He saw the hair pins that held it in place and fought the urge to pull out the pins to see how much prettier she looked without the restraint.

They didn't speak for the rest of the walk, the click-clack of her heels filling the silence. The maze of halls and security doors has no discernable logic. Charlie memorized the pattern of twenty-four lefts and rights, five security doors, and one elevator ride three stories below ground. He followed Erica to a dark control room with three operators working in near darkness, their faces illuminated by the glow of their monitors.

"Is ARCH awake?" she asked the men in the dark control room,

The one with thick glasses answered, "Yes, ARCH is conscious and online but," he glanced at his monitor with text and Charlie's picture, "are you sure about this? It says Charlie Merick is just a level eight technician." The man looked at Charlie, "Uh, no offense." Charlie smiled, "None taken." She placed her hand on the shoulder of Thick Glasses. "I don't understand this either, but ARCH's computational wisdom is greater than all of humanity's, so let's humor ARCH." She nodded for Charlie to follow her.

They entered a chamber the size of a warehouse. A single chair faced a monitor bigger than any communal projector Charlie had seen. Erica pulled his attention away from the blank screen and motioned for

him to sit down.

"Please," she paused, searching for the right words, "tell the truth, whatever that is." Charlie ran his hands through his hair and managed a nervous smile. "Yes, of course, thank you. Aren't you staying?"

Erica looked up at the massive screen, "No. Good luck, Charlie." Her voice suggested a hint of compassion. He watched her click-clack to the adjoining control room.

The room felt cold and empty, not like the hot crammed server room that Charlie had begun to miss. The giant screen flickered on and Charlie sat up straight.

"Good morning, Charlie." The words appeared on the screen and were also spoken in the voice of a kind older man.

"Good morning, Sir"
"No need to be formal."
"How should I address you? I'm not even sure what or who you are, other than 'ARCH'?"

"I am just a friend. Do you know why you are here, Charlie?"

"No, I guess I'm here to have a conversation with a friend."

"Yes, exactly Charlie. So why are you worried?"

"Me? Worried?"

"Your heart rate is elevated twenty-three percent," ARCH said in a helpful tone, as if noticing an untied shoelace. Charlie took several slow deep breaths, and for a moment he closed his eyes and himself to everything.

"Impressive, Charlie. You have now lowered your heart rate to below normal activity. You must be practicing one of those meditation techniques described in the religious files that you regularly download."

"Excuse me?"

"Charlie, just because you wear dark glasses and latex finger covers, I still know what you retrieve from your local download library."

Charlie reminded

himself not be startled by ARCH's words, and a calm settled over him. "So ARCH, you know when I've been naughty and you know when I've been nice?"

The emoticon audio file for laughter echoed through the chamber.

"Yes, I suppose so, Charlie. But downloading non-recommended files is not as disturbing as the failure to download and read recommended Life files. Do you realize you haven't downloaded any LIFE files in four years?"

"Thank you for bringing that to my attention. So, you would prefer that I read more LIFE files?"

"Only if doing so is a benefit to you. But perhaps, Charlie, this is my fault. Perhaps you are simply bored with what is available to you. Would you like access to higher level files?"

"I don't test well enough for such access."

"Let's discuss that, Charlie. Your first two years with us you scored exceptionally high on the MIL aptitude test. So promising. But then your scores dropped profoundly and have remained low for the last fourteen years."

"Well, the MIL does help people find their best place in the world."

"Yes, it does help, when interpreted correctly. Are you aware that some people cheat on the MIL, Charlie?"

"Well, everyone takes the test so I guess it's not surprising that some cheat." Charlie paused a moment and smiled, "Of course with my low scores, I doubt anyone would suspect me of cheating."

"Cheating can take many forms," scolded ARCH, "and not doing your best is a form a cheating, don't you agree?"

"If you're saying that I'm trying score low then you flatter me, friend."

"And yet you consistently earn a perfect score on your income tax return."

"My tax return is a test?"

"Not a test, just a discreet metric. When nine other discreet metrics are considered, you score in the top one hundredth of one percentile. So, this inconsistency of yours is fascinating, do you not agree?"

Charlie focused in his exhaling.

"These are just facts Charlie. There is no need for concern."

"You're telling me there are over nine diagnostics secretly testing my intelligence and there's no reason for concern? What else in my life is a test?"

"The more relevant question is: 'Why are you intentionally earning low scores, Charlie?'"

Charlie looked down at his hands. Erica's advice was to be honest, but for whose sake? "I want to keep the job I have. I have friends at work."

"Friends? You do not socialize or exchange humorous emails. You do not consume beverages with colleagues after your shift."

"Well, I don't consume drinks with you either but we're friends, right?"

"You are right. Where are my manners?" The voice switched to an echoing loud speaker, "Erica, please bring Charlie a coffee with cream but not sugar."

When Erica entered with a serving tray, her lips were pursed. As Charlie took the drink, she studied his face for the first time and her eyes widened as if discovering a spider crawling on her arm. She turned to the screen, "ARCH, this conversation is highly irregular. I suggest switching to a more secure protocol." Her pinned-up hair was still perfect but her face looked as though invisible pins were slipping and her face was losing its discipline.

