

Dear Reader,
Welcome to the Mt. Wilson Observer. Each week, we will bring you the very best in news reports, features, commentary, photography, and humor – the newspaper arts.

Managing Editor Susan Henderson and I created this paper because we share a great affection for Our Town.

This paper is a product of its place and time, with its own character, filled with the works of writers and artists who are inspired by the life of the mind and who are passionate about the public's right to know.

We ask for your guidance and input. We welcome your thoughts, suggestions, public notices, news and letters to the editor.

Will Rogers said a good thing when he said "Take

away my ham, take away my eggs, even my chili, but leave my newspaper."

Katina Dunn
Editor

Mt. Wilson Observer Mission Statement

We honor the traditions of the community newspaper and place our readers above all other concerns.

We deliver local, state and national news every week.

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.

MAYOR PROPOSES AMENDMENT TO PROTECT HOMEOWNERS

Controversy over Hillside Management Zone possibly averted



Recent discussions indicate that the pale green area north of the blue line could be the new boundary of the Hillside Management Zone, affecting approximately 40 homes compared to the 1,100 homes in the original proposal.

By Katina Dunn

Mayor John Buchanan introduced changes to the controversial Hillside Management Zone (HMZ) Ordinance that would protect all homeowners from any new restrictions. It is likely that all residents of the city will be able to rebuild their homes in the event of a catastrophe or accident without restrictions that are currently a part of the HMZ. "I would actually favor at the moment an amendment that allows people to rebuild what they had," said Buchanan at Tuesday's City Council meeting. "I would even favor a streamlined permit process..." in the event of an emergency, he added. "It would be an amendment that would benefit everyone in the city."

Shuffling the thick stack of speaker cards,

the Mayor diffused a potentially volatile situation in a crowded city hall with spillover into the lobby and outside sidewalk. Residents affected by the HMZ turned out to protest the R1 standard of not being able to rebuild destroyed homes the way they were – "like for like." After hearing the Mayor's suggestion, most speakers ended up congratulating members of the Council, the Planning Commission and the HMZ Task Force for their hard work.

Adoption of the HMZ could occur as early as Friday, October 6. The Council has scheduled a special session for the first reading of the Ordinance on Sunday, October 1, 2006 at 1:00 p.m. at City Hall. The second reading will take place on October 6th at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall. At that

time, the ordinance could be passed.

The original timeline for adoption of the HMZ Ordinance was abandoned in an effort to pass the measure prior to the November election. Should the ordinance be adopted on October 6, passage of Proposition 90 in the November 7 election would have very little impact on the city.

Prop 90, the "Protect Our Homes" Initiative requires governments to pay for regulatory takings for reasons other than health and safety; and for downzoning property.

Residents were divided on the "rush" to vote before November 7. Many were confused by the various colored lines on two versions of maps depicting the boundaries of the HMZ.

Residents File 2-30-13 Initiative

by Susan Henderson

The Sierra Madre Residents for Responsible Development (SMRRD) have ended weeks of speculation regarding whether or not the group would formally oppose the Downtown Specific Plan. The initiative, referred to as the "2-30-13" Initiative, was deposited with the Sierra Madre City Clerk last week.

SMRRD organized after finding that the proposed DSP could allow developers incentives that would facilitate development beyond the scope of Sierra Madre's existing General Plan. In addition, members were concerned about what appeared to be serious inconsistencies with the information received from city hall.

Attorney Chris Sutton, who represents the group has indicated that if the initiative gathers sufficient signatures, it would be eligible for the March, 2007 ballot eliminating the need for a special election.

If passed, the initiative would require voter approval for any downtown development that goes beyond the existing General Plan provisions of 2 stories, 30 feet in height and 13 units per acre.

Councilman Kurt Zimmerman, Joe Mosca and Don Watts recently won seats on the council by campaigning against the proposed DSP. They also supported voter approval of the plan. However, when the matter came before the council for a vote after the election, Councilman Mosca voted against the resolution which subsequently failed.

Additional information regarding the Downtown Specific Plan may be obtained from the Sierra Madre City Hall's website, ci.sierramadre.ca.us, and the SMRRD website at www.smrrd.org. For information on groups opposed to the initiative contact Dennis Supporting Village Preservation at www.smvsp.org.



Benoit Photo

Lava Man has a chance at the Breeder's Cup Classic

Lava Man Hot to Trot

By Larry Bortstein

Oak Tree began its 38th fall meet at Santa Anita on Wednesday and the first two weekends of the 26-day season will be laden with prep races for the Breeders' Cup at Churchill Downs in Louisville, Ky., on Nov. 4.

None will rate greater attention than the \$500,000 Goodwood Handicap on Oct. 7, the second Saturday of the meet.

The 1 1/8-mile Goodwood, being run for the 25th time, will serve as Lava Man's tuneup for the \$5 million Breeders' Cup Classic, North America's richest race.

Doug O'Neill, who trains the 5-year-old gelding, confirmed that Lava Man will contest the Goodwood instead of the \$250,000 Clement

L. Hirsch Turf Championship on Sept. 30.

In rolling to a perfect record in six starts this year, Lava Man has staged an unprecedented sweep of the Santa Anita Handicap, Hollywood Gold Cup and Del Mar's Pacific Classic.

But in a rare display of equine versatility, he also has won the Charles Whittingham Memorial Handicap on grass at Hollywood Park.

"With the Breeders' Cup four weeks after the Goodwood, we'd still have plenty of time to get him ready for the Classic," O'Neill said. "This was a group decision between me and the owners."

Alphabet Soup in 1996, Tiznow in 2000 and

Pleasantly Perfect in 2003 all won the Goodwood before going on to victory in the Breeders' Cup Classic.

The Oak Tree meet has served as the biggest steppingstone in the country for the Breeders' Cup, first run in 1984.

"There isn't a race meeting world-wide that can match our history of top performance on racing's biggest day," said Sherwood Chillingworth, Oak Tree director and executive vice president.

Three hundred and eleven Breeders' Cup starters have had their final prep races at Oak Tree. Of those, 31 have gone on to victory, 32 have run second and 29 finished third.

Ferocious Fire Fight in Ventura County

More Evacuations from "Day Fire"



Photos by Phil McCarten - Reuters News Service



Almost 4,000 firefighters from California and other states are battling to keep the Day Fire under control. The weather conditions Wednesday were hot and dry, creating a risky situation for what could be California's longest and largest fire in its history.

As of Wednesday, more towns were being evacuated including Pinyon Pines, Lockwood Valley and Lake of the Woods, according to Larry Comerford, Public Information Officer for the U.S. Forest Service.

The fire is 42 percent contained and 148,884 acres (232.6 square miles) have been destroyed. The name "Day Fire" comes from its origin - it has been burning since Labor Day, when somebody set trash on fire in the Los Padres National Forest

The Teen Book Club - For readers in grades 7 and up

Starts Thursday, October 5 and runs twelve weeks through Thursday, January 11, 2007, at the Sierra Madre Public Library. The program is free (including books) and open to all students, from public and private schools and home schooling. The group will meet Thursday afternoons from 4 to 5 in the Library basement. Enrollment is limited; please register at the Library.

Now in its tenth year, the Teen Book Club encourages reading and peer discussion of selected books under the guidance of Cathy Ryne, Young Adult Librarian.






The Sierra Madre Public Library is located at 440 West Sierra Madre Boulevard in Sierra Madre. For further information on this program and other Library programs and services please visit the Library's web site at www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us or call the (626) 355-7186.

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- 6 Opinions & more
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- 8 Sports View From The Couch

Weather Wise

Your Weekend Forecast - Sierra Madre,
Longitude W118.0, Latitude N34.2
Full Moon - October 6, 2006 8:12 pm

	Sunday:	Partly cloudy	High 77	Low 50.
	Monday:	Mostly sunny	High 74	Low 50.
	Tuesday:	Mostly sunny	High 71	Low 50.
	Wednesday:	Partly cloudy	High 71	Low 50.
	Thursday:	Partly cloudy	High 73	



Sun Wise

The UV Index scale used in the United States conforms with international guidelines for UV reporting established by the World Health Organization. What follows is a description of each UV Index level and tips to help you avoid harmful exposure to UV radiation.

