

Veterans Day Remembrances

A visit with John Grijalva

By Katina Dunn

John Grijalva was surrounded by dashing men and beautiful women in Memorial Park last Sunday – uniformed soldiers all, gazing out from their etched metal photographs embedded in the Wall he built in Memorial Park.

Grijalva comes here to talk to the faces of old friends and relations, all who served in World War I, Korea, World War II, The Cold War, The Cuban Blockade, Haiti, Spanish American War, Chinese Revolution, Nicaragua Campaign, Vietnam, Persian Gulf, Kuwait and Iraq.

The city's Veterans Wall was completed two years ago, with a lot of help from his friends. For three years before that, Grijalva, who is 78 years old, begged and pleaded with city hall to permit the Wall to be built at no cost to the city.

He was voted down three times by city councils, and told by city officials to give up, forget about it.

But just like the soldiers he was intent on memorializing, he didn't give up. The Wall was built by donations and labors from the townspeople. Friend Bill Thew died and left money in his will for the Wall. His son David helped build it, with dozens of other Sierra Madreans, including stone mason Bruce Goss. A veteran himself of The Cold War, Grijalva was raised in town as was his wife, Mignon, and they have more than a dozen rela-



Photos By Jacqueline Truong

tions depicted on the Wall.

This year, kids vandalized the Wall and scratched some faces and broke flower vases.

A bunch of veterans – Grijalva, Bud Switzer, Fred Zimmerman, Gary Griffiths and Bill Schlote – went to the Youth Activity Center to talk to kids.

"They hadn't got a clue what these people went through," said Grijalva. The vets showed the kids photos of parachute jumps and asked them to guess who was who, and told a few war stories. There hasn't been any vandalism since.

Now he is working on a video of Sierra Madre's veterans to show to all the school children in town. Howard Miller was on Io Jima when they raised the American flag. Edward Lalone was in the Bataan Death March. John Buchan – tough as they come and liked by everyone. "He didn't take any crap from anybody," Grijalva said. Eugene "Beans" Colbert watched atomic bombs drop on Japan from his ship. Whenever Eddie McClosk-



ey walked into the VFW Club, he would serenade everyone with his version of the jazz standard "Tangerine."

These soldiers and hundreds of others gaze out from the Wall, handsome and beautiful and brave. Grijalva remembers all of them.

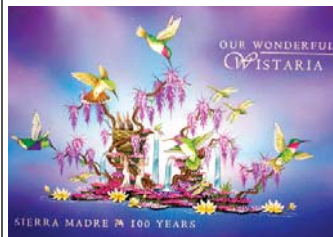
"It's sad when you walk around here and so many are gone," said Grijalva.

If you live in Sierra Madre and served, you are entitled to a free photo on the Wall.

Citizens purchase memorial bricks at the foot of the Wall to pay for the veteran's photos. They cost \$150 for a 3 X 8 and \$350 for an 8 X 8 brick. You can place your own message on a brick. Visit www.sierramadreveterans.org

Original sponsors of the Wall are Ed Clare, Manuel de La Torre, Debbie Henderson, Barbara Nye and Cynthia Nunes, David Postal, Augustin Rillorta, Bud Switzer, Bill Thew, Lew Watanabe and of course, John Grijalva.

Structural Imagineering & The Rose Float



(Photos by Annalese Araw of Iris & Light Photography)

By Katina Dunn

The city's float in the New Year's parade up Colorado Boulevard is a many splendored thing year after year. Volunteers just about live in "The Barn" at Sierra Vista Park for the week until showtime, and nights and weekends for months before that.

The challenge of making something so huge, eye-catching and mobile attracts everyone from Little Leaguers to Ph.D's. The Barn is the place to be during the holidays.

It is a completely volunteer effort, from fundraising the \$30,000 or so needed for each year's float to choosing and implementing each year's design. The logistics, the deadlines, the mechanical puzzles – all of these appeal to the artist and engineer in everyone.

To begin, every float needs a Pied Piper, a Bob Young sort of person to pull in the donations, acquisitions (refrigerated trailer, hydraulic pumps, rebar) and volunteers by mesmerizing, osmosis or a vacuum-like suck from which there is no escape.

It just so happens there is an actual Bob Young, who has served as President for six years.

"I was donated by my parents" says Young, who never left the floating world.

"This is about people working together for a common



cause which has no benefit other than creation."

Charles Meier designed this year's float, *Our Good Nature*, which honors the city centennial. It features five waterfalls that require three water pumps. He designed last year's, too, which won the coveted Founder's Award.

Dick Sappington is in charge of construction, and his wife, Kay, runs décor. "You get a bug when you work on this float," said Kay Sappington.

"They come from all over Southern California – some are international" to help out or witness making one of the few volunteer-made floats in the parade.

Mike Moran bends iron and steel to make the building blocks of every float – this year, he's on hummingbirds. Greg Murphy on dragonflies.

To volunteer, call Bonnie Colcher at (626) 355-7999. To donate funds, call Don Mills at (626) 355-0133.

Right now, the group needs green latex paint, a 12 X 12 pop-up tent for flowers, and meals for dedicated volunteers, including Handsome Harvey.



2-30-13 Initiative Moves Closer to March Ballot

Residents gather over 1,600 signatures
Story Page 5

Opponents Set Up Kiosk in Kersting Court
Story Page 5

Remaining Names For Senior Housing To Be Chosen December 7

By Dean Lee

The Senior Community Commission got quite a shock Nov. 2 during their regular meeting as they were informed that someone would have to go through all the remaining names in public Dec. 7, even if it took all night with over 440 applicants, for the Senior Housing Project lottery pool and draw all the remaining lucky hopeful's names, Public Works Director, Bruce Inman said.

"This will be a marathon," Inman said. "How ever many more will come in will also have to be added so we expect more then 440, but who's to say how many. There could be 550 or more."

Commission members said that during the last picking it took about one minute to draw each (continued Page 3)



SANTA'S COMING

DICKENS VILLAGE
Sat. Nov. 18, 2006 2-8 pm
Fun For Everyone

This Edition

- 1 John Grijalva
- 2 Remembrances
- 3 No More Fish
- 4 Dr. Percy Clark
- 5 Both Sides 2-30-13
- 6 Real Estate Developers
- 7 Pies and Such
- 8 New Day at Marshall

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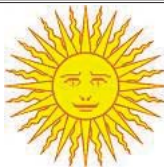
5-Day Forecast for Sierra Madre, Ca.

Longitude W118.0, Latitude N34.2



Friday: Mostly Sunny Hi 70s-80s Lows 50s Winds NW 10-20mph
 Saturday: Clear Hi 70s-80s Lows 50s Breezy
 Sunday: Clear Hi 70s-80s Lows 50s Breezy
 Monday: Clear Hi 70s Lows 50s
 Tuesday: Clear Hi 70s Lows 50s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service



Roy Roams' 91024

Rose Parade Confidential

"I'm glad I didn't have to do any judging," said Donna Sutcliffe, coordinator of the Sierra Madre princesses for the Rose Parade float. "I wanted them all."

Sutcliffe explained that's why judges are always chosen from out of town - in this case, Bradbury and Monrovia.