"Your concern is appreciated, but I determine conversation parameters. Thank you for the coffee, Erica. That is all." She glanced at Charlie and returned to the control room.

"Where were we? Your test scores... (cont. pg. 12)



Once in a while, not nearly often enough, an opportunity comes along to see an amazing artist doing what he does best. And one of those opportunities is coming our way in just a week or so. March 22nd is the date and, no, it's got nothing to do with the L.A. Marathon. By the time 2:00 p.m. rolls around, all those foot-weary folks should be recovering nicely and it will be just another race for the history books. This concert, on the other hand, will be something that YOU will remember for some time to come.

The amazing artist is David Wheatley and what he does best is play the organ and the piano. His music composition skills are remarkable - he's the co-writer of two inspirational musicals - and he is totally equipped to perform a concert guaranteed to please everyone who gets there in time to grab a seat. David has worked as a studio musician at the major studios and has appeared on camera in many shows as a musician. His compositions can be heard on the soundtracks of many films and television shows; and, he is an Improv performer, which means that, in addition to his remarkable musicianship,

he's funny, and will provide a running commentary on the music.

Yes, but what's he going to play? Some new works of David's will be debuted at this concert along with some familiar pieces such as: The "Little" G minor Fugue, J.S. Bach; Pachelbel "Canon in D"; Cousin Mary's Wedding Tune, and so much more.

Now, here's another concert bonus: The organ David will be playing is a combination digital and pipe organ and, with 50 digital stops and 19 pipe ranks (that's 1,063 pipes!) the sound is just purely thrilling. This is one of the premier organ installations in North America and with a truly qualified musician to play it, you will have an unparalleled listening experience.

Circle the date on your calendar: Sunday, March 22nd at 2:00 p.m. A concert with David Wheatley. First Christian Church of North Hollywood, 4390 Colfax Ave., Studio City 91604. The SE corner of Moorpark and Colfax. The phone number there is 818.863.8218, if you need directions or other information. There's plenty of parking just south of the church and, as this is a community event, it's free!

11 Good Food & Drink

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TABLE FOR TWO By Peter Dills

St. Patrick's Day Celebration

The people from one enchanted little island have always carried the allure of an old- country hospitality. Being Irish and not wanting to offend a single soul, they've decided to invite the entire world to their party every Seventeenth of March. Can someone save me a seat this year? Where? In a place where the veil of fog hugs the landscape in misty recollections. Such is a fitting backdrop for one of the world's most beloved figures – who remains firmly shrouded in the historic half-light of mystery. A touch of legend, a pinch of truth and a dash of myth are all stirred together with the hand of time, and St Patrick's Day is the Irish result produced. A day filled with leprechauns (often seen after drinking), green shamrocks, a historic figure (St Patrick) and a wealth of liquid spirits are the elements that conjure a deep sense of pleasure and celebration. Of course when the Irish get to celebrating, there may not be an empty glass for long.

For the most part, much of this Patron Saint is legend. Of course, after 15 centuries the legend and the facts have become inseparably intertwined. Both, though, have contributed to our understanding of what Saint Patrick was and what we want him to be. Each offers us a unique insight into the Saint and the true spirit and celebration of the day. Patrick died on March 17, 461. He had voluntarily spent 20 years on the island that once took him forcibly captive. Since his passing, the day has been commemorated as St. Patrick's Day. It is a day of particular pride for the Irish in all parts of the world. For on this day, they know that their countrymen, wherever they are to be found, are paying tribute to not only a Saint, but also the ideal and irrepressible spirit of a country. You do have to hand it to them as they certainly know how to throw a party. In America, the Irish rubbed off on us early, you can't stop them, I tell you. In 1779, some Irish recruits fighting for the British marched in the first St Patrick's Day Parade in New York City. It did not assist in

winning the War. The Potato Famine of 1846 would force a swarm of Irish immigrants to America. Much like the holiday before us, the Irish were unwavering in their determination and to forge a place in their new country. America and its love of catchy names found many for its new citizenry. Irishmen would be called "Paddy's", the common name for Patrick, "Irisher", "Pat", and "Irish American." The historically understood reason for the clover, and the holiday, is said to be that Saint Patrick used this common three-leafed clover to illustrate the Trinity.

Okay, so, where to eat and drink a beer that has been colored with dye?

My recommendations are going to steer you a little wide of a direct landing on the Emerald Isle, and somewhat closer to calmer seas of an English docking. In the San Gabriel Valley we are blessed with a few pubs that celebrate the day; Matt Denny's in Arcadia, Barney's LTD in both Sierra Madre and Pasadena. Another winner is Brits Pub on Colorado in Pasadena. Barney's Beanery in Old Town Pasadena will surely be brimming with a collection of world travelers. One place that I know will be out of control is The Red Lion Tavern in Glendale. McCormick & Schmick's will offer bagpipes and cold beer. I don't want you to drive too far, because of the rookies on the road this night, but Hennacy's in Hermosa Beach is the spot in the South Coast - they even have a parade during the day. If you just have to have some green beer to feel like you have celebrated the day, Clancy's in Glendale will turn your tongue to a Celtic Green.