- 2 or less **LOW** - means low danger from the sun's UV rays for the average person: Wear sunglasses on bright days.
 - 3 - 5: **MODERATE** - means moderate risk of harm from unprotected sun exposure. Stay in shade near midday when the sun is strongest.
 - 6 - 7: **HIGH** - means high risk of harm from unprotected sun exposure. Apply a sunscreen with a SPF of at least 15.
 - 8 - 10: **VERY HIGH** - very high risk of harm from unprotected sun exposure. Minimize sun exposure during midday hours, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 - 11+: **EXTREME** - A UV Index reading of 11 or higher means extreme risk of harm from unprotected sun exposure. Apply sunscreen with an SPF of at least every 2 hours. An easy way to tell how much UV exposure you are getting is to look for your shadow: If your shadow is taller than you are (in the early morning and late afternoon), your UV exposure is likely to be low. If your shadow is shorter than you are (around midday), you are being exposed to high levels of UV radiation. Seek shade and protect your skin and eyes.
- Excerpts courtesy of the US Environmental Protection Agency. For additional information go to: <http://www.epa.gov/sunwise>



Citizens' Datebook

Sunday, October 1

First Reading
Hillside Management Zone
Ordinance
1:00 pm
Sierra Madre City Hall

Friday, October 6

Second Reading
Hillside Management Zone Ordinance
5:30 pm
Sierra Madre City Hall

Thursday, October 5

Senior Commission Meeting
3 p.m.
Sierra Madre City Hall

Friday to Sunday, October 6 to 8

California Avocado Festival
Carpinteria
(805) 684-0038

Wednesday, October 11 - Deadline

Princess Applications for the Sierra Madre Rose Float
Applicants must be 15 to 18 years old, possess a GPA of 3.0, and be residents of Sierra Madre. Applications available at Sierra Madre City Hall, Pasadena High School D-101, LaSalle High School and Alverno High School.

Saturday, October 14

1st Annual Wine & Jazz Walk
Shops of Sierra Madre

Saturday, October 28 - Entry Deadline October 20, 2006

Oktoberfest Golf and Tennis Tournament benefiting the Youth of Sierra Madre. Contact Alexis Braun at abraun@ci.sierra-madre.ca.us

Ongoing

Sierra Madre's Bright Idea Founder Kim Clymer promotes the use of compact fluorescent bulbs via free distribution. Aims to distribute more than 110 million bulbs nation-wide. "If every household replaced one 60 watt bulb with one compact fluorescent bulb of the same brightness... reduction of greenhouse gasses emitted into the air would be equivalent to removing 1.3 million cars from the road," according to the organization's flyer.

REMEMBRANCES

Memorial Service for Diana Dacoscos
Sunday October 1, 2006
4 p.m.
Eagle Rock Seventh Day Adventist Church
2322 Merton
Los Angeles, CA
323-257-5803

Sunday, October 1, Last Performances

FENCES
Powerful acting by
Laurence Fishburne & Angela Bassett
Pasadena Playhouse
39 S. El Molino Ave. Pasadena
Call for showtimes
(626) 356-7529
Tickets \$38 to \$60

The Sierra Madre Playhouse Presents

MIRACLE WORKER

BY WILLIAM GIBSON
DIRECTED BY LINDA L. RAND

Opens October 6th, 2006
Playing Every Friday & Saturday Evening at 8pm, through November 11th.
Playing Every Sunday Afternoon at 2:30pm, through November 5th.

The Sierra Madre Playhouse

87 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA 91024 626-355-4318

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

The Lost Continent: Travels in Small Town America, by Bill Bryson

As a child growing up in Des Moines, Iowa--"the most powerful hypnotic known to man"--Bill Bryson found his life transformed by a TV documentary about Europe: suddenly he "wanted to be a European boy." "to be somewhere" besides what he saw as a terminally dull, quintessentially mid-Western town. After years of living in Europe and England, and the death of his father, the 36-year old Bryson decides to revisit the summer driving vacations of his childhood and to truly experience the America he had left behind. But *The Lost Continent: Travels in Small-Town America* is not a melancholy, introspective "journal of self-discovery"--rather, it is full of Bryson's witty, wry observations about daily life in America and charming, hilarious memories of his travels with his family in the 1950s and 1960s. Bryson,

known for such recent books as *A Walk in the Woods*, *In a Sunburned Country*, and *A Short History of Nearly Everything* is at his best in this thought-provoking, lesser-known work. Recommended by Pat Smith, Librarian for the Lamanda Park Library

"Just Desserts" Book Club
3rd Tuesday every month
Next meeting:
October 17th at 7 p.m.
Lamanda Park Library
140 S. Altadena Dr.
Pasadena
(2 blks. S. of Colorado)

Lindy Hop

Every Thursday
at 7:30 p.m.
All Ages- Teens to 90s
200 S. Euclid free parking
& free dance lessons from
7:30 to 8:15 p.m.
\$7 admission

www.lindygroove.com

Sing-A-Long Opera & Broadway

Every Sunday at 6:30 p.m.
Cafe 322
322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
in Sierra Madre
Pianist Danny Guerrero with world class singers Domenico Zangeri, Norma Guerrero, Mario Storace, Mark Almy, Diana Briscoe, Mario and Edalyn Lalli and many more, including you!

Free admission

Sunday, October 1

Greek Festival
St. Anthony's Greek
Orthodox Church
Noon to 10 p.m.
Tickets \$3
778 S. Rosemead Blvd.
Pasadena
(626) 449-6943

Where Wireless Meets The Grill

It may look the same on the outside, but the new owners of Sierra Madre icon **Beantown** have big plans in store for the 14-year old coffee house. Known as "the living room of the city", new owners **Matthew Krantz** and **Joanna Krantz-Bremer** - a mother son duo-say that's just the way they want to keep it. "The only thing we changed, in terms of looks, was putting in the new couches," said Krantz-Bremer. "As far as the kitchen, we're expanding the whole menu." Krantz said he is not new to either Beantown or the coffee business, having worked at Beantown in 2003 and owning another coffeehouse, **Java Garden** in Orange County. The two said they plan to add more fresh baked goods,

homemade soup and feature a **Grilled Taco Night** using a large grill they just purchased. "We're just polishing the jewel of Sierra Madre," Krantz-Bremer said. "we try to have everything. There are still games for the kids and wireless for the adults." Live entertainment will continue on weekends. Musician **John Joseph** added, "Everytime I come up here and play I'm amazed at how nice a community this is. Just look outside. You have families gathered watching a movie in the street. "Where else would you find that?" **Beantown** is located at 45 North Baldwin Ave. For more information visit, www.beantowncoffeebar.com. **Caring, Sharing People** So very kind of an **Ex-Mayor**

to inquire about Council Member **Don Watts'** health a few weeks ago. The Ex wanted to make certain Watts was up to the coming battle over the Downtown Specific Plan. "He warned me how dirty this was going to get and asked if I was up to it" said Watts. "Since I have been filleted by this city many times, another filleting won't hurt," says Watts who hasn't heard from the Ex since. Hmm...lately the Ex may have gone Ix Nay over MZ Hay! **Toastmaster's No. 1 Honor Student** ...and speaking of the MZ Hay, rumor has it that the Council's favorite traffic engineer from **Willdan** is readying his comparison of the HMZ boundary lines with similar ones in Rome. **Confession** It has been confirmed that not one single member of SMRRD (Sierra Madre Resident's

for Responsible Development) had anything to do with, or any prior knowledge of a controversial mailer that went out over the summer. Exactly who sent the mailer out remains a mystery. **The Line Forms FAR Left.....** Single females who are erudite, mysterious, possess exceptional culinary skills, are drop dead gorgeous, like fast cars and have an above average IQ should know that there are two very eligible bachelors in town. **Sammy** and **Salvatore** will accept applications at a soon to be disclosed location. Look around town for the secret code number. You must be wearing shades to see it! **Do you have a scoop? Contact Roy at deuxamispub@aol.com**

MTA Bus Route Leaves PHS Students Hiking

By Dean Lee

With a handful of bus riders in the audience, mostly from Sierra Madre, the MTA San Gabriel Valley Service Sector Governance Council voted Tuesday in favor of modifying MTA's Metro Connections saving them up to \$34 million over the next three years proponents said.