Donors for the coronation ceremony included Attitudes, E. Waldo Ward, Leonora Moss, Lunch Salon, Masonic Lodge and The Bottle Shop.

A Hairy Punchline
 Eph Konigsberg had it in his mind for a long time to find a picture of a yak to hang in the lobby of the Youth Activity Center. He searched *National Geographic* magazines and photography websites to find just the right sort of shaggy quadruped for our little darlings.

At Tuesday's council meeting, Konigsberg presented his gift to the city's YAC. His creature, beautifully framed by **Frank Van Dongen** of Harlequin Gallery, has a front hoof lifted off the ground as if poised between a gentle step - or a mad head-butting charge, just like a teenager. Quick, run!

Cool & Jazzy Ladies

Angel Throop presented a check for \$20,000 to **City of Hope** representative **Steve**

Sommers at Tuesday's council meeting. Its first time out, the *Wine & Jazz Walk* is already one of the city's most enjoyable events.

A week ago, Throop held a catch-up meeting that included co-chairs **Sindee Riboli** and **Donna Rey**. Event Sponsor **Jean Galbraith** was also there with participating merchants that included **Ilona Van Dongen**, **Annaliese Araw** and **Yvonne Fata**. Their finances were completely in order. No excessive spending. Easy-to-read budget. (Take note, new city finance administrator **Karin Schneider**)

Artwork and T-shirts were designed by **Ron Baumgartner** of **Shirt Werx**.

More T-shirts are for sale at Angels Everywhere and Café 322... the benefit goes on.

Flag Flap

The City Council approved requests to use the city flag - provided there is a licensing agreement regarding its use. Also, a policy will be written for the city's new flag, designed by **Hugh Von Delden**, as well as the city seal. **The Mt. Wilson Observer's Susan Henderson** was asked to submit a formal request, after the flag appeared in this paper in Citizen's Datebook, which lists city meetings and events. Resident **Fay Angus**

said she was "certainly grateful the American flag is not copyrighted."

Council Member Joe Mosca agreed that the newspaper should be able to use the city's flag with city dates. And while they were on the subject - artist **Von Delden** and resident **Gary Hood** both pointed out the city wasn't flying Old Glory correctly.

The U.S. flag must be taken down at night, or be lit in the dark.

What Parking District?

Residents may be irritated as they circle downtown for a parking spot. But recent developments (pardon the pun) in city hall's world of secret codes could push some residents to the point of apoplexy.

Is the city negotiating away the city's PUBLIC parking lot to the development group of Howie's? Who belongs to that Limited Liability Corporation-called the Montecito Development Group, anyway?

Is city hall trying to get a Parking District to be established? Once a Parking District is established, does that allow developers to move forward with high density building plans? Or will the city make bunches of money on parking at \$2 for 15 minutes? Might as well go for the gold, right?

Citizens' Datebook

Monday, November 20
 6 p.m.
 Community Services Commission

Wednesday, November 22 7:00
 Library Trustees

Tuesday, November 28
 City Council Meeting

Thursday, December 7 3:00
 Senior Commission

Thursday, December 7 6:30
 Planning Commission

Wednesday, December 13, 2003 6:30
 Arts Commission

Wednesday, December 20 7:00 p.m.
 Tree Commission

Due to the holidays, dates subject to change. Please contact City Hall at 355-7135

REMEMBRANCES

Newsmen & Traveler Harry Walter Elwood

Harry Walter Elwood, the former owner of Sierra Madre News, passed away November 3 at 82 years old.

Elwood, who lived in Cedar Court, Morgantown, Va., died of cancer. He is survived by his wife Beatrice Bonfil Elwood; son Charles and his wife Marilyn of Chicago; son John and his wife Peggy of Stoney Brook, New York, and grandchildren Megan and Kara; sister Lucy Stetter and her husband George; sister Jerry Byers and her husband Kenny; and nieces and nephews.

Elwood was preceded in death by his parents, first wife Frances Miller and sister Louise Fryer.

A veteran of WWII, Elwood was the owner and editor of the Sierra Madre News from 1957 to 1961.

After that he was employed by the U.S. Government in Argentina and Peru.

He became an award-winning journalism professor at West Virginia University School of Journalism. He loved golfing and tennis, and traveled widely. His last trip was crossing the Atlantic Ocean aboard the Queen Mary.

Condolences may be extended to the family at www.hastingsfuneralhome.com

Actress & Playwright Cecilia Marie Selland Taylor

Actress Cecilia Marie Selland Taylor, 79, who used to live in Sierra Madre canyon, died after complications from heart surgery at Providence St. Vincent Medical Center. Taylor appeared at various repertory theatres including Sierra Madre, Pasadena and Shakespeare in the Park. She appeared in television and films. She wrote plays, including "Cecilia's Daughter," and raised four children from her former husband, director Sam Peckinpah.

Also, known as a passionate cook, Marie ran a catering company in Portland called Marie's Kitchen. She is survived by husband Tom Taylor and children Sharon Marcus, Kristen Dennis, Melissa and Matthew Peckinpah; her siblings Vernon Selland, Judy Selland, Anne Esposito and Stanley Selland; many grandchildren, stepchildren, nieces, nephews and friends.

Contributions to her memory may be made to the Oregon Cultural Trust in Salem, Oregon, or Sisters of the Road Café.



Observing In A War-Torn Land

Sunday, November 26, at 2:30 P.M.
 Altadena Library
 600 E. Mariposa St.
 in Altadena
 Free admission
 Public is welcome

Mike Simmons is Vice President of the Mount Wilson Observatory Association (MWOA), and will speak from his recent travels in Iraq.

Simmons has just returned from a visit to the Iraqi National Observatory in northern Iraq, where he traveled to research articles for national U.S. publications such as *Sky and Telescope* and *Astronomy* magazines.

Mark your calendars December 11 is the One Year Anniversary Of SIERRA MADRE'S FIRE SAFE COUNCIL

If you missed the last meeting, we had J. Lopez of the Los Angeles County Fire Department's Forestry Division on "Defensible Space" around your homes; Jackie Gibson, of the Big Santa Anita Canyon Fire Safe Council and Scott Lowden of the US Forest Service, Angeles National Forest San Gabriel River Ranger District.

See you on for our Anniversary. We need to work together to make ours a Fire Safe Community and protect the lives of the fire fighters.

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

Starts Thursday, October 5 and runs twelve weeks through Thursday, January 11, 2007. 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.

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Salsa Dancing with Live Salsa Band!

Sundays at Vibe Dining & Lounge

Free dance classes between 4 and 5 p.m.
 Dance until 10 p.m.
 Ages 21 and up
 61 N. Raymond Avenue
 Pasadena
 (626) 583-8483

Sing Along or Just Listen

At Café 322
 Sundays with the Opera
 Greats 6:30 p.m.
 Pianist Danny Guerrero with Domenico Zangeri, Norma Guerrero, Mario

Storace, Mark Almy, Diana Briscoe, Mario and Edalyn Lalli and more. Free admission.
 322 Sierra Madre Blvd.
 Sierra Madre
 (626) 836-5414

Farmer's Market

Every Saturday
 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
 Delicious fresh-picked grapes, apples, pears, pumpkins, squash, nuts and greens. Local honey and fresh baked bread.
 Menudo & tamale stand.
 PHS parking lot
 2925 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.

