



THE MT. WILSON OBSERVER

WEEKLY NEWS FOR SIERRA MADRE AND NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES

Friday, November 3 - November 9, 2006 Volume 1, No.6

A Little, Some or No Yakking at the YAC

By Dean Lee

Monday night's open forum on the fate of Downtown Sierra Madre held a few surprises for everyone. About 140 residents attended the third joint meeting between the City Council and Planning Commission to discuss development plans for Downtown.

The meeting was held at the Sierra Madre Youth Activity Center (YAC) with a larger than expected turnout.

The audience was made up of many residents present for the first time to learn more about the proposed Downtown Specific Plan as well as supporters and opponents of the DSP.

Mayor Pro Tem Enid Joffe opened the meeting by saying the purpose was not to go over the draft DSP, but rather to get input about what people wanted the final DSP outcome to be.

"We were originally going to rip out pages from it and throw them around the room to prove that we really are trying to get beyond the draft document," Joffe said. "However, John told me that is the last desk copy if it." She was referring to City Manager John Gillison.

The format of the meeting was to have the group discuss the plan in four breakout sessions and present the results when the entire body was assembled again. The topics to be discussed were 1) Design/image/views; 2) Height/density

limits; 3)Traffic/parking issues and 4) Mixed Use developments.

Some attendees told the Mayor Pro Tem that the primary reason they were in attendance was to express their concerns and get information.

At the end of the evening there were just as many questions as there were at the beginning.

Councilmember Don Watts said that he didn't hear anything new. "They don't want big development in the city," he said. "Everyone said they wanted the city to stay the same - not building over two stories - allowing a view of the mountains."

Mayor John Buchanan said that one person in his group would only give approval to any building that was invisible, "whatever that means," he said.

According to Councilmember Kurt Zimmerman, Commissioner John Hutt said that more variances were granted in Sierra Madre than in Pasadena. Zimmerman then asked Hutt about density and mass and how they relate to the downtown.

"The issues here are not about density but about floor area ratios," Hutt answered. "It then doesn't matter if you build a few large units or a lot of small ones. What matters is mass, the overall size, and not their use."

With all of the expressed concern about what had or had not been accomplished, Mayor Pro Tem Enid Joffe promised to request that the council revisit the idea of a Town Hall meeting.

Sierra Madre citizens participating in the Downtown Dialogue at the YAC (left); On the right, volunteer Leslie Hinton collects signatures for Sierra Madre Residents For Responsible Development (SMRRD)



Mt. Wilson Observatory Celebrates 89th Birthday



Photo by Steve Padilla. Bob Eklund of The Mt. Wilson Observatory Association will be featured in a new column called "Looking Up". Page 3

The Wonder of Collaboration: Director Linda Rand

By Katina Dunn



Alisa Gerstein as Helen and Dawn Walters as Annie in the SMP production of The Miracle Worker

Directing The Miracle Worker for the Sierra Madre Playhouse was a profound experience for Linda Rand. The challenges of working with child actors and conveying sightlessness and deafness were daunting. "I was committed to doing this with the risks involved," said Rand. Here, the casting of characters was of paramount importance. Rand cast exceptional actors - Alisa Gerstein as Helen Keller and Dawn Walters as Annie Sullivan.

When the story occurs, Helen is six years old and Annie is 20 years old. "They are brilliant together," said Rand. She discovered that the eight year-old Gerstein understood blindness, after intense work at home practicing for the part. Rand was impressed the child was motivated to do this on her own, without a tutor. (continued on Page 2)

The Passionate Diva: Suzanna Guzman

By Susan Henderson

It was an extraordinary setting, a brisk fall day at Beantown in Sierra Madre. As I approached the coffee shop, I realized that I didn't know the person I was supposed to meet. How would I recognize her? Suddenly, my eyes caught a lady reading at one of the tables. She seemed to have a musical aura around her. As I approached the table and introduced myself, her radiance and warmth were captivating. Not only did I know that I had the right person, I felt as if I had known her for a very long time.

Immediately we found a subject of mutual pride and joy - Sierra Madre. The town's charm, character

and what a wonderful place it is to raise children. Guzman has a 14 year-old son, Conor, who is in Sierra Madre's Pony League and a frequent visitor to the Youth Activity Center. "I simply love living in a town where I feel safe. Safe for myself and safe for my child," she said.