Although some previously proposed cuts were scrapped and bus lines will continue to run through Sierra Madre and to JPL, students at Pasadena High School will now have to transfer, getting off at Orange Grove Avenue, blocks away.

In a rush to accommodate Sierra Madre city council member Joe Mosca, who had another meeting Tuesday at the city council, the Metro governance council did not take public comment on proposed changes in line 487 as required by law. Mosca sits on the governing board.

In California, the Brown Act states that all elected governing bodies must allow public comment on any agenda item before voting. The governance council retracted their vote after Sierra Madre resident Heather Allen asked "what happened to public comment" after Mosca had left.

The council decided to allow Mosca's opposed vote to stand even though he was not in the room to hear any comments.

"They act like we're not here," Allen said after public comment in which the

council quickly motioned to reinstate all their votes in favor of the changes.

An earlier move not to cut line 268 out of Sierra Madre came only after a number of riders, including two visually impaired persons and a non-English-speaking housekeeper, said the route was a lifeline for them.

"Right now I get off the bus and walk four blocks," said a rider though an interpreter. "If you take out the bus I can't walk all the way up the hill. I don't know what I will do."

MTA Service Development Manager, Jon Hillmer, said Metro Connections is aimed at streamlining and simplifying some of Metro's long routes throughout Los Angeles. County lines now affected include 85, 201, 255, 487, and 751 in the San Gabriel Valley. Most of the public's comments focused around lines 268 and 487.

"The 487 has one of the highest rates of complaints," Hillmer said. "By breaking up that route and streamlining we hope to alleviate some of the concerns."

After a complaint that no bus went to the new Rosemead Wal-Mart superstore, Hillmer proposed extending the 487 to accommodate shoppers.

"We have known this was a problem for a while but they delayed opening that store two times," Hillmer said. "I think the 487 could be easily rerouted there."

Mosca said that a number of people depend on the MTA in Sierra Madre because of the geographical location of the city. He also said

that kids take the bus from Sierra Madre to Pasadena every day because the city is part of the Pasadena Unified School District.

"The city sits on a very steep slope and not too many people are willing to walk the mile up or down the hill," Mosca said. "The seniors and disabled in the city depend on this line to get around."

Former Sierra Madre Mayor Bart Doyle said that he agreed that the city was isolated, and said that even though ridership was low it was vital to the city. Doyle voted in favor of all changes. He then explained why.

"When I was part of the city one of the reasons it was thought that people were not taking the Gold Line was that they needed to go east and west," Doyle said. "With the expansion east of the Gold Line, now is the time to have the 487 go to that station. Things are changing."

The proposed cuts on line 268 to JPL were taken out of Metro Connections proposal after a number of JPL employees complained during the Aug. 8 public hearing.

Line 487 will be broken into two segments; one from El Monte to Pasadena ending near Colorado Boulevard renamed the 287, the other, from Downtown LA to the Sierra Madre Villa Gold Line Station. This segment would stay the 487 Hillmer said.

All Changes will take effect in December according to the MTA.



Photo by Buddy Windsor

Sonia Kosker and Leah Darby of Taylor's Meats and fresh produce offer a cornucopia of fruits and vegetables to take the place of spinach.

Spinach Scare Hits Home as Businesses Deal with FDA

By Dean Lee

The Food and Drug Administration made their rounds through Sierra Madre Sept. 22, making sure all fresh spinach products were removed from store shelves, according to some store owners such as Don Taylor, owner of Taylor's Meats and fresh produce.

Other stores in the area, such as Albertsons, have also removed spinach from shelves but local Albertsons produce manager, Terry Frohwein, said that he was not aware of any FDA checks. He said anything pertaining to the FDA goes through their corporate office.

from 25 states and the E. coli infected spinach is thought to have originated in Salinas, California according to the Center for Disease Control.

Taylor said he removed all spinach from the store after hearing about the E. coli outbreak on the radio. Taylor's produce manager, George Baltazar, said that one brand, Ready Pac, of fresh salad greens, presented a problem with the FDA because the bag said that it contained spinach when in fact it did not.

"This is all too bad because normally spinach is really good for you; it's high in minerals," said Baltazar.

He continued saying the package made it clear that some ingredients are only available during certain growing seasons. This year's season will end sometime in late November, according to an FDA spokesperson.

Frohwein said that even though sales from produce will normally jump during the holiday season he did not foresee any shortage in overall produce sales. He also said that it would be hard to predict what will happen and that he has never seen this type of scare in his 32 years working at Albertsons.

Baltazar suggested baby arugula as a substitute.

A number of reports have suggested that restaurants in the affected states have been importing spinach from Australia but a number of Sierra Madre restaurant owners said they simply took the item off their menu and are not getting it from anywhere.

"We only had one salad and an omelet that had spinach in it so that's not a problem," said, Michael Kefalas, co-owner of Barney's Gill and Pub. "What we do have is everybody saying there is spinach in their salad when they see something that might look like it. We can't even get spinach if we wanted to. When the FDA gets involved that's that."

The CDC is currently advising consumers to not eat any fresh spinach or salad mix containing fresh spinach that might be eaten raw. They also advise cooking all spinach to above 160 degrees for at least 15 seconds.

Anyone who develops symptoms such as diarrhea after consuming fresh spinach or salad blends are urged to visit a hospital emergency room.

For more information visit cdcinfo@cdc.gov or call 800-CDC-INFO.

"We still have all the packs of spinach taken from off the shelves in the back," Frohwein said. "If we throw them away we are not sure what might happen to them. Someone could easily take them and we can't be sure that won't happen. They're just going to sit there until we get the all clear and then we will destroy them."

The check-ups came exactly one week after the FDA first reported an E. coli O157:H7 outbreak in spinach across the United States. As of Sept. 25 at least two deaths have occurred linked to contaminated spinach and another 175 people have become sick from eating fresh spinach. Reports have come

"Penciling Out" The Plan: Parking Issues a Crux of the Downtown Specific Plan

By Katina Dunn

On September 19, 2006, RBF Consultants presented numerous scenarios in the latest draft of the Downtown Specific Plan, as Sierra Madre Planning Commissioners and Council Members wrestled with parking issues at the meeting held September 19. Marie Jones, of Marie Jones Consulting, cited the "fantastic retail demographics" of the city's affluent residents. Jones spoke about a vision of additional shops and restaurants to invigorate the downtown area. Those shops, however, require parking spaces. So would the new offices, apartments and condos.

One underground parking space, for example, would cost \$28,000 to build, according to Jones. (In Beverly Hills, the cost of one parking space would be \$53,000, she said). That expense almost guarantees that parking in new underground or new aboveground garages would not be for free, she said.

The discussion about the latest draft of the plan kept returning to the subject of parking. "Parking becomes the tail that wags the dog," said Planning Commissioner Bob Spears. "Off-site parking is a better solution but it takes some getting used to," said Mayor Pro-Tem Enid Joffe.

Planning Commissioner Gina Frierman-Hunt suggested further analysis of the essence of the city. Frierman-Hunt said there is "a weird tension" between the desires of more sales and more traffic and no stoplight in the middle of town. "We're trying to keep them in. We're trying to keep them out." What are we, she wondered.

Jones spoke at length about Retail Market Data, and the fact that retail Sierra Madre has shown "very little growth" in the last four years. The office market is strong, she said, at \$209 per square foot and the median price of residential property has risen an astonishing 60 percent since 2003.

A two bedroom condo is now worth \$445 a square foot and a three bedroom is \$398 per square foot.

The "assumption" of the new draft is 35 percent retail, 25 percent office and 45 percent residential.

The high value of residential properties enables a developer to "Pencil Out" the investment, or make a profit. As RBF Consultant Al Zelinka showed, with different scenarios of Howie's Market and Dr. Sami's site, if building density is too low and there are too few residential units, (continued on page 5)

Mayor Buchanan (continued from page 1)

(See Mayor Page 3)

A couple residents were concerned about current litigation by developers, and took real estate agents to task for "non-disclosure" about the vagaries of building in the hillsides, including possible zoning changes, risks of fire and flooding, and disruption of the delicate balance of wildlife.