Beantown

45 N. Baldwin
 (626) 355-1596
 Friday, Nov. 17 at 8 p.m.
 Kate Russell & Jean Sudbury
 Saturday, Nov. 18 at 8 p.m.
 John Joseph

Sunday, Nov. 19 at 8 p.m.
 Carl's Secret Project
Guitarra Del Mar
 Saturday, Nov. 18 8 p.m.
 Benjamin Verdery performs Jimi Hendrix, J.S. Bach and B. Verdery.
 Pasadena Presbyterian Church
 585 E. Colorado Blvd.
 \$25 general admission
 (626) 584-0571

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 For more info: Theresa Daley, Senior Community Commission (626) 355-7427

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The Wild West

With Kyle McClure

Ecology Update

Fish Goning

According to last week's Science (the leading journal of original scientific research, global news and commentary), "Isaiah Washington, 'sincerely regrets his actions' (throttling McDreamy) and 'the unfortunate use of words' (outing McCuddy in a less than tolerant manner)" during the recent incident on-set. Also, Madonna defends her adoption of little Malawian baby David (whose dad apparently didn't realize he was actually giving his child away to a crazy rich white person), "I followed every letter of the law!" she cries.



And Kevin Federline is quoted as saying "If you want to hate me, cool hate me." Umm... ok. Thanks, Kevin. I guess I'll just get in line, then. Maybe here behind your ex-wife and everybody who's ever paid money to hear you rap?

What else worthy of note in the pages of this worthy and influential periodical? Well, there is a study that claims that by the year 2048, the ocean will be completely and totally devoid of fish. There will be only plastic six-pack rings and toilet paper floating around. Nasty.

Sarcasm interlude alert: what follows (for a least six sentences) is both "true" and "accurate," which is to say, I copied it from other sources and didn't make any of it up. The study in Science,

entitled "Impacts of Biodiversity Loss on Ocean Ecosystems Services," shows that "loss of marine diversity is impairing the health of our oceans," which, according to my wife (who is kind enough to explain confusing things to me... over and over), means that we (not her and I - all of us, you know, people in general) are fishing too much. The leading author of this study is Dr. Boris (no lie) Worm. In a New York Times

interview, Dr. (no lie) Worm, who is an Assistant Professor of Marine Conservation Biology at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia (wherever that is), said that there will be a "global collapse" of fish populations. According to Dr. (no lie) Worm, unless improvements are made quickly, "we are seeing the bottom of the barrel."

Noted, Dr. Worm. Fish, dying. In the bottom of a barrel. I wish I were capable of making this stuff up. But apparently I don't have to worry about that, because here it is happening in the real world without any help from me at all. This study was a "meta-study," which means that it was a study of a bunch of other studies. Its results were nicely

summarized in a graph in the New York Times. "A Future Without Fish" was the title of the line graph, which showed the percentage of fish species that have collapsed, and will collapse soon. It basically looks like the fun part of a rollercoaster (wheel down we go), with 100 percent of all fish species collapsing in about 42 years.

But before you go all glassy-eyed and apathetic on me, please hear this: it's not too late.

According to the study, marine ecosystems are still diverse enough to recover if over fishing and other threats are reduced.

Which means, you should go to the Marine Stewardship Council website (www.msc.org) and look up your favorite yummy seafood. You can click on a "where to buy" link that will set you up with lists of restaurants and distributors that provide fish from certified "sustainable" fisheries. Alaska Pollock and Salmon, Australian Mackerel, Mexican Baja California Red Rock



Lobster, South Georgia Toothfish are all on the list. You can eat those, right? And save the world as you pick the bones from your teeth.

City Council Tackles Long Agenda

By Katina Dunn

The City Council Tuesday reversed two decisions from the Planning Commission, created a retail tobacco license and added money and staff to benefit seniors at Hart Memorial Park House.

It also prohibited Medical Marijuana Dispensaries (MMDs) and postponed changes to Ordinance 1265 regarding traffic control devices until December to give time for a public hearing.

Council Members Kurt Zimmerman and Don Watts said citizens expressed concern that the traffic changes were not noticed in an adjudicated newspaper. Also, citizens were concerned that powers were taken from the Police Chief regarding traffic assessments and transferred to City Manager John Gillison plus a licensed traffic engineer.

This could lay the groundwork for a traffic district and/or traffic signal to accommodate high density development.

Coincidentally, during the city council's Strategic Plan meeting Tuesday morning at Alverno school, someone - either a staff member or council person - suggested "No Stoplights" in the category of city "problems."

Relief came to the homeowner of 82 Victoria Lane. After more than a year, \$300,000 worth of improvements, permit fees plus an attorney, his property can now be subdivided.

Also, the homeowner of 675 Skyland Drive was grateful for the council's approval for him to build a swimming pool.

Community Services Director Michelle Keith proposed the Licensing of Tobacco Retailers, as a result of an elaborate sting operation in which children purchased tobacco in town. A \$30 fee will be charged in addition to the regular business license. The scale of fines is \$200 for a first offense, \$400 for second and, a third offense, a \$1,000 fine and revocation of the license.

"The fines should be as stiff as possible," said Council member Don Watts. "But children under the age of 18 used to enforce this - is simply not appropriate. I just can't get behind children being used to do this."

The sting operation was done with the public policy group Day One. The city's police department and the Youth Activity Center.

For Hart Memorial Park House, money was approved for an office space with computer (\$3,000) and a part-time office worker (\$3,500) in an interim proposal until the Senior Master Plan is completed, probably in spring of 2007. "I would love to see a Beantown atmosphere here," said Senior Commissioner Pat Birdsall. These additions will contribute to the House being more "homey" and less "institutional," Birdsall said.

More senior business will be attended to, such as Dial-A-Ride vouchers, class scheduling, program registration, and personal service to seniors. Birdsall said the additions of Ann Luke and Ann Bixel to the Senior Commission are also helping the seniors immensely.

During public comment, resident Barbara Lee asked the council to visit other cities and their thriving senior centers. "Take a tour" she said, to see "what we're not giving our seniors." Lee also requested council members explore how to open the city's swimming pool to seniors. The pool is currently unavailable to residents because it is rented out to LaSalle High School.

Chief Marilyn Diaz reported that the federal Controlled Substances Act and the state Compassionate Use Act are still at odds regarding cultivation, sale and use of marijuana. Diaz spoke with law enforcement officers, politicians, patients, nurses and doctors for her report on Medical Marijuana Dispensaries (MMDs). Three have recently been closed in Pasadena and Monrovia, although they exist in Hacienda Heights and throughout Los Angeles County. Diaz said MMDs attract parolees, gangsters and loiterers who may commit violent crimes due to the cash and drugs about. The council voted to ban them.



Rendering Courtesy of PBWS Architects

SENIORS (continued from Page 1) name, or 30 names in 30 minutes, and estimated that it would take them at least seven solid hours of pulling names.

The commission agreed to pick 100 names on Dec. 7 at 3 p.m. and the rest afterward by staff.

Other seniors in the lottery pool have also expressed concerns. During the last planning commission meeting, lottery hopeful Jude Diner expressed concern over the number of names being drawn from people outside the city. She said statistically it did not add up.

