

FANTASTIC FOUR



Photo By Suzi McConnell

Four city employees were honored at Tuesday's city council meeting for their "courage, quick thinking and composure" during the apartment fire on February 15 at 50 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.

Doug Olsen, Paul Hagen, David Hillyer and Dave Arden (pictured above from l. to r.) were the first to spot the smoke, according to City Manager John Gillison's tribute. The men ran to the building, vaulted fences and got the elderly residents out of the unit before anybody arrived on the scene.

Fire Marshal Rich Snyder said there were no injuries in the blaze, which began at 1:27 p.m. and caused about \$30,000 worth of damages. The fire apparently started in a pre-fab fireplace. It began in the wood frame around the fireplace, Snyder said. It couldn't be determined if it was fault of the manufacturer or the installer, he said. Arcadia, Monrovia and Sierra Madre fire departments all responded and the fire was extinguished after 16 minutes.

EXPLORING SOLUTIONS FOR MEMORIAL PARK

By Katina Dunn

City Manager John Gillison was proactive at Tuesday's City Council meeting regarding the issue of some men who allegedly exhibit inappropriate behavior and are verbally abusive towards women - whether they are day laborers in Memorial Park or full time construction workers on local job sites.

The extreme discomfort of one resident, Norma Alarcon-Hamilton, led to her husband, Hail Hamilton, to write numerous columns in the *Mt. Wilson Observer* regarding enforcing the city ordinance prohibiting the use of Memorial Park as a place of business without a license. Other women who claimed similar experiences of sexual harassment at Memorial Park wrote letters or made telephone calls to this newspaper.

Alarcon-Hamilton wept as she left the podium during Community Communications, unable to finish her address to the city council. She began to translate the sexual comments allegedly made by some men who were unaware she is of Mexican descent and fluent in the language of which they spoke about her.

Gillison said he dealt with a similar problem with verbally abusive construction workers at the site of the new Senior Housing building on Esperanza. He spoke with the foreman to resolve the problem.

Resident Bill Tice suggested working with local churches to find a place for

the males who gather daily looking for temporary work. Council Member Kurt Zimmerman concurred with Tice, and Gillison said "I think it is something we can explore... to find a location that is more amenable." Zimmerman pledged to work with Gillison.

Council Member Don Watts recalled being fined \$40 by a city code enforcement officer years ago, for hiring a temporary worker. "He had to go to city hall to get a business license," said Watts. "Was it illegal for me to solicit him, or was it illegal for him to work without a license?"

Watts also suggested a flyer be distributed, noting appropriate public behavior.

Cynthia Valenzuela, Director of Litigation for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF), spoke about the plight of immigrants and "unhealthy community relations." Valenzuela said federal judges have struck down "anti-solicitation" laws in Glendale and Redondo Beach. She said sidewalks are a public forum protected by the first amendment.

Watts asked Valenzuela if she offered any solutions other than the "threat, threat, threat" of litigation. Valenzuela, who sat in the audience, did not answer.

Watts and others described the job seekers as "good people who work hard." However, Alarcon-Hamilton also objected to the idea of the men as "a readily available source of cheap labor" in a letter she released to this newspaper.

Hail Hamilton pointed out to the council that the

(continued on page 4)

A Man for All Reasons: Russell Anderson is 2007 Older Sierra Madre American Of The Year

By Katina Dunn

To be industrious, honest and kind are great qualities. Add to that ruggedness, inventiveness and risk-taking and there you have Russell Anderson in parts. As an Operations Leader with the Sierra Madre Search & Rescue Team, a team he has volunteered with for more than 30 years, he has thrown himself deeply into everything he does. That includes marrying his mountaineering sweetheart, Madeline, who showed him from the cliffs of Yosemite years ago that there really was no point to even thinking about any other prospects.

The two adventurers bonded on a Yosemite trip at the Ski Club of Aero Jet Corporation and ever since, they toil away in parallel universes of his inventions and her gardening. Grandchildren Cassy, Hunter and Carson have much to look up to, since their grandparents are often hiking in the mountains. Son Gary lives in Sierra Madre as owner of Gary Anderson Tree Service; son Tim lives in La Verne and daughter Laurie in Denver, Colorado - another state with great mountains.

Anderson's contributions to the design of hardware for mountaineering and rescue teams are vast. He invented the Edge Roller system for rope to slide easily up and down. He developed and manufactures a rescue winch and Universal Mounting Plate with retired LA County Deputy Sheriff

Terry Ascherin. Other rescue apparatus includes the snow anchor, the Figure 8 Descender and the Universal Litter Wheel. When he joined the Altadena Rescue Team in 1964, he started building rescue pulleys. When he joined Sierra Madre's Search and Rescue Team in 1975, he continued designing and selling rescue equipment.

Anderson's hardware has been used by the U.S. Forest Service, Air National (continued page 4)



Photo by Kevin Dunn
Russell Anderson in his workshop

WALKING THE BEAT

Resident Ted Saraf (right) walked door to door last Saturday gathering petitions for the police initiative which, if passed by the voters, provides for the city to pay Sierra Madre's police force equal to the lowest level in Los Angeles County. So far, about 700 signatures have been gathered, with about 700 more needed to qualify for ballot placement. The city council recently voted a four percent increase for police in a 3 to 2 vote. Police Officers Association attorney Dieter Dammeier said that figure is still 21 percent below the lowest paid police force in Los Angeles County.

To gather signatures, call Officer Hasmick Hartunian at (626) 824-1353 or POA President John Ellins at (626) 808-5998.



Photo courtesy Selinske Campaign

Tom Selinske is the newest Pasadena Unified School District Board Member after receiving more than 50% of the vote in Tuesday's election. Story Page 5

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Weather Wise

5-Day Forecast for Sierra Madre, Ca.