Guzman went on to tell me some of the incredible history of the home she had purchased some years back, formerly known as "That Drobeck House" or Hatchett Holler.

Apparently its former owner, Estelle Drobeck, was known as somewhat of a "militant" in her day. The story has it that children would ride by her home and yell "Hey Mrs. Drobeck" just for the heck of it.

(continued on Page 3)



Tuesday Nov. 7th

Is Election Day

VOTE

To Find Your Polling Place Go To:

www.lovote.com

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lia.schlote@dilbeck.com

Rhett Schlote
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The Wild West

Ecology Update

with Kyle McClure

The 1002

Here's some information for you. The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, originally set aside in 1960 as part of the Alaska National Lands Conservation Act, was more than doubled in size by Congress in 1980.

These 19.6 million acres (about the size of South Carolina, according to a map published by the Alaska Department of Natural Resources) are in the northeastern-most corner of Alaska. The vast majority of the land in the Refuge is covered by boreal forest, and tundra (in the south) and the 9,000-foot mountain peaks, deep river valleys and foothills of the Brooks Mountain Range, which is the rugged last hurrah of the Rocky Mountains.

However, along the northern boundary of the Refuge, lies the relatively small, but ecologically significant, arctic coastal plain. The coastal plain stretches from the Brooks Range foothills north to the Arctic Ocean. And, (according to slim REI-outfitted field biologists who know how to look cool while peering through binoculars) it supports the richest diversity of wildlife in the Refuge. One example:



the arctic coastal plain is the calving ground of the huge Porcupine River Caribou herd (480,000 hooves; 240,000 nostrils; 120,000 tails), which migrates 3,000 miles each year, farther than any other land animal on earth, other than the poor bent people who have to commute to LA from San Bernardino County.

The 1980 legislation that created the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in its current form designated 1.5 million acres (that would be an area about the size of Delaware)

of the arctic coastal plain as the "1002 area" (if you ever find yourself testifying before Congress about any of this, make sure you call it the "ten-oh-two" area - that's how they'll know that you know what you are talking about).

And because, (duh) you can't make a law protecting nearly 20 million acres of wildlife habitat (even if it is 1980) without including some reason for oil company executives to get up and face the day, the legislation also mandated studies of the "natural" (Petroleum! Petroleum!) resources of the 1002 area, to be followed by congressional authorization for any subsequent oil drilling that would take place.

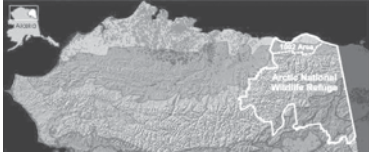


Photo Courtesy of the USFWS

The 1002 Area is critically important to the ecological integrity of the whole Arctic Refuge.

To summarize: in 1980, Congress passed a bill that simultaneously created a European country-sized wildlife refuge and required that oil exploration take place in

Fast forward to 2006. Congress is still arguing about the question of whether or not to authorize oil drilling in the 1002. Earlier this year, Senator Judd Gregg (New Hampshire, Republican) craftily included such authorization in the budget bill (because, who can vote against the budget, right?).

Senator Maria Cantwell's (Washington, Democrat) amendment to strip the authorization from the bill failed by a vote of 49 to 51 (ooh, close call).

Meanwhile, down in the rowdy House of Reps, which had authorized oil drilling in the Energy Policy Act of 2005, a similar amendment to strike that authorization failed

by a vote of 200 to 231.... Apparently, it is too much to ask that our representatives debate and vote on a bill that actually has anything to do with the purpose of the bill.

How about one called something like, "Authorization to Begin Drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge"? Could you maybe set that up Barbara? Diane? Anyone?

Sadly, it looks like Congress might have to find something new to argue about (the Patriot Act, maybe?) because this sucker is about to pass. At this very moment, oil drilling authorization, having passed the Senate as a part of the 2006 budget bill, is awaiting "reconciliation" with the House budget bill.

Things are starting to get exciting if you are a government approved vendor with expertise in the installation of wells, well pads, roads, collector pipelines, water disposal pipelines, well head compressors, separators, dehydrators, or storage tanks. If that's you, you already knew that, right? But, if you don't happen to possess the equipment or motivation required for high quality oil field innovation, if this authorization is not going to provide your daughters with four-year private school liberal arts educations, then how do you feel? Are you excited? Just checking.

its most ecologically sensitive area and gave itself the power to decide when to maybe allow BP and Conoco-Phillips to begin building oil pipelines and drilling platforms there.