"If over 80 percent of all the names are from Sierra Madre and 20 percent are not, how can 50 percent of the names picked be from other places then here?" She asked. "Mathematically that makes no sense."

Diner said that she thought the project was to help those you have been in Sierra Madre for the longest, like her, that might not have family or an income to help them.

City planning employees said that

because the city had to look elsewhere for money, which included State and Federal funding, they were mandated by law to include applications from outside the city. They also said they would look into why the statistics did not seem right.

The Senior Commission also began discussions on the goals and objectives for Senior Services' fiscal years 2007 through 2009. The Objectives included major programs in the city's budget like, refurbishing the Senior Center, more publicity for senior programs and creating more diverse senior programs. Some goals have already been completed such as adding activity space and seating, said Community and Personnel Services Director Michelle Keith. The center is also planning to expand their hours of operation, remodel the kitchen, and add new lighting fixtures.

Keith said they are also hoping to increase the center's diversity by adding more volunteers as instructors, through mentoring programs, caregiver programs and support groups.

CA Appeals Court Ruling May Apply To Sierra Madre City Council

Court expands rulings on conducting public business in open forums.

By Susan Henderson

Recently, the California Court of Appeals reinstated a lawsuit against the City of Fremont for violations of the Ralph M. Brown Act (Open Meetings Law). Generally the Brown Act is interpreted to define a meeting as "any congregation of a majority of the members of a legislative body at the same time and place to hear, discuss, or deliberate upon any item that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body..." Those meetings are to be noticed (with the agenda) and open to the public.

The Appeals court in its decision stated that the use of evasive devices and serial meetings, to avoid requirements that council business be conducted in public as illegal.

The court in defining evasive devices said, "a concerted plan to engage in collective deliberation on public business through a series of letters or telephone calls passing from one member of the governing body to the next."

The extent of the violations of the act in Sierra Madre, if any, is not currently known. However, what is clear is that our legislative bodies, i.e., city council, planning commissions, etc. are prohibited from using virtually any means whether direct communications, personal intermediaries or technological devices to reach a collective concurrence outside the public forum."

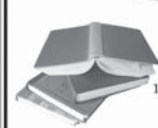
This has been interpreted to include so called "serial meetings" in which one person contacts a series of officials in order to obtain agreement on a matter coming before the body.

Over the last few years there have been a number of accusations of Brown Act violations by Sierra Madre City Councils, including a demand from a local development group, Stonehouse LLC. Further, there was an implied accusation that a memo to the City Council and Commission members by the City Manager regarding the Hillside Management Zone in advance of the issue being put on the agenda, was a violation of the act. Even with those matters pending, the council appears to still be remiss at posting public meeting notices. As recently as Tuesday of this week, the full council and all department heads held a strategic planning session with no evidence of the public notice requirements having been met. There were only six members of the public present, three of whom learned of the meeting the day before.

With the recent decision and the existing laws, elected officials will have to be very careful that they do not engage in evasive tactics. Concerns must now go beyond avoiding meetings where 3 or more members of the council are present. They extend to the type of communications that may take place individually to members of the council.

The Law Offices Of
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Attorney
At
Law



For Legal Advice
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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

One Teacher's Voice

By Ginger Chulak

Let's rework an old classic. "The Emperor has clothes! The Emperor has clothes!"

But who cares at this point? The Emperor is leaving PUSD.

Dr. Percy Clark did exactly what he said he was going to do. So, why is he gone?

In the mountaintop speech, he guaranteed test scores would be going up. Has anyone looked at PUSD test scores lately? They've risen steadily over the last three years. The trend is solid.

He also said that those who couldn't or wouldn't do the work and make the changes that had to be made could find the exits. Over the next couple of years, that's just what occurred. Those who couldn't hang, didn't. Yes, we lost some good ones in the transition, but hasn't anyone ever heard of attrition? It happens in a revolution. Every time. And anyone who doesn't believe we experienced a revolution doesn't get it, either. Change hurts until we finally realize that it's the only thing we can actually count on. This is not a new idea, people. I read it in The Bridges of Madison County, of all places. The brave Vera Vignes got us away from the old school network that had served Pasadena quite well until busing finally took its toll. Then, Rene Amy and the local media he led around by the nose purged us of that administration.

PUSD needed an arrogant person with a major vision to make the really deep, systemic changes that had to happen for test scores to rise in all categories in all schools in a district with our demographics. And he needed to be black.

Doesn't anyone remember how bad it was at some schools less than ten years ago? Now, every school in the district is viable and competitive.

All those people who left because they didn't want to listen to Dr.

Dr. Clark waves to Sierra Madre at the July 4th Parade. His last day with PUSD was November 15, 2006



Photo Courtesy PUSD Archives

Clark yell or didn't want to do Open Court have been replaced by people who understand that if you're not willing to take orders and work your butt off, don't even apply to PUSD.

He was often unpleasant but so what? Seekers of truth can't always be pleasant, especially to those steeped in denial. Percy got the job done against all odds. Has anyone taken a look around lately at the incredibly high quality of virtually every teacher and principal? The changes at every single school have been dramatic.

Who is getting the credit for that if not Percy?

We're not willing to give him the credit for improving test scores at every school, even as he navigated No Child Left Behind into something that has benefited our district.

However, we're more than willing, apparently, to let him take the credit and the fall for closing the four schools that went down in a government budget crunch.

Doesn't anyone but me remember when PUSD was considering going year-round? I sat in the cafeteria at Jackson School about twenty years ago and listened to an expert tell us that if we went year-round we'd bankrupt the district because the

demographics clearly showed that we would soon start losing students and we'd probably be under-crowded in twenty years. Even to the point that we might have to close a school or two. Maybe the board members who were around then should have provided Dr. Clark with this information. Bib, are you listening? (Which reminds me, am I the only teacher in the district who didn't vote for Scott Phelps because his vitriol toward Percy sounded slightly...um... scary obsessive?)

I think you all didn't like Percy because he forced us to actually look at what we had become: a massive group of overworked, overstressed teachers who were brilliant and dedicated but ineffective, largely because we work in an essentially racist city that has a real hard time supporting the public schools. Until Percy, no one was willing to actually say that. Okay, he pushed us all way far out of our comfort zones, but isn't that where the real learning happens?

Back to the mountaintop. I specifically remember five other things Dr. Clark said in his opening speech. Here they are:

- Neighborhood Schools
- Volunteerism
- Home Visits
- Class Size Reduction
- Racism

The level of hostility directed toward Dr. Clark used to confuse me. Then, it just made me sad.

The point is, we're losing a great leader. He was exactly what this district needed and it's going to be damn hard continuing up this mountain without him.

accepted a baseball scholarship to the University of San Diego. Matt, a 6'3" right-handed pitcher, is a two year varsity starter for the La Salle baseball team. As a sophomore, he was 1st team All-Santa Fe League and, as a junior, he was the Most Valuable Pitcher in the Santa Fe League and a 2nd team All-Area Honoree in baseball.

In addition to the University of San Diego, Matt had offers to play baseball from the University of Michigan and Loyola Marymount University.