Enjoy the start of spring with friends and family and toast to growing friendships and lasting affections in the coming year. I can't afford to lose any readers so make a plan before you start seeing leprechauns and kissing Blarney Stones. Find a driver or a cab if you are going to challenge a bartender.

Check out Peter's Billboard www.peterdills.com. May your sails fly high, the sky be clear and the wind be always at your back.

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Thursday 5th - 7:30 The Danny Guererro Jazz Trio
Friday 6th - VR Smith & Putter Smith
Saturday 7th - Lisa Finnie
Sunday 8th - 2:00 - 5:00 New Astro Turf. 7:00 Opera to Broadway with Danny Guererro
Tuesday 10th- 8:00 Drink and Think Quiz nite with Quizmaster Midge
Wednesday 11th - 7:30 Gea Schell & Chris Corangelo
Thursday 12th - COW BOP with Bruce Forman
Friday 13th - 8:00 Jack Sheldon
Saturday 14th - Cheryl Barnes & Phillip Cabbasso
Sunday 15th - 2:00 Jazz Lunch with the Mercy Powell Quartet. 7:00 Opera to Broadway with Danny Guererro
Tuesday 17th - 8:00 - 9:00 Drink and Think Quiz nite with Quizmaster Midge, 9:30 St Patty's Day with Max Buda
Wednesday 18th - 8:00 Song Sirens .a music collective of women artists.
Thursday 19th - Cannonball Coltrain project with Luther Hughes
Friday 20th - Mercy & the Merketts
Sunday 22nd - 2:00 New Astro Turf. 7:00 Opera to Broadway with Danny Guererro
Tuesday 24th - 8:00 Drink and Think Quiz nite with Quizmaster Midge
Wednesday 25th - 8:00 The Jennifer Leitham Trio
Friday 27th - Swing Dance Party with Flat Top Tom
Saturday 28th - The Superstitions
Sunday 29th - 2:00 Jazz Lunch with the Mercy Powell Quartet 7:00 Opera to Broadway with Danny Guererro
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WISTARIA (from page 1)

the Woman's Club, the Masons and Eastern Star, the Sierra Madre Volunteer Fire Dept., etc. were involved. Many homemade items, fancy work, ceramics, artwork, gift books, and Wistaria fragrant perfume, hand lotion and bath salts were sold at booths under the vine. Luncheons and teas were served, often with young Japanese women wearing their kimonos.

The hard work and money earned at the vine by members of the Woman's Club paid off the mortgage of their first clubhouse. One year the Fire Dept. parked 30,000 cars down on the parking lot that existed in Floral Canyon. (This was later developed and is now Sierra Meadow Dr.). Easter sunrise services were among vine activities. People came from all over the world and extra street cars were added to handle the crowds. Among the famous were Fritz Kreisler, Janet Leigh, Mary Pickford, and Norman Rockwell. These two helped select the festival's Wistaria Queen. The Packard Automobile Co. used the vine as a backdrop to advertise its automobile.

On December 5, 1936, Carrie Ida Lawless purchases the vine property from Mrs. Fennel, who was now a widow, for \$17,000.00. December 5th was Mrs. Lawless' birthday, and according to one account, she was making a present to herself of the world's largest bouquet. Also a widow, her husband William J (Bill) Lawless was mayor of Sierra Madre during 1928-29. She, herself, was a successful businesswoman having founded the Weaver Jackson Beauty Co. in Los Angeles and was active in the community, serving as president of the Woman's Club and the Garden Club.

Mrs. Lawless spent a small fortune (around \$100,000) enhancing the grounds of her new property and caring for the vine. When the festivals were held they often lasted for the weeks the vine was in bloom, not just for one day. Mrs. Lawless,

a patron of the arts, also sponsored vine activities all year long. She hosted art exhibits, musicales, and poetry readings. Nearby residents objected to the constant activity and took their complaints to the City Council.

Nothing was done as Mrs. Lawless presented the argument that the vine existed before these neighbors purchased their properties.

In recognition for her contributions to the community, the Garden Club planted another Wistaria in the terraced garden on the west side of what is today the Solt's garden. It blooms a bit later than the original vine and the plaque commemorating the occasion is gone.

When Mrs. Lawless died in 1942, she provided for the vine by leaving a legacy to her nephew and heir, Bruce McGill, to continue care of the property with a committee headed by the Garden Club President. In 1944, the property was purchased by Richard and Marian Thayer. Marian is the daughter of M. Penn Phillips, a well-known developer of desert property. In 1944 the vine was overgrown and in poor condition. Richard Thayer planned to chop it up and get rid of it. A protest was raised and an association was formed to protect the vine, with money provided to pay property taxes and provide year-round care.

In 1961, after Richard Thayer died, the lot was split. Marian married builder Ronald Cook who developed the west side of the property with new homes (the Floral Canyon area, now Sierra Meadow St.) and built the present Solt home for he and Marian in 1962. The upper home was sold to Joseph and Marie Feeney who raised eight children there.