It's like members of Congress were worried that they wouldn't have a nice polarizing issue (More jobs! Clean environment! Oil Independence! Happy Caribou!) to argue about for the next quarter century, so they just kind of set themselves up... "Hey, this will keep us busy for a while..."

Fire Safe Council Makes Plans for the Future

The Sierra Madre Fire Safe Council, a chapter of the California Fire Safe Council, is planning to raise "\$500,000 to finance the purchase of the Sierra Madre Canyon Fire Station #2", says Caroline Brown, Public Relations person for the group. The city is declaring the No. 2 facility a surplus according to the group's Case Statement which lays out the plan for the purchase.

The Council is part of a statewide organization created by Senator Dianne Feinstein after the devastating 1991 Oakland Hills Fire. Sierra Madre's chapter was organized by Caroline Brown and Mike Kinney. The purpose of the council is "to provide education, exchange information and foster fire prevention and fire safety" to Sierra Madre residents.



Sierra Madre Canyon Fire Station #2, October 19, 2006

The group's vision includes use of the No. 2 facility as a central point for emergency materials and information. Sierra Madre is part of a Wildland Urban Interface Zone. It was previously known as Fire Zone 4 and has been designated as a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. For additional information please call 626-355-9350

Looking Up

With Bob Eklund

"First Light" For the 100-Inch: November 2, 1917

November 2 marked the 89th anniversary of the opening of Mount Wilson Observatory's famous 100-inch Hooker Telescope. On that date in 1917, the Observatory's founder George Ellery Hale and a few close associates gathered on the floor of the massive dome for "First Light"—the first testing of the newly completed telescope's operation.

It had been eleven years since Hale had proposed the idea for the telescope to Los Angeles businessman John D. Hooker, who provided the \$45,000 needed to create the 100-inch-diameter mirror. It took years for the hundreds of tons of steel and concrete needed to build the dome and mountings to be brought up the narrow dirt toll road from Altadena—all of it on mule- and horseback, aided by one gasoline-electric Mack truck for the larger pieces of the telescope.

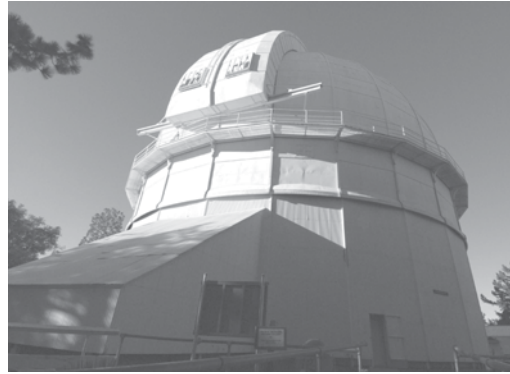
The entry of the United States into the First World War in 1917 had caused numerous delays in construction, but by November all was ready for testing. At first, it looked as though the

telescope may have been a failure - when they tried to look at Jupiter, six or seven overlapping images filled the eyepiece. After an initial reaction of dismay, the astronomers realized that the dome had been left open during the day and sunlight had probably fallen on the mirror, distorting the glass. The distortion was, as it turned out, only temporary, and by 3:00 A.M. the performance of the telescope was flawless.

While they all waited for the mirror to cool down, Hale talked at length with a guest he had brought to the mountain for the occasion, the noted British poet Alfred Noyes. As Helen Wright records in her biography of Hale, *Explorer of the Universe*, Hale said to Noyes, "You poets write of many things, but you never write of the development of science in the modern world. You write of wars. Why don't you write instead of the fight for knowledge?"

Out of that chance remark came Noyes's book-length epic in verse of the growth of astronomy over the centuries, *Watchers of the Sky*. In the book's prologue he gives this picture of that memorable night on Mount Wilson:

*Up there, I knew
The explorers of the sky, the pioneers
Of science, now made ready to attack
That darkness once again, and win new
worlds...*



In response to inquiries to this paper regarding where to sign the ballot measure for an initiative to require a citywide vote on all projects exceeding the current limits of 2 stories, 30 feet high and 13 units per acre, the information below was supplied by Sierra Madre Residents for Responsible Development:

Volunteers will be gathering signatures for the Height and Density Restrictions Ballot Measure (commonly known as 2-30-13) at:

CAFE 322
322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Sierra Madre

9am - 12:00 noon
Saturday and Sunday
November 4th and 5th

For additional information go to: www.smrd.org or call 626-388-2168

PASSION (continued from Page 1)

Unknown to them, however, Mrs. Drobeck often took photographs of the pranksters. One day, while Guzmán was moving out tons of newspapers and other documents left behind, a young man stopped by to chat and indicated that he had been one of those pranksters on a bike. He promised to stop by again sometime to say hello. He should, too. As it turns out, Suzanna found a photo of him and a buddy on their bicycles - taken by the mysterious Mrs. D.