Matt is a member of the California Scholastic Federation and the National Honor Society. He has earned First Honors at La Salle, where he maintains a 3.8 GPA. Matt is also the quarterback for the Lancers football team and a forward on the La Salle basketball team. Matt expects to major in business at USD and to pursue a career in sports management.

Matt resides with his parents, Bob Kohorst and Shelley Allen, in La Canada, California.

For additional information, contact: John Matheus, La Salle's Athletic Director at 626.696.4341.



La Salle's Kohorst Signs with the University of San Diego to Play Baseball

Matt Kohorst, a senior at La Salle High School in Pasadena, has signed a National Letter of Intent and

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Students & Teachers: Community service hours can be earned by helping to build the Sierra Madre Rose Float.
Call Volunteer Coordinator Bonnie Colcher at (626) 355-7999.
The work is fun, and scheduled for weekends and the week between December 26th and New Year's.

Pearls and Marlowe

Lincoln Center Theatre

at Santa Clara High School College Performance - 2006 First Sierra Madre All-Pasadena, CA
Nov. 4, 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 17, 18, 19 2006
Times: at 2:00 PM, and Sat. at 8pm. Nov. at 7:00pm
Ticket price is \$12 adults \$9 students
For reservations call 626.696.4341

SCHOOL CALENDAR

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

Sunday, November 19

From 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Open House
Catholic, College Prep, All-Girls
Discover Our Community of Strong Faith,
Leadership, Academics, Arts and Sports
No Reservations Necessary
(626) 355-3463 X235

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

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

Friday, November 17

7 p.m.
Friday Night Lights
LaSalle's First Nighttime Football Game
at Home

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

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

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

Saturday, November 18 at 5:30 p.m.
Performing Arts Kids at Kersting Court
for Dickens Village

Wednesday, November 22
NO SCHOOL - Pupil Free Day!

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

Bethany Christian School
93 B. N. Baldwin Ave.
(626) 355-3527
Jim Lugenbuehl, Principal

Odyssey Charter School
725 W. Altadena Dr.
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Looking Up

With Bob Eklund
Photos by Steve Padilla

A Planet's-Eye View

On Wednesday, November 8, as the country sought to recover from election-day shock waves, the planets were going about their stately ways quite unaware of all the fuss. One planet in particular—tiny Mercury—just happened to be perfectly aligned between us and the Sun so that, for five hours, it could be seen slowly moving across the Sun.

Such an event, called a "transit," happens every few years when the orbits of Earth and Mercury line up to put Mercury in a perfect line of sight between us and the Sun. This kind of alignment also happens with Earth and Venus, but much more rarely. Transits of Mercury and Venus are interesting to watch because they give us our only opportunity to see these planets in silhouette, showing us their



true size in comparison to the Sun. You don't want to go outside and just look up at the Sun, though, because without proper shielding you could easily damage your eyes (use only a telescope equipped with a solar filter or, even better, look at a projected image of the Sun). Some lucky folks were able to view the event at the newly reopened Griffith Observatory, with the best of solar viewing equipment. And at the Mount Wilson Observatory, instruments ranging from the 150-foot-high solar tower telescope to small



amateur telescopes were set up to observe the encounter and show it off to visitors—including some 75 astronomers from all over the world who were attending a conference at Caltech.

Meanwhile, in a more low-tech fashion, my wife, Laura, and I were showing the transit to students at the Loyola Marymount University campus in Westchester, using a \$59.95 cardboard projecting telescope called the "SolarScope." Our 5-hour vigil in Indian Summer sunlight, as we watched a planet's image the size of the dot over an 'i' working its way across a 6-inch image of the Sun, was instructive in more ways than one. First, I was surprised at how few students were willing to take even a few seconds for what might have been the only opportunity in their lives to see a rare astronomical event—the great majority passing the telescope by with total indifference. I was also surprised at the grateful appreciation of those who *did* stop and look. My most lasting impression of the day, though, was a new sense of time. Five uncluttered hours of focused attention, of enforced stillness in the sunlight, gave me a pleasurable taste of a kind of time that is rich, quiet, and more satisfying than anything that can be measured by the clock.

Five unhurried hours
With Mercury and the Sun

In November light,
There is, after all, something reassuring in seeing that despite our hectic schedules and unfinished "to do" lists, the Solar System is still moving just as it should, with no need for us to push or shove.

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 comtype2@aol.com or 888-489-8372 (8 AM - 6 PM, M - F).

Q: I am employed in the finance industry and am proficient in several industry-related programs as well as MS Office applications. Should I include a separate section on my résumé listing these computer skills?

A: Just listing your technology capabilities without backing up your claims is quite meaningless. It is better to incorporate mention of these programs into the body of your résumé. For example, you could say that you use Bloomberg on a daily basis to track security prices. You might want to note that you use PowerPoint to deliver presentations on portfolio management or Excel to develop and maintain spreadsheets. This will give the reader a more believable picture of your computer skills.

Cool Websites

By Paul The Cyberian

Now that your computer is protected - that is, if you followed my advice, here are some great websites. These sites (and many others) are currently located in my Internet Explorer Favorites.

Computer News \ Resources

Slashdot - <http://slashdot.org> - News for Nerds
Major Geeks - <http://www.majorgeeks.com> - Lots of great software
The Elder Geek - <http://theelderageek.com> - Great tips for XP
Symantec Home Page - <http://www.symantec.com> - Latest news on PC \ Mac threats

Political \ Social

Townhall - <http://townhall.com> - News from the Right
Huffington Post - <http://www.huffingtonpost.com> - News from the Left
The Dilbert Blog - <http://dilbertblog.typepad.com> - Blog for Dilbert fans

The Existentialist Cowboy - <http://existentialistcowboy.blogspot.com> - Really interesting
Red State Son - <http://redstateson.blogspot.com> - ditto
Media Matters - <http://mediamatters.org> - What they really said

News

MSNBC - <http://msnbc.com>
Fox News - <http://www.foxnews.com>
NPR - <http://npr.org> - National Public Radio - lots of online media and links
KFI - <http://kfi640.com> - KFI - More Stimulating Talk Radio

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2-30-13 Initiative Moves Closer to March Ballot

By Susan Henderson

Signature Gatherers Await Registrar's Certification

Members of Sierra Madre Residents 20%. For Responsible Development (SMRRD) reached another milestone in their efforts to put the Voter Empowerment Measure (2-30-13) on the ballot. Last week, the group turned over to Sierra Madre City Clerk Nancy Shollenberger, more than 1,650 signatures. The signed petitions were then delivered to the Los Angeles County Registrar's office in Norwalk.

In order to place an initiative on the ballot at least 10% of the registered voters are required to sign petitions. The door to door efforts of the group enabled them to collect well over the required amount, or approximately

signatures are certified the council will have three options:

- 1- The council can adopt the initiative without change as an ordinance. This would eliminate the need to place it on the ballot.
- 2- The council can put the initiative on the ballot.
- 3- The council can commission a study on the impact of the initiative and then place it on the ballot for the March election.

The number of voters that signed the petitions comes very close to the individual votes that Councilmen Watts, Zimmerman and Mosca next step. For additional information regarding the measure, go to www.smrrd.org.