Longitude W118.0, Latitude N34.2



Friday:	Mostly Sunny	Hi 70 - 80s	Lows 50s
Saturday:	Mostly Sunny	Hi 70 - 80s	Lows 50s
Sunday:	Mostly Sunny	Hi 70 - 80s	Lows 50s
Monday:	Mostly Sunny	Hi 70 - 80s	Lows 50s
Tuesday:	Mostly Sunny	Hi 70 - 80s	Lows 50s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service



Citizen's Datebook



City of Sierra Madre March Events

- 9 - Travelers & Collectors - 7:30 PM - Council Chambers
- 10 - Whale Watching - 9:00 AM - Depart Community Recreation Center
- 12 - Fire Safe Council - 7:00 PM - Council Chambers
- 13 - Regular City Council Meeting - 6:30 PM - Council Chamber
- 14 - Community Arts Commission Meeting - 6:30 PM - Council Chamber
- 15 - Planning Commission Meeting - 7:00 PM - Council Chamber
- 16 - City Hall - All Day - Closed
- 19 - Community Services Commission - 6:00 PM - Council Chamber
- 20 - All-America City Steering Committee Meeting - 5:00 PM - Wistaria Room
- 21 - Submissions Due for the Summer Wistaria Vine - 5:00 PM - Community Recreation Center
- 21 - SMTV3 Community Programming Committee Meeting - 6:30 PM - Wistaria Room
- 21 - Tree Advisory Council Meeting - 7:00 PM - Council Chamber
- 22 - City Web Site Evaluation Community Focus Group - 7:30 PM - Public Library
- 24 - City Web Site Evaluation Community Focus Group - 10:00 AM - Public Library
- 27 - Regular City Council Meeting - 6:30 PM - Council Chamber
- 28 - All-America City Rally - Webb Martin Realtors
- 28 - Library Board of Trustees Meeting - 7:00 PM - Conference Room
- 30 - City Hall - All Day - Closed

For more information on these and other City programs, call 355-7135 or visit www.cityofsierramadre.com.

SIERRA MADRE 100 HUNDRED YEARS AGO AT THE SIERRA MADRE PUBLIC LIBRARY

During the month of February, the display case at the Sierra Madre Public Library will feature artifacts and ephemera from Sierra Madre circa 1907, the year of the city's incorporation. The display is one of many events planned in Sierra Madre as part of the city's 2007 Centennial Celebration.

All materials are from the Sierra Madre Historical Archives Collection, jointly owned by the Library and the Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society. The Sierra Madre Public Library, located at 440 West Sierra Madre Boulevard in Sierra Madre, is open Monday through Wednesday from noon to 9 p.m., Thursday and Friday from noon to 6 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For further information on programs and services please visit the Library's web site at www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us or call (626) 355-7186.



WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Café 322

Broadway and Opera Favorites.
Pianist Danny Guerrero & Friends
322 Sierra Madre Blvd.
Sierra Madre (626) 836-5414

Farmer's Market

Every Saturday
8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Lili's herbs, Cara Cara oranges, artichokes, The Tomato Man, fresh flowers, honey, and fresh baked bread.
Menuudo & tamale stand
PHS parking lot
2925 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.

Beantown

45 N. Baldwin
(626) 355-1596

Lucky Baldwin's

21 Kersting Court
(626) 355-1140

Friday, March 9 7:30 p.m.

Travelers & Collectors Series
"Sturtevant Camp: And a Few Steps Beyond"
By Chris Kasten and Joe Tortomasi
Sierra Madre City Council Chambers
232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Free admission

Saturday, March 10 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. & Sunday, March 11 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show
by Pasadena Lapidary Society
San Marino Masonic Center
3130 Huntington Drive, San Marino
For more information, call (626) 355-6964

Monday, March 12 at 7 p.m.

"Organizers of the Vision:
Recollections of a Founding Family"
Roger Wood, fifth generation Sierra Madrean, shares stories of his family and their memories of Sierra Madre from 1881 to the present.
Church of the Ascension
25 E. Laurel Ave.
Free (626) 355-1133

Saturday March 31

Huck Finn Fishing Derby
7 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Derby
12:30 to 4 p.m. Family Fishing

Sunday April 1

7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Family Fishing
Camp & Derby: \$45 up to 4 kids
Family Fishing: \$10 per family, or \$6 per person
Call (626) 355-5278

Celebrating One Hundred Years of Friendship and Service

**Saturday
March 10, 2007**

1 p.m. - Opening Ceremonies

1:30 to 3 p.m. - Open House

3 p.m. - Red Cars in Our Town

Presentation by Bill Meyers

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In Celebration of its 100th Anniversary



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Jane Fuller • Soft Jazz and Blues
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For information call 355-4908
www.smwc.info

Roy Roams' 91024

Serve as a Sierra Madre Commissioner

Many positions become vacant as of June 6 - apply now to be considered to serve on city commissions. There will be one open position for Planning Commission, one for Tree Commission, three for Community Arts and three for Community Services.

Call city hall now for more info at (626) 355-7135, or download the application from the city's website. Positions should be filled by the new fiscal year July 1st however, there is no better time than the present.

Tell us why you would like to serve and why - we'll print it! (626) 355-2737.

Lady of Lewis & Tolkien

Local scholar Katrelya Angus has been invited to speak for the third year in a row at the One Ring Celebration held this year at the Burbank Airport Marriott Hotel on Friday March 9 through Sunday, March 11.

Tolkien fans from all over the world - Australia, Japan and Ireland - attend this event, many attired in medieval costume. Billy Boyd (who played Pippin in the movie Lord of The Rings) and his rock band Beecake will headline Saturday night.

Angus will discuss C.S. Lewis and Tolkien. "Ever since I've been a little girl, I've been fascinated," said Angus, who received her first Lewis book, The Magician's Nephew, when she was seven years-old from her priest, Spencer Edwards of the Ascension Church. "I've always wanted to be a Medievalist," she added.

We asked Angus what is so intriguing about that time period between 950 to 1547.

It was the courtliness, she said. "The big focus of the Medieval era, is that people believed in compassion, chivalry and working together with other people," said Angus. Then she quoted Christine de Pisan, French philosopher from the 14th century: "A... good prince ought especially to love the public good more than his own good."