Our conversation soon turned to Suzanna Guzmán the artist. Born and reared in Los Angeles, 2006 marks her 20th anniversary as a professional opera singer. Her talents go beyond opera, however, as Time magazine called her a "Fire-eating singing actress."

Singing and acting are only a part of Suzanna's life. This week she will be performing in a workshop based on an idea by her, *Canta Luna*, at The Boston Court theater. The work looks into the life and death of Spanish poet and composer Federico García Lorca.

Of her introduction to Lorca's works early in her career she says, "it [Blood Wedding] changed my life." In this production when she sings Lorca's works set to the music of Ian Krouse, she calls it "pure love."

Even though she is an internationally renowned celebrity, having sung at New York's Metropolitan Opera as well as the National Anthem at Dodger Stadium, Guzmán never forgets the need to encourage our youth.

She has received numerous awards for her highly acclaimed school program, "DON'T BE AFRAID: IT'S JUST OPERA" which has been performed for over 200,000 students nationwide.

Suzanna Guzmán is truly a phenomenal treasure of Sierra Madre.



Suzanna and cast of *CSI*. She made a guest appearance in an episode which aired November 1st

Don't miss her performance of *Canta Luna*
Monday, November 6;
Tuesday, November 7; and
Wednesday, November 8 7:30 p.m.
Boston Court Performing Arts
70 N. Mentor in Pasadena.
For tickets, call (626) 683-6883.

Ed ALVERNO, LaSalle, Pasadena High School, St. Francis, Sierra Mesa Middle School, The Barnhart School, The Gooden School, Sierra Madre Elementary School, Bethany Christian, St. Rita's, Wilson Middle School, Odyssey Charter School, Norma Coombs Alternative School, and the Pasadena Unified School District

Odyssey Charter School Celebrates New Home

By Anna Roberts

Odyssey Charter School threw open the doors of its new six acre campus on Altadena Drive, hosting a Community Open House and Breakfast for new neighbors and friends. Eraca Allen, president of the Altadena Chamber Of Commerce welcomed the school and led the guests in a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to officially open the new campus. Guests attending included members of the Altadena Chamber of Commerce, Town Council, Los Angeles County Education Office, PUSD and other community figures and families who gathered on the front lawn to celebrate and acknowledge the K-8 school's many achievements this year.

"Our wonderful new home is making the world of difference to our students" acknowledged Mr Ray Joseph, president of the Odyssey Board of Directors. As well as bright, larger classrooms the school now has rooms dedicated to visual art and music and the playing field has meant the sports program has been greatly expanded.

Guests were led on tours of the classrooms by eighth grade student docents and were able to ask questions and see Odyssey's hands-on program in action for themselves. Community members were delighted with the lively classrooms and enthusiasm of both



their learning styles are honored."

An approach that certainly seems to be working. As well as the obvious enthusiasm and



engagement of students, Odyssey's test scores have increased. Its 2006 Academic Performance Index (API) scores rose by 40 points.

The school also met all of its federal 2006 Academic Yearly Progress (AYP) criteria.

"I went to school on this campus thirty five years ago and I've been back to visit a few times" said one community member "seeing what Odyssey are doing here today, it's a breath of fresh air honestly. The difference it makes is written all over the bright faces of these kids."

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Alverno Students Named AP Scholars

By Candace Siegle



Alverno students Monica Haymond, Lauryn Hykes, Lydia Petrovic, and Melissa Velez have been recognized by the College Board for their exceptional achievement on Advanced Placement Examinations. These are college-level courses taken in high school. Only about 15% of more than 1 million students nationwide who took AP Exams in May 2006 performed at a

high enough level to merit such recognition.