Zimmerman states, "Once the

Opponents Set Up Information Table in Kersting Court

On Saturday, November 10th, members of the Residents Supporting Village Preservation (RSVP) set up a table in Kersting Court to disseminate information on their opposition to the 2-30-13 initiative. Members of the group distributed a copy of the 1996 Sierra Madre General Plan as well as a provocative flyer with a picture of a Rite Aid Pharmacy. When questioned about the relationship of the Rite Aid pictured on the flyer to the initiative, Beth Buck indicated that she was not aware of any plans for a Rite Aid pharmacy on the corner of Baldwin and Sierra Madre Blvd. She did indicate, however, that the new owners of the property, if not allowed to develop the site to their satisfaction, would probably sell it to CVS, another national drug store chain.

Of particular concern to RSVP is what appears to be an absence of language in the General Plan that limits development to 2 stories, 13 units per acre and 30 feet in height in the downtown area. However, the copy of the general plan that was used for talking points did not include the numerous zoning changes and ordinances that have been passed

over the last 10 years and are incorporated into the Plan.

Opponents of the measure are concerned that developers will abandon the city if restrictions on height and density are too strict. The Arcadia Board of Realtors, which also opposes the initiative, issued a letter to its membership which states, "This initiative effectively limits all development in the downtown business district within the City by making it economically unfeasible for any but the cheapest, fastest and least desirable projects to be developed." The group further states, "Defeating this effort (initiative 2-30-13) will be imperative for the future viability of Sierra Madre.... The precedence this initiative would set is detrimental to individual property owners, cities, and business in general. This initiative would devalue the property in the downtown area overnight, and turn businesses, investors, and homeowners away from Sierra Madre." The full text of the letter may be found online at www.downtowndirt.org. RSVP members will be at Kersting Court on Saturdays, through the end of the month.

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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:

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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.

OPINION

Saying Good-bye To Excellence

By Susan Henderson

The ambience of the evening was interesting. A mixture of joy and sadness, relief and anxiety, peace and hostility and hope. This would be our last meeting with Dr. Percy Clark as Superintendent of the Pasadena Unified School District.

Dr. Clark will serve his last day as with PUSD on November 15, 2006. That is a day to be marked in the history of the district. It should be recorded as the day we let excellence walk out the door.

Since 2001, Dr. Clark has served PUSD despite an unbelievable environment of hostility, hatred and dishonesty. The battle has been painful and demoralizing, and yet, as I approached Dr. Clark, I saw a man who appeared to be at peace. That made me very happy, for I have seen the battle scars on his brow many times before. It also made me sad to know that this tranquility is only because he was leaving the hate-filled environment created by some at PUSD.

When you hear the voices of public school parents across the nation, the cry is the same. "We want better schools," "We want better test scores," "We want to see progress." Percy Clark accomplished all of these things despite facing devastating budget cut backs. So, why is he leaving?

Before we can ask why he is leaving, we must ask, "What did they bring him here to do?" Clearly the answer is not to educate our children, improve enrollment, manage a budget that was sinking in quicksand and improve test scores.

It certainly must have been to be a whipping post for the insecure,

misguided and politically motivated people who could care less about providing a good public school education.

During the course of the evening, we spoke of many things. Somewhere in the conversation while apologizing for what Dr. Clark had endured, I pointed out to him that had he gone to any third world country he would have been embraced because, internationally, education of children is a priority. I don't know what world PUSD is in, because we must not value - based upon our allowing Dr. Clark to leave - we must not value a good education for our children in public schools.

The next superintendent will walk in the door with his successes stacked high. They will all be the result of Dr. Clark's leadership. You can bet money that the first press conference will tout the test scores, enrollment advances and budget accomplishments, but they won't be the result of the new superintendent's work. They will be touting the legacy that Dr. Clark left behind.

There will be no pursuit of excellence in our next superintendent search.

In fact, the search firm should make certain it tells the truth about what they are really looking for.

The job description should include the following: Desire to educate tolerable but not required. Successful candidate must be willing to ignore the needs of children and parents. Interest in good public education may be substituted for the ability to do nothing.

And if the truth were told it would say: Also required: Political pit bull.



Photo by Jacqueline Truong

Thinking Like A Real Estate Developer

By Stefan Bund

Most people don't go to college thinking they'll become a real estate developer. Nor do most adults. It takes a special kind of entrepreneurial spirit, as well as a truly American sense of can-do. Most people don't dare become one, because they think developers move mountains.

By any account, real estate development transforms communities. I know this from my experience working with urban developers in proposing master plans for downtowns and park systems. I worked on a plan for the city of West Palm Beach, Florida. This was a town where derelicts could fish off piers at the dock, then turn around and sleep all afternoon on park benches. The downtown business scene included a used bookstore, a thrift store, and a rap music club.

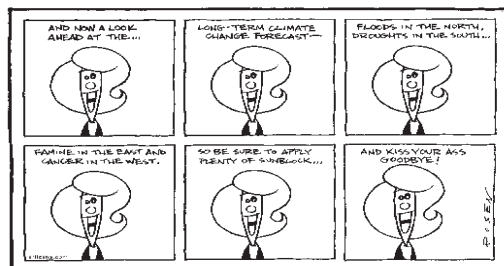
Developers transformed the city by building spaces for the Gap, Banana Republic, and other chains, as well as restaurant space. The building community reconstructed the downtown in West Palm Beach to make about three-quarters of a mile of hopping clubs, internet cafes, and eateries. It represented the best of intentions during the great party of 1999 as it wiped away the destitute character of the city.

Pasadena underwent the same trend. 'Adult' book stores, pawn shops, tattoo parlors, biker hang-outs and street brawling thrived. North on Fair Oaks, prostitution maintained a state-sanctioned life of its own. After redevelopment, the

same seedy streets are now packed with young, affluent spenders. Now Tiffany's jewelers has opened its doors, where young couples peruse diamonds. Madonna's own clothing store, FHM, opened as well, and on opening day a line of hipsters stretched around the block. Now, the local HOG, or Harley Owner's Group, sips lattes at Starbucks while Forever 21 shoppers pass, on their way to Val Surf.

Development can turn a coal mine into a goldmine in no time. It's an example of how the industry has matured to take advantage of direct foreign investment and efficient building practices. Now, a new prefab condominium can be constructed in several weeks, and rake in twice the profit, due to halving the cost of production. And with low cost labor streaming across the border, the cost of labor remains cost-effective.

The Sierra Madre Residents for Responsible Development recently turned in signatures from more than 20% of the registered voters in town, placing 2-30-13 on next Spring's ballot. This year, Sierra Madre finished 38th in the All-America City competition. If we allow the development community to build over one of America's top cities, make sure you photograph the current shape of things. Because only in photo albums will you get the chance to see it again. Next week, we'll have results to the Mosca poll, so I look forward to tabulating your calls and email.



Homecomings: Some Things Never Change

By Nora Dunn

When my brother mentioned he was going to the Muir/Pasadena High match-up I jumped at the chance. I'm one of those rabid fans who loves old fashioned high school rivalries. I'm also a helpless football fan.

All of my three brothers played football. My grandfather and oldest brother coached high school football for sixty years between the two of them. As a girl, I started watching when I was six years old. Girls didn't have the same sports opportunities then as they do now, and I lived vicariously through my oldest brother who played quarterback for twelve years, and then went on to coach high school football for thirty years.