Angus said "A good king always put the needs of his subjects before himself." Indeed.

Bling Saver Dots

We are waiting to hear whether or not the Police Officer's Association will be permitted to sell Data Dots as a fundraiser. The microscopic identification dots - about the size of a grain of salt - are glued on all valuables such as iPods and jewelry. If the jewelry is stolen, then recovered, it can easily be identified. Police Chief Marilyn Diaz, who learned about the dots reading her husband's *Popular Mechanics* magazine, gave a nifty demonstration at city hall last Saturday. The dots have even been used to recover - we kid you not - stolen lobsters in Maine.

Corporal Esther Doyle assisted in the presentation, informing residents about the latest in burglar tricks - "Hi, I'm selling magazines..." If suspicious people are at your door, soliciting cash, call the police right away at (626) 355-1414.

Kindly residents Shirley Rosenkranz and Fran Powell thought of the Police Officer's Association benefit angle, after it was reported the Chamber of Commerce vetoed selling the dots. If you must have them now, go online at www.microidtech.com or call 888-742-2124. They cost about \$25 for 500 micro dots and special glue that takes two days to dry.

To form a Neighborhood Watch Group, call the police and they will attend your meeting. Neighborhood Watch Signs (about \$10 apiece) are also available.

SIERRA MADRE PUBLIC LIBRARY EVENTS TRAVELERS AND COLLECTORS SERIES

"Sturtevant Camp: And a Few Steps Beyond"

By Chris Kasten and Joe Tortomasi

Friday, March 9, 2007 7:30 pm City Hall Chambers
Admission: Free For information call: 626-355-7186 or
go to: www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us

The Wild West

With Kyle McClure

No Fair Planting Trees

Is it just me, or is Global Warming getting a big head all of a sudden? It used to be that Global Warming was this sort of quiet unassuming little issue bandied about by U.N. Scientists, members of congress who chaired no committees, and environmental studies professors wearing parkas on sabbatical in Greenland.

Now that Global Warming has won a couple of Oscars, doesn't it seem like Global Warming is getting a little bit egotistical? Like all of this attention is going to Global Warming's head? I mean, look at the whole public "meltdown" where Global Warming shaved her



to have so much respect for her, but now look at her... why Global Warming? Why?"

Sir Richard Branson, British billionaire, entrepreneur, sporter of impressive leonine locks of golden mogul hair, and (for some reason) knight of the realm, is not helping things. Last month he announced a contest that is sure to bring even more attention to Global Warming. With blatant disregard for the privacy Global Warming needs during this tumultuous time, Sir Richard stood at a press conference with Al Gore (Remember him? He ran for president back in 2000, before he became a real boy) by his side and announced that he (Sir Richard) would award \$25 million dollars (which for some reason weighs, like 12.5 million pounds in England... I think it's because they use coins...) to you, good reader, if you can come

up with a viable means of removing a whole bunch of carbon dioxide gas from the atmosphere.

But don't hold your breath. You will only get five million up front. The rest will be delivered after your "technique" has worked for ten years. And no fair planting trees or walking to work. He actually wants the gas that is in the atmosphere sucked out and put someplace else.

Ooh, a puzzle! We love puzzles. OK OK OK, before we get started, let's go over the methods we already know about. We could

1) pump the carbon dioxide gas into old coal fields and displace the methane, which could be used as fuel. Or, we might

2) pump it into saline aquifers, where it can be safely stored. And, of course, we could always

3) pump the carbon dioxide into oil fields to help maintain the pressure, which makes it easier to pump the oil out... and refine it and put it into cars... which then burn it and deliver more carbon dioxide back into the atmosphere...uh... maybe not such a great idea.

But never mind anyway! We are looking for new and innovative methods, not some old boring ones stolen straight from the BBC news website.

Here is what I am thinking. We need a huge vacuum cleaner-welding robot, kind of like (but way different for copyright purposes) the one Rick Moranis unleashed in the movie classic "Space Balls." I believe it was called Mega-Maid. We could call ours something like the "Greenhouse Cleaner," and it could suck all of the carbon dioxide into outer space (along with the wigs of various respectable personages, including Tom Hanks and Oprah Winfrey).

Or, even better, what about chloroplast skin implants? Then we could all photosynthesize the carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere. For lunch, you would go outside and lie on the lawn. Dieting would be way easier, too. You'd just pick a higher SPF sunscreen. And you would be green! I am going to submit these. I have a good feeling that Sir Richard is going to be bankrolling my early retirement. Please, if you have any ideas, send them to me. I'll give you credit. Promise.

And, listen, if we win this contest, I think we could get Global Warming some breathing room (you know, get Michael Crichton off her back), and maybe give her a chance to get things straightened out.

Sierra Madre Water - Then and Now



By Midge Morash and Linda Saurenman

Southern California history is steeped in stories of water and Sierra Madre is no exception. In a conversation about water with ex-Mayor George Maurer early in 2005, he began with a piece of Sierra Madre history. He told us that Sierra Madre is the size it is today because of a water "disagreement."

Sierra Madre was growing in the late 1800's and needed more water. Until this time Sierra Madre had one water tunnel and needed a second tunnel. Lucky Baldwin, living up to his tight fisted reputation, would not help fund the construction. Sierra Madre's Water Company constructed the needed tunnel without Baldwin's help.

When Sierra Madre's water superintendent went out of town a short time later, Baldwin

took the opportunity to tap into the new tunnel with a pipe of his own. Upon returning, the superintendent found the new pipe and smashed it. This riled Baldwin and he took Sierra Madre to court. When Baldwin lost the court case, he swore he would not sell another acre of land to Sierra Madre. He created Arcadia to surround the remaining open sides of Sierra Madre and stopped Baldwin Avenue at Arcadia's city limit.