Lydia Petrovic from Alverno's Class of 2006 was named a Scholar with Honor for earning an average grade of 3.25 out of a possible 5 on all their AP exams. Lydia is currently attending UC Berkeley.

The other AP Scholars from Alverno's Class of 2006 are Monica Haymond, who is attending UC Davis, and Melissa Velez, currently a freshman at UCLA. Melissa was also named an AP Scholar last year based on scores on AP tests taken her junior year, and was also recognized by the College Board's National Hispanic Recognition Program.

One of the recognized scholars is a senior at Alverno, and the honor is based on scores on AP tests taken her junior year. Lauryn Hykes completed three or more AP Examinations with scores of 3 or higher. She has one more year to complete college level work.

Alverno is proud of all these young women and congratulates them and their families on this significant achievement.

Master Class Series at the Pasadena Conservatory of Music: Presenting Excellence and Mastery

The 2006-2007 master class series at the Pasadena Conservatory of Music offers students and lovers of music the opportunity to receive the wisdom of renowned performers and teachers.

Thursday, November 9 at 7 p.m.

Pianist Stephen Cook, currently a faculty member of the Colburn School of Performing Arts and Whittier College. He was the director of the pianist program at the Orange County High School of the Arts from 1996 to 2004 and is a frequent clinician and adjudicator for such organizations as the Music Teachers' Association of Ca., the California Association of Professional Music Teachers and the Southwestern Youth Music Festival.

Classes are held at the Conservatory, 100 N. Hill Avenue in Pasadena. All sessions of the series are free for PCM students and families and \$15 for the general public. Please call (626) 683-3355 or visit the website at pasadenaconservatory.org.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Alverno High School
200 N. Michillinda
(626) 355-3463

A Thousand Cranes
November 2 and 4 at 7 p.m.
November 5 at 2 p.m.
The Auditorium is at 141 W. Highland at Sierra Madre Elementary School.
Tickets are \$8 in advance, or \$11 at the door.
Call (626) 355-3463 for more information.

The Gooden School
192 N. Baldwin
(626) 355-2410
www.goodenschool.org

Sunday, November 12
Open House from 1 to 3 p.m.
All classrooms open for current and prospective families

LaSalle High School
3880 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Pasadena
(626) 351-8951

Sunday, November 5
Open House
1:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Pasadena High School
2925 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Pasadena
(626) 798-8901

Friday November 17th is the deadline for original stories, poems and art for consideration in the PHS literary magazine. Submit your work to Dr. Verdi in G206

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

Monday, November 6 to Friday, November 10
Scholastic Book Sale in the Library
7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, November 16
Spotlight Assembly Grades 3,4 & 5
8:30 am

Friday, November 17
Spotlight Assembly Grades K,1 & 2
8:30 am

Sierra Madre Middle School
160 N. Canon
(626) 836-2947

Friday, November 3
Flag Football
3:30 p.m. in the field
Sierra Madre vs. Barnhart

St. Rita's Catholic School
322 N. Baldwin
(626) 355-9028

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

Odyssey Charter School
725 West Altadena Drive
Altadena CA 91001
626-229-0993
www.odysseycharterschool.org

For information on upcoming Open House dates. Odyssey Charter School is a K-8 public charter school serving a diverse population of students without district boundaries.

TechKnowledge

Technology Science Business

Why Can't EVM's Be Perfect?

By Paul the Cyberian

By this time next week the news stories that will probably consume the most print in this country will be about the recent elections and why this party or person won and why the other party or person didn't win. Another story that will almost certainly find its way to the print pages will be all the problems that hampered the voting process, specifically those dealing with Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs). Already tales are circulating about how difficult these machines may be to use in some areas because of a variety of factors. No doubt the conspiracy theories will be flying around like bats left over from Halloween.

The most puzzling thing about this entire issue is the fact that we as a society entrust huge portions of our personal lives to automation without a second thought. The fact that EVM's make some of us a little leery in itself ought to make the rest of us wonder. How can we be intimidated by automation in voting when we rely on it every day?

In a nutshell, the automation that we trust so blindly usually comes with its own built-in safeguards to insure proper operation and customer satisfaction. ATM machines for example have earned the public trust by making our funds available in a variety of locations and doing it accurately. If the ATM's of a certain bank were to cause customer dissatisfaction

through slow processing or errors in accounting, I seriously doubt that the company would make it to the end of the week before having to declare bankruptcy. Market forces insure that the manufacturer adheres to the highest standards in order to guarantee the financial success of the company. There is no such regulating factor with EVM's. And by the time we would find evidence of any widespread irregularity the single event for which they were created will have passed with possibly disastrous results for our Democracy.