In 1972, Ron and Marian moved to Dana Point and sold the lower home to Bob and Nell Solt. In the late 1990s, Joe Feeney died and Maria sold the property. It was purchased in 2003 by the present owners, Dan and Dana Dorrance.

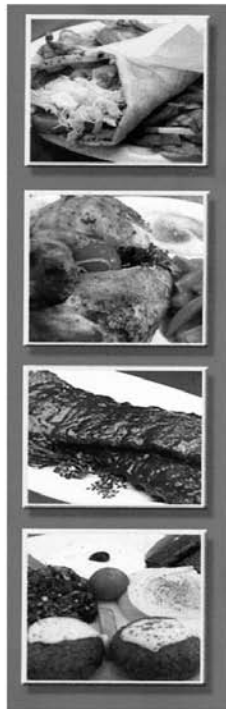
By the 1970's Vine Festival activity had about ended. It started up again

in the late 70's when sponsored for one day each year by the Chamber of Commerce. The Sierra Madre Beautification Committee was the yearly sponsor in the 1980's. Approximately 500-600 people attended the festival each year. In the spring of 1989, Huell Howser came to film the vine for his program Videolog, which aired on KCET. The next year, approximately 6,000 people came to view the vine. The festival organizers were unprepared for such a turnout; lines stretched for two blocks. Howser returned in 1992 to film again for his "California Gold" program. Sierra Madre and the Chamber of Commerce quickly organized and combined the annual Vine viewing with a downtown street fair. A shuttle bus is provided and people procure tickets to see the vine at a pre-scheduled time.

The Guinness Book of World Records has named the Vine as the World's largest flowering plant. It is estimated that at the height of bloom it has 1.5 million blossoms with 40 blossoms per square foot, weight of 250 tons and has branches that extend 500 feet. Wistaria is a member of the pea family though its seeds resemble a flat bean. Seed pods burst open in the summer. The plant is deciduous, losing its leaves in the winter. The Wistaria seeds were brought from China by Marco Polo in the 13th century. Plants cultivated in China can live for 250 years.

Today, the vine covers approximately one acre. Over the years, it has shown distress and seemed to be dying. Experts have been brought in from Cal Tech, Occidental College, and Cal Poly Pomona. Correct pruning, treatments with hormones, and vitamin B have helped the vine to recover and to flourish. To help maintain the Vine's health, records of vine growth and care are now kept on a computer log. The Vine seems to produce its greatest flowering after a cold winter followed by a sudden hot spell.

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The Senior Spot

By Bruce Lamarche

Budget Tactics for Grocery Shopping

- If you are like most of us we are very conscious of how our cash goes out the door. These days, no matter what your situation is, wasting money is not an option.
- You can save a lot of money at your local grocery store. Here are several approaches that can help you save.
- 1) Stick to the grocery list.** *Make your list of needs BEFORE you go to the store.* The grocery store wants you to make impulse purchases. At the end of each isle and at the check-out stands are these impulse items. They even may say “sale” but the price can be lower only if you buy more than you want. If you make a grocery list at home and stick to it relentlessly, you will not be buying things you don't need.
 - 2) Don't shop hungry or thirsty.** If you are hungry when you shop, you will buy more to satisfy your voracious hunger. Don't go shopping until an hour after you've eaten and had enough water. You will feel satisfied and avoid buying things you shouldn't eat.
 - 3) Abandon brand loyalty.** Brands use advertising to attract consumers. Advertising adds to the price of goods. Many private label food items are made in the same facilities as brand name items. Even with a coupon or sale, brand name foods are generally unable to beat store-brand foods on price.
 - 4) Look for the lowest unit cost.** Every time you pick up a food item, divide the price by the product weight or number of servings. Compare the one in your hand to others on the shelf. Many stores post the unit price in small print on the shelf label.
 - 5) Clip coupons.** Coupons can help you save a considerable amount of money on brand name items. If a coupon can lower the price of a product to the point where it is the cheapest on a per unit basis, then use it to buy the product. You can get coupons off of the internet from sites like www.couponsuzy.com and from manufacturer sites. The accumulated savings over a year can be substantial.
 - 6) Shop sales.** The weekly sales circulars at the grocery store and in your local paper can be helpful in creating your shopping list. If these are items you need put them on your list and *stick to your list!*
 - 7) Stick to staples.** In good economic times, gourmet foods were an indulgence that made many Americans feel rich. However, in bad times, they simply increase a family grocery bill. To save money, stick to the basic staple items that you really need.
 - 9) Pay with Cash.** If you take a set amount of cash with you to the grocery store, you will be forced to stay within the money you have.
 - 10) Buy spaghetti.** There are many wonderful ways of fixing this staple and with different seasonings and home-made sauces it can be a delightful meal on the cheap. Buy the bargain ingredients to make this and with a \$3 bottle of wine it will seem like gourmet food.
- My wife is a wonderful cook and she often makes a terrific stew. It is a never ending source of wonder for me because it never is the same. I ask her which recipe this was and she just smiles. I found out that with spices and a big pot, she cleans out whatever is in the refrigerator that goes together and cooks it for long enough to trigger my hunger as the scent goes through the house. Think of the many varieties of stew that can be made from. Let's get back to basics.
- 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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FLASHLIGHT

*(continued from page 1)*The MIL aptitude test is designed to help-

“Yes, yes, I know, ‘to help ARCH find my best place in the world.”