Another resident said the city should buy up this land rather than sell to developers. Two residents chastised the council for their lack of diplomacy with developers. One resident even suggested to council members and staff that they stop "behaving like high schoolers" and hire

- professional negotiators.
- Issues to be discussed at Sunday's special meeting are:
 - Rebuilding "like for like" in the event more than 50 percent of a home is destroyed
 - The boundary line
 - Two acres as minimum lot size
 - Existing, proposed and buffer zone ridgelines
 - Gross or net floor area, or both
 - Defining slope

Current Parking Requirements:

- For 1,000 square feet of retail: 3 parking spaces
- For 1,000 square feet of condo, one bedroom: 1.5 parking spaces



Current number times around Kersting Court to park = 2

Ed Alverno, LASALLE, Pasadena High, St. Francis, Sierra Mesa Middle School, The Barnhart School, SIERRA MADRE ELEMENTARY, Bethany Christian, St. Rita's, Wilson Middle School, Don Benito Fundamental, Norma Coombs Alternative School, Polytechnic and Pasadena Unified School District, The Barnhart School

An Anniversary Invites Self-Reflection:

La Salle Catholic High School is 50 Years Old

By Katina Dunn

La Salle High School was founded in 1956, based on the teachings of the French educational reformer St. Jean Baptiste de la Salle, who was born in the 17th Century. La Salle believed in the equality of his students no matter what their economic background and he also founded schools for teachers. He was, in a word, "revolutionary" according to John Blackstock, La Salle's Director of Communications who graduated from the school himself in 1967.

"He educated the poor along with the wealthy in the same classroom," said Blackstock.

"He taught poor children the language of their country - in addition to Latin."

The French reformer also placed an emphasis on educating the whole person, which Blackstock said is still true at La Salle today.



Photo courtesy of LaSalle High School. Principal Patrick Bonacci has presided at LaSalle for decades.

The voluntary service projects of students range from building homes for Habitat for Humanity, tending to young Native Americans of the Blackfoot Nation in the Dakotas, children in Tijuana, Mexico; seniors at The English Home and the homeless at Union Station.

In 1956, La Salle Catholic High School opened for boys only, and expanded to include girls in 1991. About 750 students attend the school, most from the San Gabriel Valley. The alumni connection is very strong at La Salle, and the school enjoys countless benefits from its members, which number about 5,000.

La Salle is sponsoring many events to honor this anniversary, and the school's usual traditions will carry a more profound weight from September to May 15, when the anniversary culminates with a special reception at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels in Los Angeles.

U.S. homework outsourced as "e-tutoring" grows

By Jason Szep

BOSTON (Reuters) - Private tutors are a luxury many American families cannot afford, costing anywhere between \$25 to \$100 an hour. But California mother Denise Robison found one online for \$2.50 an hour - in India.

"It's made the biggest difference. My daughter is literally at the top of every single one of her classes and she has never done that before," said Robison, a single mother from Modesto.

Her 13-year-old daughter, Taylor, is one of 1,100 Americans enrolled in Bangalore-based TutorVista, which launched U.S. services last November with a staff of 150 "e-tutors" mostly in India with a fee of \$100 a month for unlimited hours.

Taylor took two-hour sessions each day for five days a week in math and English - a cost that tallies to \$2.50 an hour, a fraction of the \$40 an hour charged by U.S.-based online tutors such as market leader Tutor.com that draw on North American teachers, or the usual \$100 an hour for face-to-face sessions.

"I like to tell people I did private tutoring every day for the cost of a fast-food meal or a Starbucks' coffee," Robison said. "We did our own form of summer school all summer."

The outsourcing trend that fueled a boom in Asian call centers staffed by educated, low-paid workers manning phones around the clock for U.S. banks and other industries is moving fast into an area at the heart of U.S. culture: education.

It comes at a difficult time for the U.S. education system: only two-thirds of teenagers graduate from high school, a proportion that slides to 50 percent for black Americans and Hispanics, according to government statistics.

China and India, meanwhile, are producing the world's largest number of science and engineering graduates -- at least five times as many as in the United States, where the number has fallen since the early 1980s.

Parents using schools like Taylor's say they are doing whatever they can to give children an edge that can lead to better marks, better colleges and a better future, even if it comes with an Indian accent about 9,000 miles (14,500 km) away.

SLANG & AMERICAN ACCENTS
"We've changed the paradigm of tutoring," said Krishnan Ganesh, founder and chairman of TutorVista, which offers subjects ranging from grammar to geometry for children as young as 6 years old to adults in college.

"It's not that the U.S. education system is not good. It's just that it's impossible to give personalized education at an affordable cost unless you use technology, unless you use the Internet and unless you can use lower-cost job centers like India," he said over a crackly Internet-telephone line from Bangalore. "We can deliver that."

Many of the tutors have masters degrees in their subjects, said Ganesh. On average, they have taught for 10 years. Each undergoes 60 hours of training, including lessons on how to speak in a U.S. accent and how to decipher American slang.

They are schooled on U.S. history and state curricula, and work in mini-call centers or from their homes across India. One operates out of Hong Kong, teaching the Chinese language.

As with other Indian e-tutoring firms such as Growing Stars Inc., students log on to TutorVista's Web site and are assigned lessons by tutors who communicate using voice-over-Internet technology and an instant

messaging window. They share a simulated whiteboard on their computers.

Denise Robison said Taylor had trouble understanding her

tutor's accent at first. "Now that she is used to it, it doesn't bother her at all," she said.

TutorVista launched a British service in August and Ganesh said he plans to expand into China in December to tap demand for English lessons from China's booming middle class. In 2007, he plans to launch Spanish-language lessons and build on Chinese and French lessons already offered.

A New Delhi tutoring company, Educomp Solutions Ltd., estimates the U.S. tutoring market at \$8 billion and growing. Online companies, both from the United States and India, are looking to tap millions of dollars available to firms under the U.S. No Child Left Behind Act for remedial tutoring.

Teachers unions hope to stop that from happening.

"Tutoring providers must keep in frequent touch with not only parents but classroom teachers and we believe there is greater difficulty in an offshore tutor doing that," said Nancy Van Meter, a director at the American Federation of Teachers.

But No Child Left Behind, a signature Bush administration policy, encourages competition among tutoring agencies and leaves the door open for offshore tutors, said Diane Stark Rentner of the Center on Education Policy in Washington.

"The big test is whether the kids are actually learning. Until you answer that, I don't know if you can pass judgment on whether this is a good or bad way to go," she said.



Photo by Jacqueline Truong

Jojo, a student at St. Rita's Catholic School, explores the well stocked library.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Sierra Madre Middle School
141 W. Highland Ave. - Sierra Madre
(626) 355-1428

Tuesday, October 3
Back to School night

Saturday, October 7
Rummage Sale

(Bring donations to Cafeteria on Canon on Friday, October 6, after school. Parents and pickup trucks are needed after Saturday's sale for runs to Goodwill and the Salvation Army.)

Thursday, Oct. 12 - Friday, Oct. 13
Spotlight Assembly at 8:30 a.m.

Thursday grades 3, 4, 5; Friday, grades K, 1, 2

La Salle High School
3880 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Pasadena, CA 91107
(626) 351-8951

Saturday, October 21

Homecoming Football Game
Honoring David Taylor '98 and
Brook Zaffina '98

Thursday, October 26

14th Annual Lancer Golf Tournament
Industry Hills, Eisenhower Course

Sunday, November 5

Open House
Pasadena High School
2925 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Pasadena, CA 91107
(626) 798-8901

Saturday, October 21 8:00 am

PSAT Testing

Students wishing to take this test should pick up registration forms from the counseling office through Friday, October 6. Fees are \$3 for 10th and 11th graders who qualify for free or reduced lunch and \$15 for all others. Students must have identification when paying for the test.