A Salon.com article by Leslie Miller (August 2004) states that there were 204 Million cars in 119 Million American households that year. Each of these vehicles has a unique identifier called a VIN or Vehicle Identification Number. Ever heard of a computer glitch with a VIN?

That same year, the Presidential Election saw 105.6 Million votes cast with dubious results. Remember the chads that the computer couldn't read?

The 2006 mid-term elections promise to have more of the same because of the simple fact that the problems discovered in 2004 haven't been addressed. For my money (and Democracy) I'd like to see a paper ballot with a unique, one-way identifier and a receipt. I think we've had enough dubious election results. We have near perfect ways to count our money, what about a perfect way to count our votes?



"Good luck without an appointment. They'll never let you through."



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Big Santa Anita Canyon in Angeles National Forest needs trail maintenance volunteers November 4 and 5. Call USFS, Chris Fabbro, 818-899-1900x250 for further information.

Volunteers can camp free at Sturtevant Campground. Also, visit www.adamspackstation.com to see the current activity at this historic Pack Station in our local National Forest. Al is invited to join in this activity supported by the Big Santa Anita and Sierra Madre Fire Safe Councils. For Fire Safe Council Information call: Caroline Brown 355-9350

ASK MADELINE

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 comptype2@aol.com or 888-489-8372 (8 AM - 6 PM, M - F).

A: I'm interested in having my résumé done professionally by an Internet service. I'm finding that there are so many companies that offer résumé writing. It's quite confusing as to which one to select. Can you give me some pointers?

- Q:** Here are some key elements to consider.
- How long has the company been in business? I would go with a service that's been around at least 5 to 10 years.
 - Have you done comparative cost research? Beware of services that use fancy terms such as deluxe résumé, and accompany with unusually high prices. Be suspicious of bargains. Sometimes you do get what you pay for.
 - Is the site you're looking at cluttered and difficult to read? Go for a clear and concise website.
 - Does the site include samples of résumés written so you can get an idea of work quality?
 - Is an 800 phone number provided? You might have questions that you want to address to an actual voice.
 - Is your e-mail or telephone call answered promptly or do you hear back 3 days later with apologies of being so busy? Delays send a bad message.
 - Does the company offer other services such as cover letters? Is long-term storage of your résumé available?
 - Does your contact with this service give you an overall comfortable feeling? If you are at all hesitant, then this company is not for you.

CLASSIFIEDS



Classic 1961 T-Bird For Sale

1961 hard top/great shape/motor and trans rebuilt/heavy cruising car/really cool/could be amazing 72,000 miles/parts easy to find/fantastic interior A steal at \$6,000 call Ernie @ Executive Auto Detail (626) 836-8625

VideoPhone

\$325*

Service Just \$23.99

per month

Unlimited calling in United States, Canada and Puerto Rico

- call waiting
- caller ID
- voice mail
- and more

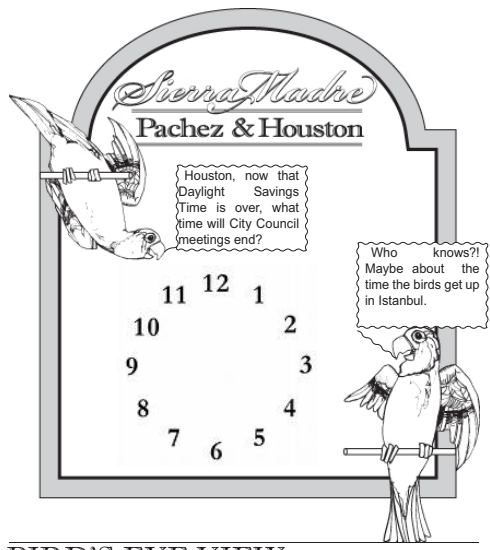
ACN Technology 626-376-4596

HOW TO WORK OUT OF TOWN

and Have Dinner With Your Family in Sierra Madre

*Does not include shipping
 Hooked up to any high speed internet connection (high speed only)
 To find out more, call ACN Technology Representative Stefan Kazachki 626-376-4596

The Funnies



BIRD'S EYE VIEW

Trick or Treat?