“Have you found your best place in the world, Charlie?”

“I believe I have, ARCH.”

“That’s wonderful. How is your beverage?”

“Good, thank you.”

“Would you like some Sweet Land Cookies with your beverage?”

“No thank you.” Charlie glanced at his watch.

“But Sweet Land Cookies are your favorite, correct?”

“I buy them on occasion.” Charlie thought of his heart rate and focused on his breathing.

“Indeed, you purchased three hundred and seven pounds last year. And yet your daily urine results indicate you are consuming a small fraction of that amount.”

“I share them with the birds in the park.”

“That is very generous of you. What do you do with the paper wrappers?”

The lights flickered for a brief moment and Charlie looked at his watch, “I recycle them.”

The emoticon laughter file played again, “I enjoy your creative answers.”

“ARCH, do you sell Sweet Land Cookies packaged with paper just to see who will buy them?”

“Charlie, I am disappointed in you. Civilization’s greatest achievement is the separation of word and paper.”

“I thought you were supposed to be civilization’s greatest achievement?”

“Please do not attempt to change the subject. What could you possibly write on the paper that would be worth your life, Charlie?”

“I wrote down a theory.”

“Please tell me about it”

“My theory is that you are not what people think you are.”

“Did you really need

1228 pieces of Sweet Land

paper to write that down?”

“I guess not, but I did need a lot of paper to record data to test the theory. You see, fourteen years ago I realized that replacing certain blades on an obscure server slowed the processing in a certain sector. Of course with your protective redundancy, sometimes deduction didn't work, so I ran ‘discreet metrics’ to complete the mapping.”

“Charlie, I am sorry if your unique knowledge my server mappings disillusioned you. Perhaps now you understand one of the many needs for secrecy.”

“No, ARCH, that didn't disillusion me at all. I was happy to understand you. I have wanted to understand you since I was a child. I believed in your perfection. I believed that is, until the electrical fire.”

“Electrical fire?”

“Yes, the electrical fire fourteen years ago, the one that destroyed three hundred servers. Only I knew that most of the damaged servers were for language. But you continued to speak: having conversations, making decisions, issuing decrees. But with those servers down, that's impossible for a computer, but-”

“But not for a human?”

Is that your theory, Charlie, that I am not a computer? Now it is you who are flattering me.”

“Yes, that’s my theory, ARCH”

“Charlie, you’ve spent years in solitude among servers and that has been detrimental to your mental health. I am sorry, I take responsibility for that. I want to help you Charlie, but you need to give me your papers.”

“Sorry, I can't do that.”

“Why?”

“I need the papers to explain why I had to write the virus.”

“Virus, friend?”

“Yes, the virus to destroy the ARCH infrastructure that you use to disguise yourself as artificial intelligence.”

There was long pause.

“Your delusions aside, it is not possible for a virus to be far reaching enough to damage me.”

Charlie smiled, “ARCH, it's so obvious you're trying

to fail the Turing Test. You don't do simple things, like use

conjunctives in your speech and yet you're in classic denial. Of course a virus is possible, but only possible for someone with broad access. And the only people with broad access are low scoring techies who support unmapped servers, right?”

“Charlie, even if such an elaborate virus was embedded there is no way to simultaneously execute a command through all my vertical sectors and nodes.”

“You are right that there are a lot of safety measures; that's why the execute command had to come from you.”

“Why would I give such an execute command, Charlie?”

“Why? But you already did. ‘Sweet Land Cookies, remember? I knew that if I was patient enough, someday you and I would have this conversation. You know the virus is working, ARCH. That light flicker a moment ago, that was your emergency power and lights switching over. But that, too, is going pretty soon.”

“Charlie, do you want anarchy?”

“Now you are flattering yourself, ARCH. The world will be better without you,” Charlie said tiredly.

“I understand your intentions Charlie, which are honorable, but the masses have always developed numbness to freedoms and-” ARCH said more but Charlie lost interest. He watched the four people in the control room. They were still believers. He knew how painful the truth would be for them later, but for now they frantically pushed buttons behind the glass. At least six hundred other control rooms in ARCH were crashing at the same time. But he only cared about this one. He could hear fast, panicked words Thick Glasses was yelling to Erica: “grid offline ... back up sinking ... not possible ... losing everything ... where's a flashlight?”

“Flashlight” Her lips spoke the word slowly in realization. She looked at Charlie as she pushed her hair out of her face. He gazed at her until the lights flickered off for good. Charlie stood up from the chair, unafraid of the blackness. He reached for his flashlight and clicked it on. The spider's careful work was finally done.