St. Rita's Catholic School
322 N. Baldwin - Sierra Madre
626-355-6114

Saturday, October 21

Harvest Festival & Carnival
Family fun for all ages - rides, games and tasty food including chicken and ribs from Newport Rib Company.
Free admission - rides 50 cents each, wristband for all-day rides \$30
West Campus from noon to 10 p.m.
Questions, call Christen McKiernan
(626) 355-4208

Alverno High School
200 N. Michilinda Ave. - Sierra Madre
(626) 355-3463

Saturday, October 7

Venetian Holiday
Annual Gala Fundraiser - Dinner, Live & Silent Auction from 5 p.m.
For tickets, call Wendy Finch
(626) 355-3463 ext. 227

The Barnhart School
240 W. Colorado in Arcadia
(626) 446-5588

Wednesday, October 25
Admissions Tour, K through 8



"Technically it's mine because I've been outsourcing homework."

Tech Knowledge

Technology Science Business

Basic Computer Safety 101

by Paul the Cyberian

I got my first Internet access / Email account in 1991 from a company that offered an all-in-one service that offered dial-up internet access and a user friendly email account. In those days the Internet was not as speedy as it is today and I was logged on at a blistering 14,400 baud pace. I couldn't make or receive phone calls while I was online and every web page took at least 10-to-15 seconds to load. Still, I was fascinated and looked up every site I heard about at the time.

Things are a little different these days as the average Internet connection sports speeds of 1.5 Mb per second for downloads and at least half that fast for uploads. A service that offered the old-time speeds would be laughed out of business.

With the increased speeds and the modern wealth of information available, the hazards to everyday Internet use have increased dramatically.

The first computer virus that reared

its ugly head was the one called the "Apple Viruses 1, 2, and 3" and were released in the "wild" in 1981. They were spread via pirated computer game software and were contained fairly quickly due to the limited vectors of infection. Other Computer threats were soon to follow and thus began the seemingly endless cycle of threat and threat counter-measures that continue to this day.

It seems that early computer threat authors were only concerned about making a name for themselves. Today, the same group of authors are focused on getting your private information and using that data for financial gain.

There are a number of steps that one can take in order to keep one's computer safer from ne'er-do-wells.

Most computer Operating Systems for the Home User (Windows XP/Windows 2000/Mac Os'es) come equipped with various tools that the user may tweak to give them some measure of protection from the most common threats.

Your first line of defense is a

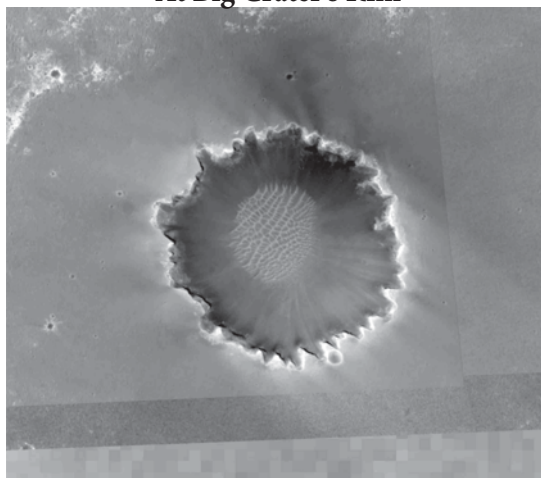
good Anti-Virus software. Most pc's come bundled with Symantec Antivirus, McAfee Security Center or some other third-party software that has the express purpose of keeping the users home computer free of most Internet-borne hazards. The bundled software packages are usually configured for a 30 or 60-day free trial that can be changed into a permanent form of protection by registering with the software manufacturer. A paid subscription will insure the user access to the most up-to-date virus protection definition files. These files are the core of the protection service offered by various AV vendors.

Always be sure that your Anti-Virus software is active and up-to-date. This will keep your computer safer than an unprotected computer that regularly accesses the Internet.

Next week we will discuss the value of Operating System updates and how they also play a major part in keeping computers safe from intruders and other Internet hazards.

Be safe!

Indomitable Mars Rover Arrives At Big Crater's Rim



WASHINGTON (Reuters)

The Mars Rover Opportunity has arrived at the rim of a big crater that scientists never thought it could reach, NASA said Wednesday. Geologists controlling the golf-cart-sized robot hope it can explore the depths of Victoria Crater to find out more about the history of the red planet - especially whether water still exists there.

So far it has taken pictures of rugged walls with layers of exposed rock and a floor blanketed with

dunes, the U.S. space agency said.

"This is a geologist's dream come true," said Steve Squyres of Cornell University in New York, the principal investigator for NASA's twin rovers Opportunity and Spirit.

"Those layers of rock, if we can get to them, will tell us new stories about the environmental conditions long ago. We especially want to learn whether the wet era that we found recorded in the rocks closer to the landing site extended farther back in time." Opportunity has lasted 10

times as long as the 90 days NASA originally projected. It has been exploring Mars since January of 2004 and driven more than 5.7 miles.

"We're so proud of Opportunity, the rover that 'takes a lickin' but keeps on tickin'," said Cindy Oda, a Mars rover mission manager at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in California.

"It continues to overcome all challenges despite its aging parts and difficult terrain. Spirit, the other rover, is hibernating through winter on the other side of Mars."

Lenovo, IBM to recall 526,000 notebooks worldwide

SAN FRANCISCO (Reuters) -

Lenovo Group Ltd. and International Business Machines Corp. are recalling about 526,000 Sony Corp. batteries made for ThinkPad notebook PCs after a computer caught fire at Los Angeles International Airport, Lenovo and U.S. safety officials said Thursday. The announcement follows similar recalls by Dell Inc. and Apple Computer Inc., also involving Sony notebook batteries.

Craigslist Founder Says He Won't Cash In

AMSTERDAM, Sept 28 (Reuters) -

The founder of craigslist, the free social networking and classifieds Web site, said on Thursday he is not interested in selling out, a few hours after social networking site MySpace was valued at \$15 billion.

"Who needs the money? We don't really care," Craig Newmark said in an interview at the Picnic '06 Cross Media Week conference here.

"If you're living comfortably, what's the point of having more?" Newmark said.

Just a few hours earlier, RBC Capital analyst Jordan Rohan said MySpace could be worth around \$15 billion within three ears, measured in terms of the value created for shareholders of its parent company, News Corp.

MySpace was acquired by Rupert Murdoch's News Corp. for \$580 million less than a year ago. It now boasts more than 90 million active users, against 10 million monthly users of craigslist.

Craigslist, despite its no-frills layout, gets more than four billion page views per month with just 22 employees.

Measured as a proportion of the number of employees, it claims to rank seventh amongst English language sites, behind Yahoo, AOL Time Warner, Microsoft, Google, eBay and News Corp.

Newmark said raising the money to subsequently give it away to good causes also did not interest him.

"Finding a good cause is incredibly hard and time-consuming," he said, adding that he and Chief Executive Jim Buckmaster agree on not cashing in.

"We both know some people who own more than a billion (dollars) and they're not any the happier. They also need bodyguards," he said.

Craigslist is 25 percent owned by eBay after one of the shareholders who helped to set up the site in the 1990s sold his stake in 2004. Newmark declines to specify exactly who owns the remaining shares.

ASK MADELINE

Q: I've been working for 14 years as a sales associate at 4 different retail clothing stores. Basically, I've done the same type of work at each location. I'm now applying for a position as a store manager at a different site and need to prepare a résumé. How can I describe my job tasks without being redundant?

A: Great question! Repetition is certainly boring. First, include your job title - Sales Associate. Under that, list the stores you've worked at with location and dates. Then describe your cumulative job responsibilities, mentioning each task only once. Don't forget to say that you've assisted customers with product selection, completed different forms of financial transactions, monitored inventory, developed marketing displays, opened/closed the shops, trained new associates, attended trade shows, took in-service courses, and received awards for exceeding sales quotas. Include details for each of these items such as average monthly dollar amount of merchandise you've sold, specific types of industry-related shows you've attended, and exact topics of business courses you've taken. Good luck!

Q: Should I take a pen and pad with me to an interview? Would it seem disrespectful if I took notes? I'm not quite sure what to do.