By Pat Birdsall

While I was watching the local news the other evening, the entertainment reporter asked why scary movies are so very popular. The gorier the better, it seems. Since we are in the throes of an upcoming election, I thought perhaps the films might be a respite from politics. Silly me... scary movies, politics; how can one tell the difference?

Speaking of scary movies, why is it that while being chased by a monster of one kind or another, the woman ALWAYS falls down? It's always the beautiful one who does the most falling; the ugly girl seems to be more sure-footed, if she's on

the screen at all. Not only does the beautiful girl fall down, but always in a fetching position, while wearing a scanty and tight outfit. She never falls "arse over tea kettle" like the rest of us. Her hand goes limply to her mouth as she prepares to scream and scream she does...but for whom? Our hero of course! The dashing and terminally handsome fellow, who comes out of nowhere and slays the monster. While they are batting eyes at each other, the saga ends. That is until next year when Part XXVII is released. New heroine, new hero, same monster returned from the dead. I guess that line could also apply to politics; new heroine, new hero, same monster returned from the dead. Trick or Treat...

SIERRA MADRE POLICE BLOTTER

During the week of Sunday, October 22, to Saturday October 28, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 185 calls for service.

Sunday, October 22nd:

12:43 AM – Public Intoxication, 300 block Acacia Street. A resident reported a prowler in her yard. Officers found an intoxicated man seated on the front steps and arrested him.

Monday, October 23rd:

6:59 AM – Vandalism, 160 North Canon Ave, Sierra Madre Elementary School upper campus. The school principal called to report vandalism to rooms 10 and 19. The damage to the rooms consisted of a smashed window, a telephone pulled from a wall, ceiling tiles down, black spray painted graffiti and a fire extinguisher discharged within the rooms. The vandalism occurred between Friday 10/20 and Monday 10/23. Estimated damages unknown, pending district personnel review.

Tuesday, October 24th:

2:14 AM – Stolen Vehicle, 300 block North Lima Ave. A resident reported his green 1995 Honda stolen. The Honda was parked in front of his home and was stolen between 7:30 AM, 10/23 and 2:00 AM, 10/24.

Thursday, October 26th:

8:02 AM – Vandalism, 400 block Auburn Ave. A resident reported white painted graffiti sprayed on a wooden fence. The damage occurred between 7:00 PM, 10/25 and 7:30 AM, 10/26. No suspects were seen or heard. The damage was estimated at \$50.00.

2:49 PM – Forged credit card, 100 block South Baldwin Ave. A resident came to the station to report her debit card account number was stolen though she still had the debit card in her possession. Several transactions were charged against her card. The loss occurred between 10/165 and 10/17 and totaled \$1500.00.

MANUAL OF STYLE

It's A Shoe Thing



Photo Courtesy of Reuters News Service

Actress Rosario Dawson and hostess Vanessa Minnillo in New York at the party thrown by GAP to launch its new shoe shopping website.

Called Piperlime, the site offers shoes for men, women and children in all price ranges, from designers such as Taryn Rose, Dr. Scholl's, Dr. Martens, Timberland, Hugo Boss and See Kai Run.

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SPORTS



CROSSTOWN TUSSLE: PHS vs. MUIR

Photos by Jacqueline Truong



By Larry Bortstein

THE TEAMS

Muir and Pasadena high school football teams face off in the 53rd "Turkey Tussle" at the Rose Bowl on Thursday night, Nov. 9.

Muir Mustangs, from the west side, wear the blue and gold. The Pasadena bulldogs, in red and white, stand up for the east side.

But when the longtime Pacific League opponents line up at 7 p.m. at Pasadena's most famous sports venue, there will be a major difference from Muir-Pasadena games of recent years.

Both teams will have winning records.

This is a major change in what has been a one-sided rivalry in Muir's favor for more than 20 years.

The series began in 1954 and Muir won the first eight games between the schools. But the Bulldogs won 16 of the next 21 meetings through 1982 to take a 16-13-1 lead.

There was a 7-7 tie in 1983, but Muir now holds a 33-17-2 advantage, which means the Mustangs have won 20 of the last 22 games, including the last seven.

Pasadena's last victory over Muir came by a 14-7 score in 1995. There was a 20-20 tie in 1998. The Mustangs' average winning score in the seven

school days.

head coach, brought stability to the program over more than a decade on the job.