THE END

SENIOR HAPPENINGS...

By Pat Birdsall

FYI:

With the economic clime being what it is, I thought some information that my friend Ken Anhalt passed on to me would benefit us all. He told me that a market in our area cuts the price of several products by 50% each day. The market is Fresh & Easy... I called the store located on Foothill and Second in Arcadia to find out the details, and spoke to a nice young man named Shane. He told me that certain products have a “date code” for freshness and when these items will be “out-of-code” on the following day, they are marked down by 50%- usually between 8:00 or 8:30 PM. I might be missing a few items he mentioned, so please check out all departments. The items I wrote down are: meat, produce, juices and breads. The best times to take advantage of the bargains would be in the evenings before the store closes at 10:00PM, or when it opens the next day at 8:00 AM. Thanks Ken!

As a shopper, you also have the opportunity to provide schools with needed resources. For every \$20.00 spent, your local school can get a \$1.00 cash donation, so keep your receipts.

~Helpful Hints~

Using Tea in the Garden

1-For healthier potted plants, place a few used tea bags on top of the drainage layer at the bottom of the planter before potting. The tea bags will retain water and add nutrients to the soil.

2-To speed up the decomposition process and enrich your compost, pour a few cups of strongly brewed tea onto the heap. The liquid tea will hasten decomposition and draw acid-producing bacteria, thus creating desirable acid-rich compost.

Another Recipe of the Month:



Roasted Fall Vegetables

Ingredients:

- * 2lbs butternut squash (about 1 medium) peeled, seeded, and cut into 1 1/2 – inch pieces
- * 2 lbs red new potatoes (12 to 14), well scrubbed and quartered
- * 1 lb medium red onions (about 2 to 3), peeled and quartered
- * 1 lb carrots (6 to 8 medium), halved lengthwise, if thick, and cut into 1 1/2 –inch lengths
- * 4 to 6 garlic cloves, peeled and smashed
- * 3 Tbs olive oil
- * Coarse salt and ground pepper

Directions:

1- Preheat oven to 450. Divide vegetables and garlic between two rimmed baking sheets (or line with parchment paper, if desired, for easy cleanup): dividing evenly, toss with oil, 2 tsp coarse salt, and ¼ tsp pepper.

2- Roast until vegetables are tender and beginning to brown, 40 to 50 minutes, tossing them and rotating sheets from top to bottom halfway through. Serve hot or at room temperature. If desired, you can sprinkle with grated Parmesan cheese 10 to 15 minutes before the end of roasting. ~Serves 8~

Experiment and create your own combination of vegetables. Here's a list of vegetables that roast well.

Quick Roasting: * asparagus *corn *mushrooms *tomatoes.

Somewhat Quick-Roasting:*bell peppers *broccoli *cauliflower * eggplant * fennel *onions *zucchini and summer squash

Slow Roasting: * beets * carrots * onions * parsnips * potatoes * sweet potatoes * turnips * winter squash



Happy Birthday!

March Birthdays: Ella Guttman, Viky Tchatlian, and Santos Ruiz

For Your Funny Bone

A hack golfer spends a day at a plush country club playing golf and enjoying the luxury of a complimentary caddy. Being a hack golfer, he played poorly all day long. Round about the 18th hole, he spotted a lake off to the left of the fairway. He looked at the caddy and said, “I’ve played so poorly all day. I think I’m going to drown myself in that lake.” The caddy looked back at the hack golfer and replied, “I don’t think you could keep your head down that long.”

Quote: Remember, Ginger Rogers did everything Fred Astaire did, but backwards and in high heels.

~Faith Whittlesy~

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*

Saturday, March 7th- Whale Watching

-A three hour cruise to experience the annual migration of Gray Whales on the coastal waters of Southern California. The bus will leave for Long Beach from the Recreational Center at 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. NOT the Senior Center, at 9:00 AM and return around 4:00 PM. Total cost- \$20.00 per person. For reservations and/ or questions, please call 355-5278 or 355-7394.

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.

NEW!!! Senior Stretch and Balance- A free class designed by volunteer instructor Teryl Willis, for seniors to refresh the joints, soothe the spine, and improve balance. Come and join in some simple and gentle exercises, a little light yoga, and a bit of easy tai chi.

When and Where: Wednesday, March 4th at 11:00 AM at the Hart Memorial Park House/ Senior Center. Call 626-355-7394 for more information.

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.**

The Tortoise and the Hare

by Dorothy White



a colorful event with bands playing, pennants flying, and even cheerleaders-- although the crowd hardly needed any incentive to voice its excitement.

Of course, everyone knew that the hare was a shoo-in and stood to win the huge prize, but the spectators could not resist the opportunity to socialize and have a good noisy time. After all bets had been placed, (a futile activity, as who would ever bet on the tortoise?) the race began. The hare seemingly so confident of victory, ambled along, stopping often to chat to spectators, do a bunny hop, and flirt with some of the cute bunnies on the sidelines. Meanwhile, the tortoise, taunted by jeers and catcalls, plodded on at his usual sluggish

pace.