Sierra Madre still gets some of its water from the two original water tunnels. Water tunnels are shafts that go into the mountains. Sierra Madre's tunnels are about 400 feet deep. They go beyond a fault fracture allowing water collected behind the fracture to be released. The initial source of the water in the tunnels is rain and snow in the San Gabriel Mountains. Water from the tunnels is collected and "spread" in the City Yards, where the water soaks into the ground to replenish the aquifer and/or is pumped into our reservoirs. Sierra Madre is the only city in the area that has its own spreading basin.

We have 16 acres dedicated to water spreading. Most city residents will recognize the spreading basin as the site of the Huck Finn Fishing Derby each spring.

Sierra Madre's water also comes from city wells that tap into the aquifer. The aquifer is supplied by rain and snow that seeps into the ground in the mountains and percolates down into our wells. The water refreshing the aquifer can take many years to flow from the surface in the mountains into our wells, which is why we can have a drought in the middle of a rainy year.

Sierra Madre is currently in the midst of a 10 year project replacing some the reservoirs and much of the distribution pipe in the town. The City and Council are aware of our need to have a good supply of water available to the city. It is important that the city be as self sufficient in its water collection as possible. To purchase water from other sources is very expensive. So when you turn on your faucet, remember the average family of 5 uses one acre foot of water (the water it takes to cover one acre, one foot deep) per year, three families will use about a million gallons of water a year. In Sierra Madre 80% of the water used is for irrigation.

SMEAC would like to extend it's thanks to ex-Mayor George Maurer for sharing his knowledge of our water system and it's history. It would seem that Sierra Madre is still being shaped by water.



March 2007-Centennial Events Calendar

- March 2-March 31, Woman's Club Display at Library (month long), Sierra Madre Library Display Case, Contact: Sierra Madre Woman's Club, 626-355-4908/355-7739
- March 10, Woman's Club Centennial Celebration, 1-4pm, Location: Woman's Club Essick House, Contact: Sierra Madre Woman's Club, 626-355-4908
- March 10, Sierra Madre Girls Softball Assoc - Opening Day, 9am, Location: Heasley Field, Contact: Sierra Madre Girls Softball Assoc, 626-355-3899
- March 12, History of Early Sierra Madre and Ascension Church, talk by Fr. Roger Wood, 7pm, Contact: Church of the Ascension, 626-355-1133
- March 25, Wistaria Festival, 9am-5pm, Throughout Sierra Madre, Contact: Chamber of Commerce, 626-355-5111
- March 28, All-America City Delegation Rally, 6pm, Location: Webb-Martin Realtors, Contact: Community Services Department, 626-355-5278
- March 30, Huck Finn Camp Out, Location: City Yards Settling Basins, Contact: Community Services Department, 626-355-5278
- March 31, Huck Finn Fishing Derby, 7am-4pm, Location: City Yards Settling Basins, Contact: Community Services Department, 626-355-5278
- March 31, Sierra Madre Public Works Open House, 1pm, Location: City Yards & Water System, Contact: City of Sierra Madre, 626-355-7135

Do You Remember?

Tommy Ann Miller in The Arcadia Tribune March, 1967

HIT and MISS From Sierra Madre

By TOMMY-ANN MILLER

By TOMMY-ANN MILLER

The premiere of "The Ring," a 25-minute film featuring Sierra Madre's Studio Players, directed by Florence Myers, will be shown at the Esquire Theatre in Pasadena Thursday, March 22, at 8 p.m.

This non-commercial film (35mm black and white) is a "first" for co-producers Howard Miller of Sierra Madre, and Gene Ford of West Covina. The original screenplay was written by Howard, and Gene did the cinematography.

The filming was done at Scotsman's Cove near Laguna, and for six months (early last year) Sierra Madresans and friends volunteered to help on the weekend locations. Since then Howard and Gene, with the aid of Don Woodward of South Pasadena (sound engineer), have been editing and cutting the mile of film, plus taping the original musical score.

Sierra Madresans in lead roles are: Patrick Myer, 14; Bill Bollinger, 15, and Robert Forest.

Other local citizens in the cast and crew include: Howard Whalen, Mary Jenkins, Bill Davis, John and Tullia Allen, John and Jane Buchan, Hugh and Veronica Warden, Emmett and Marion Black, Laurie DeVault, Kathy, Julie and Virginia Forrest, Cindy Warden, Ken and Mavis Sheets (now of Las Vegas), Paul and Marilyn Narco-wich, Jim McCoy and Lisa and Kay Paul.

Special mention should be given to the sturdy performance by Jack Crehan's jeep.

HARKNESS HELPS. Search and Rescue Team president, Miner Harkness, spent last weekend working with the Mexican Government and the San Diego Sheriff's Dept. — helping the Baja Search and Rescue Association get underway.

This new rescue group is being sponsored by the Kellogg family, whose son, Ogden, and a friend, Elinor Dart, were miraculously rescued from the

Pico Del Diablo region in Baja. The Sierra Madre Team helped in the difficult evacuation by helicopter.

RESIDENT MUSICIANS. A newcomer to Sierra Madre, Frank Van Der Maten, assistant professor of the PC Music Dept., will direct the 70-piece College-Community Symphony Orchestra in its Spring Concert at Pasadena City College, March 18, 8:15 p.m. His wife, Marian (in the orchestra's string section) is a fine violin teacher.

MORE MOVIES—of past gatherings at the Sierra Madre Woman's Club—were shown by Clara Sykes at the club's 80th birthday celebration last week. It proved a nostalgic occasion for many members as dear, familiar faces (many of them gone) flicked across the screen, i.e. Martha Pritchard, Ida Lawless, former owner of the Wistaria Vine, Mrs. C. W. Jones, the late wife of Sierra Madre's first mayor, etc.

Twelve past presidents lunched at the head table, including the only charter member still living, Elizabeth Steinberger—who must have been recalling what it was like in 1907 when 54 Sierra Madre women founded the club in the old Town Hall.

Added nostalgia: when May-belle Barker, historian, recalled past gifts to the club (some of which, unfortunately, have "disappeared" through the years).