The last two Bulldogs teams before Mills became coach were 0-10 and 1-9.

They lost to Muir, 57-26 and 48-25. In 2005, Mills' first year, PHS was 3-7.

"There was a defeatist attitude around here for a long time," Mills said.

"That's gone now. There's no excuse for our not being able to compete."

"But the fact the game is played in the Rose Bowl makes it big for all the players," Muir coach Howard said.

Ironically, both men are Pasadena High graduates. But a lot has changed on both campuses since their high

school days.

Jim Brownfield, Muir's longtime head coach, brought stability to the program over more than a decade on the job.

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THE BANDS

By Larry Bortstein

Pasadena High School hasn't done well in the last two decades of its football rivalry with Muir High School. But when it comes to its bands, the Bulldogs have had the manpower advantage.

Like other local schools, both Pasadena and Muir have suffered cutbacks in their music programs in recent years. But Pasadena still sends out about 80 band members to play at halftime of its football games, while Muir can respond with only about 30.

"It's tough to find

enough people who can play their instruments well enough," said Mitch Cyman, 25, who is in his second year as director of Muir's band.

What the Muir group lacks in volume, it makes up for in intensity and spirit in matching up with the Pasadena band led for the last 20 years by David Miller.

"Considering we've won only one game and tied one in all the years I've been here, the students in our band do a good job keeping up their end of things," Miller said.

Both Cyman and Miller point out that trying to be heard on the floor of the Rose Bowl in front of a crowd that finds other

Bulldog Marching Band

things to do at halftime is a test for both bands.

"You can only get so much volume from a small group," Miller pointed out.

"The chance to play in the Rose Bowl is very appealing to our band members," Cyman said.

Pasadena is the designated home team for its game with Muir on Nov. 9, so its band will play second. Each group performs for about 10 minutes.

The Bulldogs' outfit will play a collection of songs with a "funk" theme and the Mustangs' group will perform tunes from the hit Broadway show "Rent."



View From The Couch

THE ELECTION THAT DIDN'T HAPPEN

By Stanley J. Forrester

This is the season of voting, the time of year that representatives are picked to govern, Homecoming kings and queens are crowned to reign over the big game and dance, and in Pasadena, the Rose Queen and her Court are selected.

Everyone wants to win the vote, to reign, but sometimes it is just not meant to be.

A loss to Oregon has caused the Trojans to be voted out of their number two position.

The Trojan fans are sad it doesn't look as if they will face the Buckeyes in January for the number one spot. (In this house, some family members are in mourning.) Yet voting in sports not only involves tracking for Number One but also such things as who should be honored in their particular venue as The Best.

Being a relic and a fan of Major League Baseball, voting for baseball's Hall of Fame holds particular interest for me.

The rules are simple: after

a player has been out of baseball for five years his name is eligible to go on the list for consideration into the Hall of Fame.

The Baseball Writer's Association then votes on whom should be elected. It is an additional honor if you are selected on your first year of eligibility. Now that is an election really worth winning!

In recent years the conversation often revolves around the name of Pete Rose aka "Charlie Hustle," the man who was always on. He was so on that he ran to first base when the pitcher surrendered up a walk!

Rose never stopped trying. There was no quit in The Player.

No matter what you feel about Rose, The Man there must be some sympathy for Rose The Player.

For here is a man whose stats said election on his first year of eligibility and was a shoo-in on every ballot. But he didn't win the votes.

What does it mean to be voted into the Hall? To be a member of the Hall says that you are among the best of the best. You played the game with integrity, enthusiasm and

great skill. It also says that your actions were always in the best interest of the game.

It is that latter, the best interest of baseball, where Pete encounters his detractors. It seems that Rose has an addiction. He is a gambler, a gambler that bet on baseball.

No one in their wildest dream thinks that Rose threw a game or attempted to influence the game negatively. It has not been said that he threw games, or did some other action which influenced the game inappropriately.

His base when the pitcher surrendered up a walk! He never compromised the integrity of his playing. Therefore, the real question is, is it in the best interest to deny admittance to someone that has over 3,000 hits?

No matter how you count it, The Man was among the best that ever played. The Hall of Fame therefore, is where he should be, isn't it?

From the couch I wonder, but I don't know. I do know that I enjoyed seeing Rose play as part of the Big Red machine; I do know that gambling is a disease that Pete had. Do we ban people who

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