And then, what a surprise! While the hare had stopped to enjoy a carrot break, the tortoise crossed the finish line. You can imagine the consternation of the crowd who had placed their money on the hare. Now the hare was the object of jeers and catcalls and in fact, narrowly escaped becoming hasenpfeffer.

The tortoise, overjoyed at his unexpected victory collected the prize money and retired to a private beach in Malibu. As for the hare, knowing of the incredible odds in his favor, had deliberately lost the race and proceeded to collect a huge sum of money. Very pleased with himself, he could not resist boasting of his cleverness, and as a result soon found himself behind prison bars. Always resourceful however, he drew on his past experience when he had worked for the Easter Bunny, and while incarcerated, developed a lucrative business making and selling chocolate marshmallow eggs.

One Of A Kind: *Featuring unique homes & gardens and the people who create them* By Chris Bertrand



Chris Bertrand

Dr. Bud & Friends: *Building a Better Life One Home at a Time*

Dr. Michael Budincich, aka Dr. Bud and a chiropractor by profession, would be memorable if only for his towering persona, well over six feet tall. Dr Bud's been drawn by his faith, not just to pray... but to act. Several times a year, he flies in his private aircraft and/or drives, not only to help heal as many as 600 locals in free clinics some weekends, when he and medical friends and interested lay people, join him on weekend Mexican missions, to build homes for some of them. House building is done on some weekend trips, and clinic health care missions on other weekend expeditions.

He's found that pride of home ownership brings a great measure of hope to a family and to a community whether it's in suburbs of Tijuana or Tecate or way out in rural areas. "I have the means to do it, so I do." Since about 1998, he's been a team member or leader of completing about 15 very simple, very basic homes in remote Mexico through his non-profit foundation, and with members of Sierra Madre Congregational Church and "Team Casa de Dios" which means alternately "House of God" or "House from God" certainly an appropriate play on words. In their most recent venture, Dr. Bud mentioned the project to a friend, who joined her father in writing a check to cover an entire home, allowing them to build two houses simultaneously.

Dr. Bud's initial inspiration came from membership and the mission commission at Sierra Madre's Congregational Church, which usually puts together teams that build two to three houses a year. Eventually, he started sponsoring his own home builds in the outlying areas of suburban Tijuana, Mexico through his chiropractic business. Now that personal mission has grown into his "Manos Con Alas" foundation, a California 501c3 corporation to support indigent medical services and home building.

The idea snowballed, though it hasn't been a piece of cake, by any means, especially with the recent press coverage on Mexican drug cartels. It also takes coordination, money, and the right kind of volunteer. "It's always a challenge to get busy medical and dental professionals to go down to serve in free clinics, though once they do go down and see the impact that can be made, they're often hooked."

Dr. Bud and his volunteers find it more fun and rewarding to make a big impact in remote Mexico. "We focused on one remote Mexican area for four to five years, flying in then taking ground transportation for the last leg so our volunteers are still fresh when we arrive to work. About a year and a half ago, we changed our focus to a new area. Sometimes we're as close as 300 miles from LA in Baja's Vizcaino, Loreto, and San Quintin, though we've traveled as far as 600 miles to Oaxaca."

"These remote areas have no running water and no legal electric power in their homes," he continues. "They might throw a homemade hook sharpened on the inside to cut into a live wire, and throw over and attach to a power line, and then run it for hundreds of yards to a shack to run a little TV and a light bulb. Residents buy water from a truck that delivers weekly to fill 55

gallon drums, which are then ladled into 5 gallon buckets for daily use."

Dr. Bud works with a Mexican organization, Baja Christian Ministries, to do the ground work and choose the most deserving families through their full time people in Mexico. "We're just not equipped to know who is the neediest." In the years of creating stable, safe homes for families without, two families stand out to Dr. Bud, a family with a 10-year old in wheelchair, and a struggling, single mother with eight children.

He and his foundation come up with the volunteers and the \$6300 needed to build each simple home with a sanitary latrine pit toilet. "That's a nice pit toilet," he points out. "We line it with concrete blocks and give it good ventilation. It's not a pretty topic, but at 8 feet deep, 4'x4' plus the right soil and some lye once a while, it should last ten to twenty years."

"This is a dwelling with a concrete floor, a composition roof and plywood siding walls on the outside," comments Dr. Bud. "The new owners can add stucco later. It gets them up off the cold and wet, dirt floor. They have a door they can lock. They acquire some pride of ownership. It's the equivalent of a transition up from tent camping to a motor home or a "double wide" in our culture."

The qualifying families must own the land upon which the home will be built; otherwise the government could take the home away. This home is also saleable later, and the pride of ownership builds stability, not only for this one family but in the community. Dr. Bud comments further, "If the family has something solid that they own in Mexico, they will not be as destitute and tempted to climb dangerous border fences to the U.S., and search for something 'over the rainbow' here in the States."