Among older gifts: a pastoral scene painted by Guston Borg-lund (sculptor of Mt. Rushmore)—who had a studio down on Manzanita in the 1890's; the silver tea sets and pairs of chairs (still onstage), which came from a concert in the '30's given by Donald Thayer, (senior, accompanied by composer, Oscar Rasbach (who set Joyce Kilmer's "Trees" to music); and the grand piano—netted from "The Perils of Pauline," which was shown to shivery Sierra Madresans a half-century ago.

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ARMED RESPONSE

Fire Safe Council TIP OF THE WEEK

From Caroline Brown

We appreciate the recent rain . . . and when it falls gently on our hillsides we, you hear a collective sigh of relief from property owners in the "Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone," as we calculate the fact that this puts off our next fire event for a little while longer. Lucky for us we have not have a local fire lately with subsequent heavy rains, or we would be facing the threat of flooding afterward. As you travel through other southland areas where there were fires last fall, you will see flood warning signs posted for those living in the down slope areas. These two hazards go hand in hand and will never go away. This is the time to prepare, not as people prepare for the next earthquake the "day after," but continuously: clearing dead brush and tree limbs, checking out and correcting fire hazard areas at the vulnerable parts of your home. Dr. Lucy Jones, the California Institute of Technology Seismologist, was heard to declare at a conference recently on the local disasters we all face: "... I have prepared my foothill home from the expected seismic events as much as possible, but the real disaster I am more likely to face is that of a wildfire in the foothills. . . ."

The next Fire Safe Council meeting will be March 12 at 7 P.M. in the City Council chambers. A guest speaker from Los Angeles City Fire Department will speak on the topic of Fuel Reduction for homeowners in the "Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone." We have applied for a Fire Safe Council grant for a brush removal program that will use hand crews and goats! All hillside homeowners are encourage to attend to learn more of these programs.

In the meantime, go to the state website: www.firesafecouncil.org for important fire protection measures for your home. Also, www.firecenter.berkeley.edu/people/Quarles for a link to "Vulnerable parts of your home." For information call: 355-9350 or 355-1182 or e-mail us at: smfiresafecouncil@hotmail.com

THE BUS STOPS HERE: Transit Study Released

By Katina Dunn

Two volunteers are needed to join the Ad-Hoc Transit Committee to make recommendations on hours of service for Dial-A-Ride to the city council at the end of April.

There are 20 hours to be distributed throughout the week and Saturday, which partially restores service cutbacks from 2004. Three years ago, two buses ran from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and a half-day on Saturday. Michelle Keith, Community and Personnel Services Director, said the Ad-Hoc Transit Committee will figure out how to distribute those hours, using one bus.

Currently, Dial-A-Ride for 85 seniors and disabled citizens runs from 9:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. and not on Saturdays. The service is provided for \$1 one way in town and \$2 one way out of town.

The Round-A-Bout runs weekdays 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. to schools, post office, senior center, library and shopping. The fare is 50 cents per ride, although seniors and youth ride free of charge with an ID card from the city.

Keith said that city staff is also looking into paying for street maintenance in ways other than from the transit budget which comes from LA County sales tax measures Propositions A and C. The city receives about \$315,710 annually, spending \$252,641 on transit and \$77,000 on street maintenance.

After a study by Patti Post & Associates which became the basis of the new draft of the Sierra Madre Transit Study, it was determined that few were using the "Commuter Loop" to the Gold Line, according to Keith. People were taking the MTA bus instead of the Gold Line, so the "Commuter Loop" will be cancelled July 1, 2007, thus crediting the city with the 20 hours for Dial-A-Ride.

Since the city's contract with Laidlaw is up, Keith said the city may have to go with

the company that purchased Laidlaw - called First Transit. Keith said Laidlaw doesn't have contract extensions.

The draft of the Sierra Madre Transit Study was presented at the City Council during its meeting February 13. "The whole purpose was to help get our resources back," said Keith.

At that council meeting, resident and 15-year patron of transit services Heather Allen said the city paid \$8,000 for the study, which the residents would have figured out for free. "This is a critically needed service," said Allen. "We're talking about a major transportation crisis here." Allen said a ride is not always available when needed. "Imagine making a call every time you got in your car," she said. "Imagine not being able to leave."

Council member Kurt Zimmerman volunteered to join the Ad-Hoc Transit Committee, joining Dr. Paul Neiby and Community Services Commissioner James Carlson.



To join the Ad-Hoc Transit Committee, call (626) 355-5278.

SIERRA MADRE POLICE BLOTTER

During the week of Sunday, February 25th, to Saturday March 3rd, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 186 calls for service.

Monday, February 26th:

11:49 AM - Residential burglary, 200 block Old Oak Lane. A resident reported a man was seen running from his open garage and drove away in a grey Honda. The owner reported the theft of his Hugo Boss sunglasses and the BMW owners' manual. The owners' manual was recovered after being thrown from the Honda as it fled the residence. The total loss was estimated at \$170.00.

3:36 PM - Fraud, 100 block South Hermosa Ave. A resident reported receipt of job offer letter from Secret Shopper, 2/9 instructing her to cash an enclosed check for \$2985.00 and keep \$200.00 as a commission. The balance, \$2785.00 was sent out of the country via Western Union. On 2/26 the check was returned dishonored by the bank.

8:38 PM - Grand theft, 100 block Colony Drive. A resident reported his black duffel bag, miscellaneous clothing and toiletries stolen from the driveway of his home. The loss occurred Monday, 2/26 between 8:15 PM and 8:30 PM while the duffel bag was left unattended. The total loss was estimated at \$1500.00.

Wednesday, February 28th:

12:46 AM - Auto burglary, 1900 Liliano Place. A resident reported her left handed black golf bag, Calloway golf shoes, black Day Timer purse, brown wallet, military ID and credit cards stolen from her car. The loss occurred Tuesday 2/27, between 7:30 PM and 11:30 PM. The total loss was estimated at \$555.00.