A: By all means, take writing equipment with you. Jotting down a few notes during your interview will demonstrate that you are organized and have a genuine interest in the position. It will also refresh your memory regarding essential information which, if you're nervous, you might easily forget. However, this is not a college lecture. Do not proceed to furiously write down everything that is said. Be very selective and always remember to give the interviewer your total attention.

A question and answer column on résumé preparation, cover letters, interview skills, and everything having to do with the job search procedure. Please direct your concerns to Madeline at comptype@aol.com or 888-489-8372 (8 AM - 6 PM, EST Monday - Friday).

PENCILLED (continued from page 3)

an investor could lose money.

If Dr. Sami's 14,000 square foot building features seven condos, retail and office space plus parking - he will lose more than \$500,000 on the project. "The project doesn't pencil," said Zelinka.

Plus, the city's \$30,000 building fee for every condo makes a small project "unfeasible." Jones said this fee is the equivalent of two extra parking spaces. "A huge fee. A huge disincentive to doing residential development downtown," Jones said.

Council member Zimmerman said "Without the assessment fees, how are you going to pay for infrastructure fees, which could be more than \$4 million?"

To keep a store as small as Howie's grocery on that site, for example, Scenario 6 shows a three story building with 80 condo units (about 45 units per acre). Jones said the most likely tenants would be "upper income seniors" who don't want to tend to a large home anymore. "For condos, it's really demographics," said Jones. "Seniors, small families and swinging singles. That's who want to live downtown."

Vandevelde noticed "If you're a developer, you want to build the least amount of retail. There's more money in condos."

Faye Angus summarized the meeting close to 11 p.m. by thanking everyone for their hard work. "When you say absolutely no more than two stories and 30 feet in height you're reflecting a lot of the concerns of the community," said Angus.

Commissioners and Council Members agreed with the concept of two stories and 30 feet in height, although some said a down slope in the back could accommodate three stories which wouldn't be seen from the street.

Density is yet to be determined, whether 13 units per acre as prescribed in the city's 1996 General Plan, or 60 units per acre in one draft scenario.

Mayor Pro Tem Joffe said the new senior housing project is 45 units per acre. "Are we saying that we don't want higher density under any circumstances or are we saying it depends on use?" asked Joffe.

The officials will also examine whether or not to offer incentives to developers.

Another big question remains, however, about parking and how it pencils out.

Kudos to Sierra Madre Middle School Service Club team for raising \$3,492 for cancer research at the recent Relay for Life led by parent Ruth Richardson. Team captains Ellie Hoffmann, Jocelyn Berndt, Jake Bartlett and Lydia Kerns put forth an amazing effort, including round-the-clock shifts at Memorial Park.

TOTAL RAISED TO DATE: Over \$60,000

CLASSIFIEDS

ARTNIGHT DOCENTS NEEDED
Docents are needed to ride the free shuttles and guide patrons to various Pasadena cultural venues city wide.
Duties include:
Speaking about the evening's events, taking surveys and answering general questions.
Cordially is a must. (Bilingual skills welcomed but not required.)
+ Applicants MUST be over 18.
+ Applicants MUST be comfortable speaking in front of groups.
+ Applicants MUST have a working cell phone for use the day of event.
+ Applicants MUST be able to attend a 1 hour training/orientation on Monday evening, October 2, 2006 from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm.
+ (if unavailable there is an option also to train Monday October 9 from 5:30pm to 6:30pm)
+ Applicants MUST be able to work on Friday, October 13, 2006 from 5 pm to 11 pm.
Pay is for a full 7 hours at \$10 per hour.
Send note of interest, contact phone, email and a BRIEF paragraph of qualifications to:
Ernest A. Figueroa
Pasadena Cultural Affairs
efigueroa@cityofpasadena.net

Place Your Ad Here - Call 626-355-2737

OPINION

RBF Explains How Taylor's Meats "Pencils Out"

During the four hours of discussion on the Downtown Specific Plan (September 19) among Planning Commissioners and Council Members, there was no mention of preserving Taylor's Meat Market at the Howie's market site.

RBF Consultant Al Zelinka said that for Taylor's Meats to "pencil out" – to be affordable for its developers – it would have to reside in a building three stories high with 80 condo units and all the required parking spaces. *Would you like steak and fries with your gridlock?*

"We don't want to tie your hands completely," said Zelinka. "Maybe you could work to expand that box for a Trader Joe's so you can get that other community goal – a Howie's – to be here."

Zelinka and Marie Jones (of her own consulting firm) did a fine job in their presentations - impressive in detail, scope and respect for the intelligence of the community.

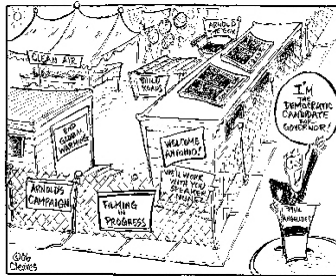
Their first class contributions, however, become frightening when one imagines what the bill for their expertise will be and who will pay for it. It is looking like the city council is spending us into the corner of another tax hike.

Why, as Council Member Kurt Zimmerman asked, are we worrying to make sure the developers make a 20 percent profit? Why aren't we worrying about Mr. Taylor's profit?

After Howie's closed, Mr. Taylor put his commitment and his wallet to this town and to his salaried employees by keeping the meat market open. Many of his employees are family men.

Mr. Taylor worked very hard to adjust his shop to serve the people. He searched long and hard for a fine bakery and offers cartons of Haagen Dazs ice cream in the cooler as well as high quality fresh fruits and vegetables.

Mr. Taylor did the right thing for our community. *Are we doing the right thing for him?*



The Return of the Native in Sierra Madre

by Stefan Bund, Columnist
Stefan is a software engineer who lives in Sierra Madre

Watching this week's crisis over the HMZ and the DSP, I began to experience exhaustion. I may TiVo future meetings instead of showing up. Is there any way I can vote from home, like American Idol?

The City Council microphone needs to be enshrined in a glass case in the library. More citizens have spoken their minds into it than I have been able to count. But it's not entertaining how citizens are pleading with the government to listen to them.

It made me consider who has to change, in order to be effective; is it the city, or is it the citizens? After all, most folks coming to the microphone admitted that they hadn't reviewed the HMZ, and most definitely didn't participate in the draft process. Many people admitted that they were unable to process the complexities of the HMZ.

The same goes for the DSP. Most folks haven't read it. And most folks head home when they see Al Zelinka break out a power point presentation. So here I am asking the hard question: did the citizens shirk their duties when they had the chance to get involved? Certainly not recently. During the DSP development, 350 citizens participated. Also, citizens drafted the HMZ.

So the coming months will show whether speaking out succeeds, at the last-minute, in swaying decisions by the Council and the Commission. And it begs the question, will the government listen to the public, or will the public have to get involved much earlier during the planning process in order to make a difference?

Is it safe to say that Sierra Madreans have been asleep at the wheel? I would say no. Not with citizen participation like this. The question remains whether the city will abide by what the citizens have said, when they had the chance.

But nagging questions linger. Why would citizens who live at the top of the canyon write an ordinance that would disable their ability to rebuild after a fire? And why would city dwellers recommend three or four story buildings when they say they didn't want them during the initial study? Somehow, during the process, the public's voice in designing policy is getting factored out of the equation, and either their views aren't built into policy (in the case of the DSP), or their provisions are construed as highly suspect by the development and real estate community (during the HMZ).

Let's face it: it feels good to go to City Hall, and speak out. But these months will determine whether we need to do it before we reach a crisis point, and whether the city sees a return of the native, to power.

MANUFACTURED CHAOS

By Susan Henderson, Columnist

manufactured (v): 1. to produce according to an organized plan; **chaos (n):** 1. a state of utter confusion 2. a confused mass

There is nothing in the world better than peace and tranquility. When you have them, life just can't get any better. Peace and Tranquility are priceless. Most of us strive to maintain such a state. We like to work in environments that are well organized with an equitable distribution of labor. We like to work in a place where everyone does an honest day's work and communications flow smoothly. When we come home, we like to have our surroundings in order. Nothing in the world is worse than opening your front door with your dog chasing your cat, your children fighting with each other and your significant other screaming his or her head off. Wow. I am unnerved just writing about it. Living in chaos is simply insane. Living with constant manufactured chaos and confusion is really intolerable.