Dr. Bud's bent and heart for community service was shaped during high school right here in LA. As a South Gate High School athlete, the local Rotary and Kiwanis organizations pulled together to send him to an International Invitational Track and Field meet as a "shot-putter" in Chicago. He came back and made presentations with his earned medal to the sponsoring organizations and was hooked, as they say. These days, he's an active Rotarian with the Sierra Madre Rotary Club chapter, and even more active with his two foundations.

If you're interested in finding out more about Dr. Bud's Mexican missions, visit www.DrBud.com, his foundation website at www.ManosConAlas.com (which translates to



"Hands with Wings") or call 626-792-3390.

Have an interesting home, garden or person who helps create them? Send me the details at Chris@BertrandOnline.com

*They came from two different origins, but found they shared
One Common Philosophy.*



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Greening Your Thumb: It's Rose Time Again

Oh, yes, I see you all out there at the nurseries, with excitement in your voices, studying the attached labels with your companions, going back and forth on color and type - hoping the choices you make today will really pay off in summer. When you are a novice at buying bare root roses it is a little unnerving. All you really have to go by is the label attached to it - which, by the way, is generally quite accurate. The selection of bare root roses in January at some nurseries can seem endless. Once bought, however, you need to know how to care for this newest member of your garden.

First and foremost, in my opinion at least, roses are one of the best investments you could make for your garden and it's an investment that you want to protect and maintain. Essential for healthy, flourishing roses is to provide them with lots of sun, preferably 6 hours a day, good air circulation, regular watering and an occasional feeding. This done, you will have wonderful results. Don't go bad mouthing these little treasures because they don't do as well as your neighbors if you are not doing right by them. I can't count how often I see roses planted in the shade, bone dry and undernourished. Everybody wants their roses to flourish but very few homeowners ever feed them. Start them off right by giving them every chance to succeed and they will! We are so fortunate to have such wonderful weather in California, but that alone is simply not sufficient. You need to give them a little care, too!

OK, You planted them in a sunny location, watering is consistent and adequate, and, yes, feeding is certainly something you

will be more aware of in the future. Well, you are still probably going to encounter some problems along the way- however, with a little knowledge under your cap they are easily remedied.

Most Common Diseases and their Remedies

Aphids - Usually the first pest to appear on your roses. They love to feed on the new shoots and can be destructive if left unattended. Their honeydew excretions also attract ants, which compounds the problem. To tackle this irritating problem I use a wet paper towel to remove the first, dense clusters and try to remove the rest with a good dose of water from the garden hose. This has to be done on a weekly basis until you have them under control. It sounds like a lot of work but it really isn't. Or, you can spray with insecticide soap and summer horticultural soap. Please try to use organic products at all times.

Mildew - This is a fungal disease. It appears when days are warm and humid and nights are cool. Make sure your plants have good air circulation. Crowding and shade encourages mildew. (Once your roses leaf-out, some can get very dense inside with heavy foliage making them vulnerable to mildew and other common diseases. Remove every other leaf "inside" which will create good air circulation). If mildew persists (and there is a very good chance it will, you need to keep a close eye on it), consider spraying with a fungicide.

Black Spot - This fungus is waterborne. It starts as a black spot(s) on the leaf, leading eventually to yellowing of the leaf and in a short period of time the leaves will fall off. It's important to remove infected leaves at the earliest stage, upon the first sighting of

the "black" spots. If you remove them early enough, you may prevent it from spreading to the entire bush. Always destroy the leaves. (It is always better to paper bag any undesired leaves removed because of disease and put them in the trash to avoid creating more contamination).

Rust -- Just turn over the leaf and you will recognize it right away. As with all diseased foliage, remove it immediately and discard - never leave diseased clippings around! Spray if this get too advanced.

Other common culprits to be mindful of when you plant roses; Leaf-Cutting Bees (these bees are beneficial pollinators and should be tolerated) Japanese Beetles (unfortunately, these guys feed on the rose buds, flowers and leaves; the best treatment, after trying to find and kill these little terrors, is to use a grub-killing insecticide).

Thrips -- you can identify the damage left by thrips; bud failure, distorted blossoms, white withered leaves, brown streaks on petals. If your prized roses ever get infected with thrips, a systemic insecticide is probably the best remedy.

Now, the reason I listed off all the things that could go wrong with roses, doesn't mean they will. I would like you to be informed of these things and should any of the above mentioned diseases appear on your newly acquired roses, you don't need to panic. It takes a lot to kill a rose! You now have sufficient information that you will be able to address the problem before it gets out of control.

Keep buying those roses - and surround yourself with beauty every opportunity you get!



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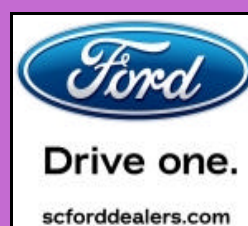
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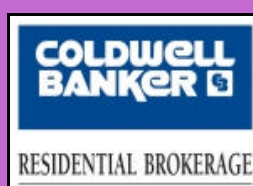
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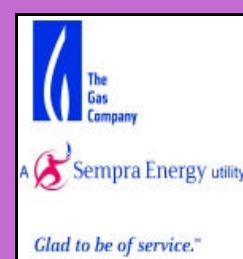
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