4:06 PM - Theft of vehicle, 600 block Skyland Drive. A resident reported her 2007 green Chevrolet stolen. The car was parked Tuesday, 2/27 at 5:15 PM and discovered missing Wednesday, 2/28 at 10:00 AM. The car was unlocked and the keys were left on the drivers' side floor. The car was subsequently impounded by LAPD, 2/28.

Thursday, March 1st:

9:51 AM - Grand theft, 600 block Valle Vista Ave. A resident reported a Cherub Angel was stolen and another damaged which were displayed in the front yard of her home. The missing angel was last seen at 10:00 PM Wednesday, 2/28 and discovered missing Thursday, 3/1 at 9:00 AM. The loss was valued at \$7000.00.

3:07 PM - Grand Theft, Vista Drive and Elkins Dr. A theft from a parked car was reported at the police station. Expensive jewelry, cash and personal property were taken from the unlocked car. The crime occurred Thursday, 3/1 between 2:40 PM and 2:50 PM. The total loss has not yet been determined.



ANDERSON (continued from page 1)

Guard and U.S. Air Force. "When Your Life is On The Line, You Want The Best" - so says the pamphlet for Russ Anderson Rescue Equipment. In his spare time, he works with wood, including making his own kitchen table out of magnolia wood from local trees.

In 2003, Anderson stood at Dodger Stadium with an Air 5 helicopter whirling over his head to receive a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. In 1992, he was awarded Mountain Rescuer of the Year for outstanding service and dedication by the Temple Sheriff's Office.

The Sierra Madre award, however, is a community award, beyond the valor of Search & Rescue to include other qualities such as good neighborliness and that old compliment - being a "good family man." His son, Gary, teases him - better to be embarrassed now than posthumously.

Award events include a dinner in May and a special spot in the Fourth of July parade, festive breaks from all the work the couple still does. "I never really quit doing anything," said Anderson in his workshop one morning. "I work out here - I have to get certain things done." Madeline still tends the garden around the Search & Rescue headquarters on Grandview Avenue.

It looks like May could be the month that Madeline's latest wish will come true: "We're supposed to be retired and having fun," she said.

SOLUTIONS (cont. from page 1)

municipal code Section 12.24.050 (D) states it is illegal "To engage in commercial activities of any nature without written permission granted by the Parks and Recreation commission..."

Police Chief Marilyn Diaz said the male job seekers spend most of their time on the sidewalk, and not in the park per se. Diaz recalled that Pasadena formed a Task Force to look into complaints regarding some temporary job seekers with regard to "intimidation of women, loitering and public urination." She said Pasadena focused its efforts on prohibiting motorists from soliciting workers and established a work center on Lake and Villa, though results so far appear to be not so effective.

Diaz also suggested that any complaints of sexual harassment be brought to the attention of the Sierra Madre police immediately.

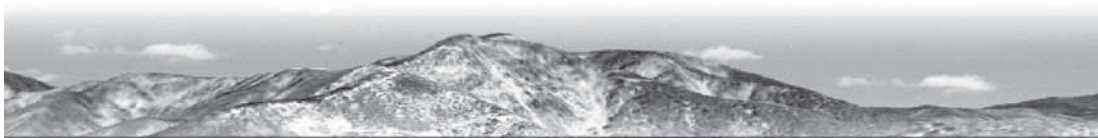
Mayor John Buchanan said "an individual creates a problem..." but to have a discussion regarding day laborers as a group is "not a good impression of

Sierra Madre."

Earlier, Charlie Kissinger, referring to a published letter written by a dentist who was allegedly sexually harassed, said "The dentist said she is afraid... I've been afraid of the dentist for 50 years."

Resident Howard Morzov, accompanied by his dog Squirrel, asked what playground everyone grew up in. Morzov said the item never should have appeared on the city's agenda, that it was a "form of racism" and that "people should be talking about Judy Webb and the Centennial."

The city council meeting segued to Closed Session, listing property negotiations relating to 74 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. and 90 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Residents wondered during earlier Community Communications whether these properties were connected to projects in the city's draft of the Downtown Specific Plan - a walkway and wider driveway to accommodate high density projects. The council had no comment.



The Mt. Wilson Observer PASADENA

Bogaard Wins 3rd Term; Selinski New PUSD Board Member Voter Turnout Shows Slight Improvement

By Susan Henderson

The March 6th Pasadena Mayoral Election, which included elections of four city council seats and three seats on the Pasadena Unified School District Board, despite low voter turnout, showed signs of increased voter participation. There was a 2% increase in the total number of ballots cast compared to the March, 2003 election which also included the race for mayor. For the Pasadena city races, less than 12,500 voters cast ballots out of 66,594 registered voters. That represents less than 20% or 1 out of 5 registered voters who participated in the election.

For the School Board race, the statistics are approximately the same. There were a little over 14,000 votes cast for each seat on the School Board out of 74,022

registered voters.

Of the nine races, there will be four run-offs on April 17th. Outright winners include:

Mayor Bill Bogaard who garnered 88% of the vote for his third term as mayor; Steve Haderlin, who will continue to represent District 4 on the Pasadena City Council and

Steve Madison, also an incumbent returning as councilman for District 6.

Tom Selinski was the only candidate for school board that garnered over 50% of the vote. He ran against Roberta Martinez for PUSD Board Seat 4.

On April 17th, there will be 4 run-off matches, two for Pasadena City Council and two for the PUSD. In each case, no candidate garnered over 50% of the vote.

City Council Run-offs:

Jacque Robinson vs.
Robin Salzer (District 1)

Margaret McAustin vs.
Jim Lomako (District 2)

PUSD Run-offs:

Renatta Cooper vs.
Mark Mastromatteo (Seat 2)

Bill Bibbiani vs.
Bob Harrison (Seat 4)

The mostly hotly contested race is certain to be for Seat 4 on the Pasadena Unified School District Board. Two term incumbent Bill Bibbiani's campaign focused on "changing the relationship between the Education Center and the Schools to create

a better balance in the decision-making authority." His opponent, Bob Harrison, in a statement released on Wednesday said, "More than half of the electorate voted for change and against 'bureaucracy as usual.'"