In your personal life you have the ability to control it. However, when the manufacturing is done on the local, state and national levels, it becomes more difficult. Yes, I really mean "manufactured" as in, the powers that be actually devise plans that result in this state of utter confusion in which we live. Think about it. If you turned on the news at all today, you heard countless stories about death and destruction in Iraq. As of this writing over 2,700 American soldiers have died in a chaotic, orchestrated war. Our soldiers, while brave and loyal, are being taken advantage of – many are sent into war without proper training and are not given adequate equipment to protect themselves. Worst yet, many cannot tell you

who the enemy is. Chaos and confusion produced according to an organized plan.

Look closer to home. I read an article today about the "void" in leadership within the Pasadena Unified School District. The majority of the Board can't seem to figure out what to do next, not to mention how they can help the teachers and children who depend on the leadership of the district. It didn't have to be this way. More manufactured chaos.

Open your eyes and you can see and feel manufactured chaos all around you. Right here in Sierra Madre we have currently at least four citizens groups organized to protect their rights; we have countless residents divided to the point of no longer speaking to each other; and we have lawsuits and threats of lawsuits no matter what the city does, that are going to make somebody very rich. We have a state of utter confusion. Residents have to abandon one cause to protect their interests in others that just keep emerging. And, yes, all this confusion comes from "organized plans".

There's not a lot we can do right now about the War in Iraq and that is truly unfortunate. We can get involved and become part of the long term solution to problems at PUSD. However, we absolutely must, if you value the land you are standing on, do something to stop these never ending development dilemmas we keep finding ourselves in as a result of the management void in our own city hall. Sierra Madre looks like a very lovely town. Underneath all the pretty exterior is nothing but manufactured chaos.

DEUXAMIS PUBLISHING

Editor
Katina Dunn

Managing Editor
Susan Henderson

Art Director
Marco Carreno

City Editor
Dean Lee

Photography
Felix Orona
Buddy Windsor
Jacqueline Traung

Contributors
Stefan Bund
Stanley J. Forrester
Paul the Cyberian

Editorial Cartoonist
Ann Cleaves

Web Master
Gary Miller

The Mt. Wilson Observer is a publication of Deuxamis Publishing, Inc. established in 2006. This paper is published weekly with offices in Sierra Madre, California. All letters to the editor and correspondence should be sent to:

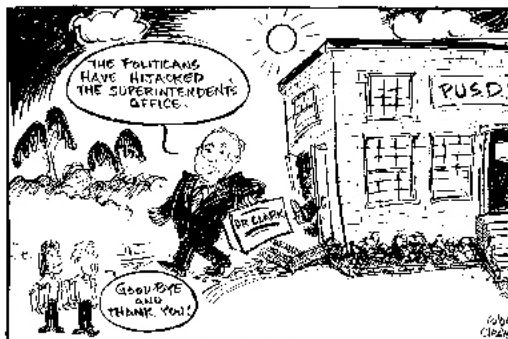
Mt. Wilson Observer
280 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. #327
Sierra Madre, CA 91024
Phone: 626-355-2737
Fax: 626-604-4548
email: deuxamispub@aol.com



We welcome your participation in these pages. Please fax or email your contributions to: The Mt. Wilson Observer

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We are also looking for photographers, graphic artists, interns and reporters.

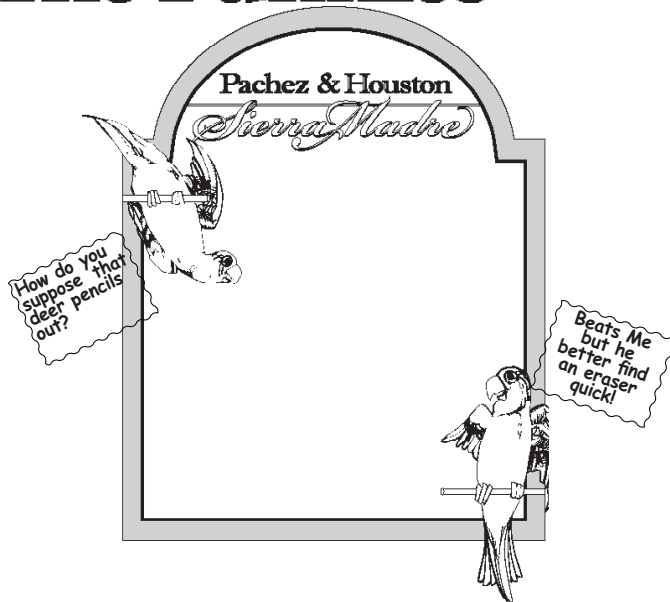


Congratulations
to the
Mount Wilson Observer

On Your Inaugural Issue
from
Doris Herewith, Doug Herewith
and the rest of our team at
AMERICAN/FOOTHILL PUBLISHING CO., Inc.

10009 Commerces Ave., Tujunga, CA 91042
Email: email@americanfoothill.com
Phone (818) 352-7878 Fax (818) 352-3478

The Funnies



A Cookie So Sublime...

Courtesy of Stephanie Antypas

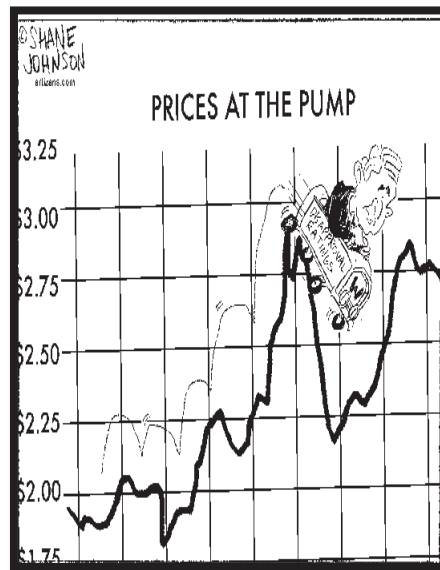
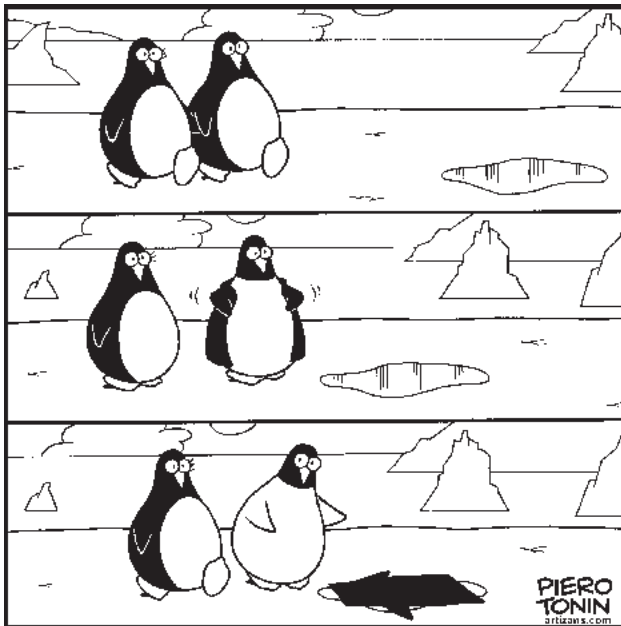
An elderly Greek man lay dying in his bed. While suffering the agonies of impending death, he suddenly smelled the aroma of his favorite Greek cookies - paximathia - wafting into his room.

Gathering his remaining strength, he lifted himself from the bed. He slowly made his way out of the bedroom, and with even greater effort, he crawled out of the room. With labored breath, he leaned against the doorframe, gazing into the kitchen. He thought himself in heaven.

There, spread out upon waxed paper on the kitchen table were hundreds of his favorite biscotti, studded with almonds and orange peel.

Was this the final gesture of heroic love from his wife of sixty years, seeing to it that he left this world a happy man? Mustering one great final effort, he threw himself towards the table, landing on his knees.

His lips parted, and soon the wondrous taste of the paximathia would be his, bringing him back to life. His withered hand trembled on its way to a cookie at the edge of the table, when it was suddenly smacked with a spatula held by his wife. "Get out of here!" she shouted. "They're for the funeral!"