He led a couple of small, scrappy teams to championships, and focused on getting his players into college.

While waiting in line at the Rose Bowl for the famed match-up taken by the crowd, the mood

was merry, mellow, and friendly, as if we were all lined up to see the Macy's Christmas windows. The kids were well behaved teens who actually said "Excuse me" as they subtly moved ahead in line, and it was fun to see them joke and flirt. Once inside, the concession stands were buzzing with brisk sales of beanie and caps, and I bought a huge bag of hot kettle corn for five bucks.

The Rose Bowl is a beautiful place and unlike the YES ON A political placards, it does not need saving. It's in great shape and hums with history and is very much alive as a place for everyone in the area to enjoy and bask in. The stands were as full as I've seen anywhere for a high school game, and the players and fans on both sides conducted themselves with good-natured but serious competitive sportsmanship.

During the game I saw only a few late hits,

and no cheap shots.

Both of these schools come from great traditions, both had great bands and cheerleaders with impressive gymnastic skills. Every girl looked crisp, happy, and thoroughly alive. The Pasadena High School band, directed by the exquisite David Miller, has them in perfect synch and pitch. Across the field, The Muir High Alumni Drummers provided a haunting theme that sent shivers across the field and charged up their team. The Bull Dogs needed help.

And help was lacking elsewhere. I don't know anything about the coaching staff at Pasadena High, but I was chagrined to see that the head coach of the team was wearing a costume of sorts - a set of army fatigues replete with cap. While he often played to a video camera that was apparently making some kind of documentary, his team

should have had his full attention. The Bull Dogs are a fine group of athletes with great improvisational skill and talent.

A good scout can spot great talent, thus giving these young players a chance at college scholarships.

Meanwhile, across the field, the Muir staff, clad in identical navy blue sweatshirts with the bold letters M-U-I-R in our faces, seemed focused. Their team was as well.

When a valiant goal line stand in the fourth quarter ended in a Muir touchdown, I watched as one of the PHS coaches displayed his displeasure in full view.

But, when all is said and done, there is no football setting more wonderful, and arguably more famous, than the Rose Bowl - especially on a chilly southern California night.

And....there is nothing more sweet and touching to see as so many high school kids out having a good time. I'll be back.

SIERRA MADRE POLICE BLOTTER

During the week of Sunday, November 6th, to Saturday November 11th, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 210 calls for service.

Sunday, November 5th:

3:05 AM - Vandalism, private vehicle and official traffic street signs. Several residents and patrol officers reported graffiti/vandalism to parked cars and traffic signs throughout the city. The damage was reported between 10:50 PM Saturday, 11/04 and 2:58 PM Sunday, 11/05. Sixteen cases were reported.

3:14 PM - Attempted Commercial Burglary, 48 West Sierra Madre Blvd, Corfu Restaurant. The crime occurred between 11:00 PM Saturday, 11/04 and 7:00 AM Sunday, 11/05.

Monday, November 6th:

10:27 AM - Grand theft, 100 block Jameson Court. A gardener working at a residence in the area reported his leaf blower stolen. A black Chevrolet Suburban was seen leaving the home.

Wednesday, November 8th:

6:58 AM - Stolen vehicle, 48 West Sierra Madre Blvd. The owner of Corfu Restaurant called to report his white 1986 Toyota van was stolen from in front of the business. The van was taken between 11:00 PM Tuesday, 11/7 and 6:30 AM

Wednesday, 11/8. 9:51 AM - Vandalism, Grandview Ave and Foothill Ave. A resident called to report damage to an official traffic sign. The sign was sprayed with white paint. An additional damaged sign was found at Grandview Ave and Chantry Rd. It was also sprayed with white paint.

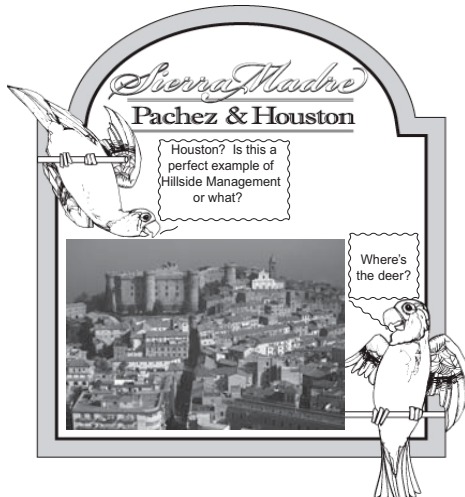
Friday, November 10th:

12:00 AM - Vandalism, 300 block East Grandview Ave. A resident called to report the rear window of his car was smashed while parked in front of his house.

Saturday, November 11th:

7:09 AM - Vandalism, Mira Monte Ave and Mount Wilson Trail, city water department pump house. 9:01 AM - Vandalism, 100 block West Carter Ave. A resident called to report her truck was sprayed with gray paint. The damage occurred between 7:00 PM Friday, 11/10 and 8:45 Saturday, 11/11.

The Funnies



BIRD'S EYE VIEW

By Pat Birdsall

Domestic Abuse, or is it?

"You're thin skinned," she said. Well, I know I am a bit sensitive to criticism, but... The comment was from my doctor addressing the many bruises I have on both forearms, not my feelings.

I look like a victim of domestic violence but I live alone. That fact conjures up scenarios I don't even want to address, thank you very much. I have arthritis in some areas of my rapidly aging body and take probably too much Ibuprofen to help ease the pain that is the associated baggage. Because Ibuprofen is a blood thinner and my skin crepe paper, I look like a walking bruise.

In an effort to decrease the amount of Ibuprofen I take, I thought I would try a home remedy proffered in a local medical column. Several readers wrote in claiming that castor oil rubbed into the affected area can eventually bring relief. "Well,

that sounds harmless and inexpensive. Let's go get some..."

Off to the market I went. I finally located the little brown plastic bottle containing 4 ounces of the oily fluid. I thought it would be gone after just a few applications, better get some more. I put about 6 bottles in my cart and proceeded to the check out.

As I was awaiting my turn, I read the label on one of the bottles. The word LAXATIVE jumped out at me. LAXATIVE!!! I didn't realize castor oil was a laxative, where have I been? Well, this is embarrassing; what on earth will the checker think? Why am I caring about what this person thinks? Of course, I felt compelled to tell the checker that I was buying this much castor oil because of my arthritis and was going to smear it on my body, not swallow it, not me, no sir. I detected a slight smirk, when in a sincere tone the checker said, "Have a nice day." What did he mean by that?

SHOP OUR TOWN



Whether you are guest or host for the Thanksgiving holiday, Sierra Madre's food and wine experts are ready to assist with your table, or with gifts to bring to others.

Billy Sullivan recommends Rutherford Hill "Rose of Merlot" (\$14.99) which is a vibrant pink; serve it chilled. There's the classic turkey accompaniment Gewurztraminer (\$12.99) by Chateau St. Jean, and, for pinot lovers, the perfect Stanford Pinot Noir (\$27.99).

Browse Sullivan's wine cellar at **The Bottle Shop** at 58 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.