Harrison cites the fact that the combined votes cast for candidates other than Bibbiani make up, "53 percent of the electorate who voted for change in School Board leadership".

The April 17th date will be of additional importance to voters in Sierra Madre. That is also the date of the special election on Measure V, an initiative that would require voter approval for all development that exceeds the limits in the City's existing General Plan.

Car-Free Commuting: "One Mile at a Time"



Pedal Pusher- Newly Re-elected Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard charts with Patagonia event organizer, Aimee Gilchrist, before speaking at the store's kick off celebration Feb. 27 for their 'One Mile at a Time,' campaign.

By Dean Lee

His gray suit jacket seemed out of place among the many avid cyclists, hikers, and joggers that packed the Patagonia store in Old Town Feb. 27 for the kickoff of One Mile at a Time, but Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard's message was crystal clear saying both, "Pasadena is a walking town" and that "there's no need for a car here."

The concept of a "car free" city is one of the primary goals outlined in Pasadena's General Plan.

For the next month and a half, the city, along with the MTA and local businesses, bicycle advocacy groups and Pasadena Heritage will host workshops and events to promote cycling and walking in what event organizers call a "Car-Lite Lifestyle."

Events are listed below, courtesy of Aimee Gilchrist, Patagonia Pasadena. Cyclists meet at Patagonia, 47 N. Fair Oaks Avenue.

ArtNight Ride

Friday, March 9, 5:45 p.m. This will be a relaxed-paced bicycle tour of more than 14 Pasadena art galleries and museums around Pasadena. This bicycle tour is a part of ArtNight Pasadena and is hosted by C.I.C.L.E. and Patagonia. Meet at the rear of the store at 6 p.m. Free.

Old Town Walking Tour

Saturday, March 10, 8:45 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. A leisurely stroll through the streets of Old Town Pasadena on an interesting walking tour. Ann Burkle, from Pasadena Heritage, will lead the walk, discussing some of the fantastic historic buildings in the Old Town. Admission is \$10. Meet by 8:45 a.m.

Arroyo Seco Eco Ride

Sunday, March 11, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. A guided seven-mile bike tour of the beautiful Arroyo Seco water shed. Learn about this environmental, cultural and recreational oasis in our own backyard. See how the city is restoring this famous stream. Learn about water quality, habitat and discuss whether this could be a model for other Southern California streams. C.I.C.L.E. board member, Jeff Chapman, who is also a teacher/naturalist at the Audubon Center in Debs Park, leads this relaxed-paced bike ride. Bring your own bicycle. Light refreshments provided. Free.

Film: Contested Streets

Wednesday, March 21, 7 p.m. This documentary film explores the history and culture of New York City streets from pre-automobile times to the present. It examines how the city has slowly relinquished what was once a rich, multi-dimensional concept of the street as public space, changing to a mindset that prioritizes the rapid movement of cars and trucks over all other functions. The film also explores London, Paris and Copenhagen, and analyzes how each of these cities has limited automobile use in recent years, which has resulted in improved air quality, less noise pollution and enriched commercial, recreational and community interaction. Light refreshments. Free.

Losing 3,000 Lbs in One Day: The Car-Lite Diet

Wednesday, March 28, 7 p.m. Drop the weight of your daily automobile usage and gain a more intimate connection with your community and yourself. Led by the compassionate Car-Free gurus of C.I.C.L.E., Liz and Shay will show you how easy it is to start living a Car-Lite lifestyle. Learn how to create great bike routes, how to carry loads on your bike, how to keep your experiences positive and fun, and much more. Light refreshments provided.

Basic Bicycle Maintenance

Saturday, April 14, 7 p.m. This will be a simple overview of basic bicycle maintenance, including how to fix a flat tire and other simple repair techniques. Light refreshments provided. Free.

For more information about contact Gilchrist at 626-795-0319 or email her at aimee_gilchrist@patagonia.com.

PUSD Gets Tough Draft Management Audit

"These recommendations are the equivalent of closing two additional elementary schools." Board Member Bill Bibbiani

By Dean Lee

Although the focus of the newly released draft PUSD management audit Feb. 27 was not to identify saving or evaluate wasteful expenses within the district, the preliminary report singled out a \$4.5 million one-time cost in upgrading the district's "highly unstable and outdated" technology infrastructure along with other costs.

An additional \$4 million annually would also be needed to maintain a new system and although the district did identify much of the associated costs it has not implemented anything or made any plans to do so, the audit states.

"Many of the reporting tools had been purchased before the current infrastructure could support their use," said auditor, Greg Gibson, President of Gibson Consulting Group. "In addition, duplicate data systems exist and software applications have become increasingly fragmented."

Gibson added the outdated infrastructure was hampering the efficiency of the district. He recommended all Information Technology Systems be reassigned to the Superintendent and taken out of the Division of Business Services, increasing its importance.

Other audit recommendations made clear a requirement for all teachers to use district emails after a study showed that some teachers within the PUSD do not have computers at all while others could not access their emails due to the lack of passwords or user IDs given out by administrators. Ironically employees were asked through an on-line survey what their primary means of communication was, according to the auditors.

The report also tackled unruly community members, some of who attended the Feb. 27 meeting, recommending the adoption of a code of conduct at all meetings after reviewing instances where community members made inappropriate verbal comments and addressed the board multiple times throughout a single meeting.

The Brown Act requires all open meetings to have public comment as part of First Amendment Rights and a code of conduct should not restrict that, auditors said.

When asked by the board if he found, as many others said they had, millions of

dollars in waste from the Central Office, Gibson stated that he could not comment although he gave a brief explanation.

"That's not what we were charged to do," he said. "At the director level and up, there are not millions of dollars being wasted. Whether there are millions of dollars being wasted in other areas, I think that's yet to be determined."

He added, "I really believe that if you haven't done performance measures as part of your budget process you really don't know and that's my concern."