(Photo by Buddy Windsor)

Butcher Jim Parrillo created this version of Jambalaya using Andouille made by Martin's Famous Louisiana Sausages, available at Taylor's Meats for \$5.89 per pound.

Arte Culinario

Jimbalaya

- 1 cup chopped celery
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 1 cup chopped green bell pepper
- 1 cup chopped parsley
- ½ cup chopped green onion
- 4 cloves of garlic minced
- 2 tablespoons granulated garlic
- 3 x 10.5 oz cans beef consommé
- ½ can water
- 1½ sticks butter
- 1 lb. Andouille sausage cut into 1/4" slices
- ½ lb. bulk pork sausage
- 1 lb. Hungarian sausage
- 1 lb. peeled de-veined raw shrimp
- 7 cups of long grain rice
- Salt to taste
- 1 tablespoon black pepper
- 2 skillet and one large pot

In one skillet, put 1 tablespoon oil and ½ stick butter and meltdown the butter.

Add 1 tablespoon corn starch. Mix to a roux add vegetables on medium heat. Stir occasionally, until tender. In the second skillet, add a little oil and place bulk sausage. Cook until browned then add the shrimp, Andouille and

Hungarian sausage at medium heat, stirring until shrimp is pinkish. Add the stick of butter cut into 4 to 5 pieces. Cover for 3-5 minutes.

In the large pot add the rice and beef consommé and ½ can water, and 2 tablespoons granulated garlic. Then pour vegetables and meat into the pot. Mix, place on stove at medium high heat and stir until boiling. Reduce heat, cover and simmer for 45 minutes or until rice has absorbed the consommé.

Remove from heat allow 5 minutes or so to cool and set, but keep covered.

Sports

COLLEGES IN HOT PURSUIT OF BULLDOG BINNS

By Larry Bortstein

Armon Binns spent part of the summer at a camp for UCLA football hopefuls and was impressed with the Bruins coaches.

"I met with the offensive coordinator and the wide receivers coach," the Pasadena High School senior standout said. "Maybe I'll get to know them better next year."

UCLA isn't the only school that may be clamoring for Binns' services by the end of his final season with the Bulldogs. Other Pac-10 schools like Arizona, Oregon and Washington are said to be interested in the 6-foot-3, 190-pound wideout, as are Fresno State and Michigan.

"Wherever he goes, that school will be getting a very good player," said second-year Pasadena coach Kevin Mills, whose team (2-1) opens Pacific League play Friday night against Arcadia High at Pasadena City College.

"We use him on either side of the line of scrimmage and in 'up' and post patterns," Mills said.

Binns caught four of quarterback Tyler Crockom's passes for 97 yards and two touchdowns in the Bulldogs' final non-league game of the season, a 42-20 victory Thursday night over West Ranch at Temple City High.



Photo by Buddy Windsor

The football prowess of Armon Binns at Pasadena High School is attracting numerous offers from colleges all over the United States.

He hauled in seven passes for 166 yards and three TDs in Pasadena's opening-game 34-33 victory over Harvard-Westlake.

The victory over West Ranch, the Bulldogs' best game of the season, followed a 69-0 loss at the hands of powerhouse Compton Dominguez.

Crockom, a junior, threw five scoring passes in all and accounted for 386 yards through the air with 14 completions in 21 attempts.

Michael Harrison, Pasadena's other starting wide receiver, made five catches for 161 yards and two TDs—one for 70 yards and the other for 85 yards.

Binns appreciates the opportunity Pasadena's offense is giving him to make plays.

"Coach Mills put in a passing game when he came here last year," Binns said. "That really helps me."

Binns' reception numbers aren't the only thing about him that has grown since his freshman year.

"I was only six feet, 165 pounds then," he recalled. "Then I really shot up. And I've made myself stronger with a lot of weight work."

Next year Binns will be the second member of his family to play college football.

Marques, his older brother, was a defensive back at Oregon and now plays professionally for the New York Dragons of the Indoor Arena Football League.

PHS GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TEAM

By Dean Lee



Bulldog red runs through the veins of Pasadena High School women's varsity volleyball head coach, Ronnie Joseph. He has led the team to their eighth straight victory during the first two weeks of this season, winning against La Salle High School on Sept. 22 at La Salle.

The bulldogs have never won against the La Salle Lancers in PHS women's volleyball team history Joseph said. As well as winning against Lancers, PHS also beat the Arcadia Apaches in their first league game on Sept. 19. Arcadia is another team the Bulldogs had never beaten.

"We made a comeback after the third," said senior Briana Dominguez No. 6 "Had we lost that it would have been all over. But barely winning and staying in the game after that - we were on fire."

Joseph said that one of the strongest points of the team is their ability to know how well they play during a game and make adjustments. This is commonly done in pro sports but rare in high school athletics.

"For us winning is an expectation and not a goal. I was hired here as head coach last season to beat Arcadia and win a championship. We're halfway there."

Last year, the Bulldogs made it

into the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) playoffs but were eliminated early on. The Apaches have been Pacific League Champions every year since 1978 with the exception of 1998 and 1980.

"They were mad that night you could tell," Joseph said. "It's just expected that Arcadia wins, so you can imagine what happens when we not only win, but win on their turf."

Players on the team said that the Bulldogs have been steadily getting better ever since 2003 and this year has been the peak of their performances. The upward trend started two years before Joseph started coaching the Bulldogs but he said the rise was due to good teamwork, his team captains, and star player No. 9 Kimmee Rolered.

"I think we are really hyped up," Katie Merrill No. 12 said. "We have really bonded this year."

"I think this is a great school and I know I have their support. I am proud to call this my home," said Joseph.



View From The Couch

THE SEASON, THE FAN and THE FEVER
Stanley J. Forrester, Sports Fan

It's that time of year - Fall. The earth begins to glow its rich golden hues on the football fields outside and the cool blue lights of the television sets inside.

For a special group of people, this time of year is the zenith. We have been waiting. The next five months will hold levels of excitement and anticipation that is rivaled only by such events as man's first walk on the moon.

This is the season. It is that time of year. The Football Fan knows life is as it should be. Saturday morning begins an array of college games. Did you know that these schools have Fans who have never set foot on campus? Some have never been in the state.

Fan loyalty to a chosen school is unwavering. WHY?? It's all those Saturdays of watching college football.

Then - Sunday! The Fan watches the NFL - the professionals - the real deal. Sunday is of special significance. There are games on TV all day and a new treat - Sunday night football.

Then - Monday night! And sometimes Thursday. There is never enough football.

Baseball has been called the American Past Time, therefore Football must be the American Obsession. During football season houses will be divided. My Trojan/Buckeye family is tested with each touchdown. The ultimate contest: to face each other for number one. Loyalty is unchanging. How else can you explain the "Raider Nation"? Why does football grab and hold? Fans plan their activities around when "the team" is playing. If the team is playing late then they go to church early, and sometimes church is missed.

How often have you heard an announcer say that "those Fans travel well"? That is the only reason there were 5,000 Buckeyes in Austin, Texas a few weeks ago. Those two states are not really that close to one another. What causes this fanaticism, hence the Fan?

Is it the camaraderie? Many people are Fans that have never played the game. Women comprise a large part of the Fan base. It was interesting that when the commissioner of the NFL was retiring, I questioned

the Secretary of State whether she would like the job. It is said that she is quite a Fan, and a student of the game.

Is it the action? Yes football moves faster than baseball, but it is not as quick as basketball, hockey or soccer. None of which enjoy the Fan base of football.

Is it the gambling? I have heard that betting on football is a multi-billion dollar per season industry. It is the only sport that when you listen to sport shows the gambling is openly discussed.

Will your team cover the spread or should you take the points? I have never placed money on a bet, yet I want to know if my team has covered the spread. I just have to know - it affects my team's standing in the polls. Am I a virtual gambler?

Ultimately, my Buckeye/ Trojan household wants to face off in early January for the crowning of number ONE. We want to butt heads and high five. Are we virtual football players?

Mostly couch potatoes. Whatever the reason, from the couch this fan is glad that this is the season.



"This is Billy... my caddy and designated putter."