Don't forget ice cold beers are also refreshing - try Lindmans' peach flavored beer from Belgium, or raspberry (\$8.99 per 750 ml.) Call (626) 355-1262 for advice.

How about lovely tarts instead of pie?

Call **Andrea Tarrant** at **Emma's Patisserie Boulangerie** (626) 355-1974 in **Taylor's Meat Market**.

Pumpkin and sweet potato tarts are \$4 apiece; apple, apricot, pear, almond or pecan tarts are \$2.50 each. Sweet potato or pumpkin pies are \$8.25 each or \$2.75 per slice.

French country apple tarts are \$13.95 for 6 inch, \$21.95 for 8 inch and \$25 for 12 inch. Parker House rolls are \$6.60 per dozen and colorful turkey cookies are \$2.75 each.

Order your real turkey from **Mr. Taylor** and his merry men at (626) 355-8267.

Too busy to cook? Don't despair.

The Wildflower Bakery offers a fully catered Thanksgiving dinner for \$70 which serves 8 people.

The menu includes herb roasted turkey, sausage & apple dressing, mashed potatoes, sherried gravy, cranberry kumquat relish with port wine and one dozen butterflake rolls.

One dozen of the rolls are \$4.25; pumpkin pie is \$10.95; pecan pie is \$12.95 and apple cranberry is \$12.95. Call (626) 355-9000.

Did you figure out which ball was heaviest? (Last week's puzzle!)

Let's Brain Teaser



Well, using the scale the first time, you place three balls in one side of the scale and three balls in the other side. (six balls) One side of the scale with the heavy ball will go down or the scale will balance. If the scale balances you know the heavy ball is among the (3) three balls remaining. Using the first example: if one side of the scale goes down, you know that one of those balls is heavier than the others. To find the heavy ball, put one ball in each side of the scale, if it balances you know the remaining ball is the heavy ball. If the scale goes down you know which ball is heaviest.

Along For The Ride...

By Tina Salvatore

Sometimes I wonder what the protocol is with hugs. When you see a friend you haven't seen in along time there is the traditional Hug Hello. Soon to be followed by the Hug Goodbye. That makes sense because it's been a while.

There are also some people that do the Hug Hello even when you see them at least once a week and you find yourself committed to hugging them every time. Then there's the Who's Going To Put One Arm Up and The Other Under routine. I'm left handed and always do the Left Arm Up, Right Arm Under which seems to confuse people for a second.

Of course there's always the Kiss On The Cheek people which frankly I'm not a fan of. I suggest always doing Cheek Out for safety. You don't want an accidental kiss on the lips, from your old friend in elementary school that always ate dirt.

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SPORTS

High Hoops at Marshall



By Larry Bortstein

When Jerry DeLaurie greeted his Marshall Fundamental boys' basketball team for its first official practice last Saturday morning, the Eagles' new coach didn't bemoan the loss of Derrick Strings, the second leading scorer in the state last year.

Strings and his twin sister, Desiree, who starred for Marshall's girls' team, have transferred to Leuzinger High in Lawndale. "He never played for me," DeLaurie said, "so it's not like I lost him."

Besides, DeLaurie has no time to worry about players who won't be on his Marshall squad this season. In addition to his job at the Pasadena school, he is in his first year as the athletic director at the Armenian General Benevolent Union, a private kindergarten-through-12th-grade school in Canoga Park.

In addition to administering the 36 sports teams at the Armenian school, two mornings a week, he coaches a team of 15 mothers of AGBU students.

"They show up in their uniforms ready to go," DeLaurie said of his team of 15 moms. "It's really fun for me."



Photos By Jacqueline Truong

It's not exactly an idle time for DeLaurie, 37, who spent the last two years coaching the boys' basketball team at West High in his native Bakersfield. Though he coached West to near championship status in the central valley, he found himself seeking new employment when the real estate company for which his wife, Carla, worked transferred her to Van Nuys.

He had a relationship with Marshall's athletic director, Bill Sullivan, from his eight previous years of working in Pasadena at Blair High, seven of those as the school's girls' basketball coach.

"Bill couldn't hire me for a fulltime position, but he brought me in as a walk-on coach," DeLaurie said.

Marshall, which went to the CIF Division III quarter-finals last year, had a coaching vacancy when Quintin Grogan left after the season to become the assistant coach at Los Angeles Southwest College.

The departed Strings averaged 33 points per game for the 2005-2006 Eagles. DeLaurie doesn't anticipate any of his players to duplicate that level of offensive production. But he doesn't want anyone to.

"I've always preached distributing the ball among all five players on the floor," he said. "We have players capable of scoring a lot of points, but no one's going to take all the shots. We'll probably average somewhere around 80 points a game, but no one will dominate."

Marshall's new coach singled out 6-foot-4 senior Sean Benn as his key returning player. "He's very athletic," DeLaurie said.

He's also expecting major contributions from some Eagles football players, who now will turn their attention to the hardwood.

"The football team here didn't win a game this season, but I think these guys are better basketball players anyway," DeLaurie said.



Photo courtesy Muir Alumni Association

And The Turkey Tussle Winner is:

JOHN MUIR
HIGH SCHOOL

Mustangs win eighth Turkey Tussle in a row, defeating Pasadena High 21 - 6.



View From The Couch

Big Game Tension

By Stanley J. Forrester

As I walk around our community I saw a Buckeye flag flying, announcing to the world that there is at least one more Buckeye fan in this Trojan-filled land.

The tension has been great at our house - remember we are hoping for a Trojan vs. Buckeye battle for number one in college football. SC has not exactly been holding up their end of the bargain. Up until this week the Ohio State fans have been walking around smugly and laughing at our Trojan contingency. After all, we have suffered a loss and every week we worry about losing again.

But this week things will be different. This is "Big Game Week" and before we can face each other, each team has to face formidable foes. Ohio State will play Michigan this Saturday - number one playing number two. Both are in the same conference. Each team carries the philosophy that their season will be a bust if they do not defeat the other. This is true even though both teams are undefeated, and each will be invited to a bowl game no matter what the outcome of this game.

If Ohio State gets past Michigan they will be playing for the national title but if Michigan wins they will be playing for the national championship. Plus, this

particular Big Game is an old rivalry which, regardless of the individual teams' standing, the pride of their respective states will be on the line.

The OSU vs. Michigan game will be played in Columbus, Ohio to a capacity crowd of more than 100,000+ people, fans of both teams. In Ohio and Michigan the talk is all Saturday's game, all the time.

With the Trojans, the road does not appear to be as clear. They have not played with the same vigor and vitality of past championship years. The fear would not be as great if they had not lost to Oregon, but the Trojans have managed to get back to number three in the standings.

The Trojan fans at our house are hoping that they can get past Cal, Notre Dame, and those Bruins without another loss. Each of those teams are a Big Game for the Trojans. The competition is so fierce that you cannot look at any team's win-loss record or the strength of the program. When playing the Trojans there always seems to be an added incentive for defeating USC and strange things often happen on the football field.

There is nothing like the tension of these last games. Not even presidential elections draw this kind of anxiety. This is what football is all about, real gridiron tension.

Still McPerfect: Pasadena High School Lady Bulldogs Proceed to CIF Finals



Photo by Mark Lansdown

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