He added the PUSD annual budget was cluttered with unnecessary information and statistics while leaving out useful data such as per-student expenditure measures of trends, or other measures that might demonstrate efficiency within the district.

Gibson said PUSD Board training was needed as part of an effective decision making process after some board members expressed their distaste for working in groups. He recommended 100 hours of training a year outside their normal meeting times, as "getting to know one another time," all this in addition to any technical training they need to get he said.

Gibson also recommended 50 additional hours of training each time a new Superintendent was selected. New Superintendent Edwin Diaz officially joins the district Monday.

The draft audit also pointed out budget constraints leading to the elimination of a Community Relations position among others. Currently no PUSD office serves as a liaison with the Pasadena Education Foundation he said, an organization that assists the district with grant proposals securing over \$3.4 million in awards.

As a solution, the audit recommends adding a district ombudsman who would also report directly to the superintendent. Along with adding that position, the cost associated with a suggested personnel realignment model was estimated to be \$500,000 per year according to the report.

"These recommendations are the equivalent of closing two additional elementary schools," Board Member William Bibbiani said. "Maybe even three, this concerns me deeply; I think we need to look at a different model."

THE MT. WILSON OBSERVER

OPINION

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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.



THE FOURTH ESTATE - THE FIFTH COLUMN

By David Smith

There was something about the newspaper accounts describing the outcome of Glenn Lambdin's lawsuit against the Measure V arguments that I couldn't get out of my mind, something that kept gnawing at my brain.

We've all been indoctrinated about the role of the press in a free society. The press is so important that the First Amendment guarantees its freedom. We've all heard references to Edmond Burk's famous quote; there are "three Estates in Parliament; but, in the Reporters' Gallery yonder, there sat a Fourth Estate more important by far than they all."

The press, in reality, is a quasi branch of our government.

The press is the protector of our rights, the watchdog of our freedom, our champion against government abuse and transgression. When we think about reporters, Woodward and Bernstein come to mind along with other heroes of our democracy. Let's face it; the media has painted a near spotless image

of itself.

I must be very naive. Because I was really surprised by the reporting on the outcome of Glenn Lambdin's lawsuit printed in the *Pasadena Star News* and the *Sierra Madre Weekly*. They did not report the facts of the trial. They did not tell you that Glenn Lambdin lost eight of the charges he had made against us. They did not tell you the charge he won was due to the tense of a verb. They distorted everything. In fact, they lied.

Then another quote popped up in my mind, General Molá's famous comment at the Siege of Madrid during Spain's Civil War. "There are four columns moving on Madrid and a Fifth Column from within."

Finally, late one night, when I was tossing and turning, unable to put this matter to rest, another quote popped up in my mind. This one came from a political science professor in a class I took a long, long time ago. "If the press is corrupt, then so is the government."

Suddenly, everything fell into place. The nastiness, the ruthlessness, the viciousness of the Measure V opponents all made sense.

Measure V isn't being fought because of its restrictions on building heights, and

densities. According to the impact report we've received, Measure V is actually quite generous.

It doesn't restrict anything, really. All it does is transfer power from a tiny group on the City Council to the community as a whole. It simply creates a true democracy.

But, there is one thing Measure V does restrict. It restricts corruption. Measure V will give us something the developers and realtors truly fear - a clean government.

You see, if all five members of the City Council get elected through campaign contributions and paid assistance from the developers and realtors, it will all be for naught. Because the people of Sierra Madre will have a power to prevent the City Council from selling out the community. We'll have a vote.

So, it's obvious. The developers and realtors are going to fight Measure V with everything they've got, including corrupt newspapers.

Just remember, in all this conflict and chaos, there is still one person you can always trust. You can trust yourself. You can trust your own good judgment.



Battle for Our Hearts and Minds

By Hail Hamilton

The battle for our hearts and minds has begun. As I predicted in my last column, Invasion of the Property Snatchers, "NO on Measure V" signs are popping up all over town like giant green seed pods. But who are these extraterrestrial alarmists bent on taking over control of downtown Sierra Madre? This question can now be answered with certainty.

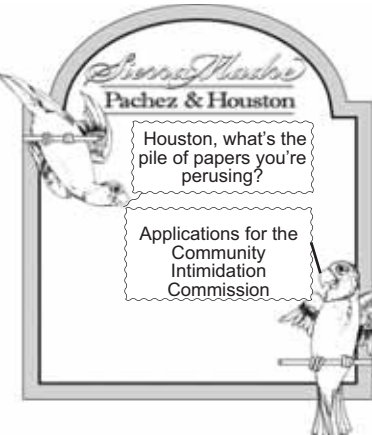
According to a reliable source at Webb-Martin Realty, on February 20th there was a big meeting held in its conference room with none other than Chip Ahlswede, the undercover political operative from Schubert Flint Public Affairs & Associates. Schubert Flint, if you recall, is the Orange County public relations/lobbyist firm credited with turning the tide to defeat last year's limited growth initiative Measure X in Newport Beach. The subject of the Webb-Martin meeting was to discuss possible strategies to defeat our Measure V, including deciding how best to spend the \$30,000 to \$50,000 contributed by the Arcadia Association of Realtors (AAR) to ensure Measure V's defeat.

One other thing was discussed at the Webb-Martin meeting—the recall of Joe Mosca. Chip assured his audience that the recall would never succeed. Of course, Chip is a neophyte when it comes to Sierra Madre politics, so he can be excused for his naiveté. But the others at the meeting were just as certain as Chip that Joe would survive the recall. Perhaps they were engaging in wishful thinking, for they know

the stakes are high. They know that they must retain Joe on the City Council to maintain the 3 to 2 pro-downtown development majority they now enjoy. So the next time you're downtown at Bean Town sipping your coffee look across the street at Webb-Martin Realty. Ask yourself these questions: What are my friendly realtors up to today? Why is Webb-Martin realtor Carol Canterbury offering to deliver "No on Measure V" signs to anyone who wants one? More importantly, why is so much money and effort being expended by AAR and local realtors to defeat Measure V? And why is it so important to defeat the recall of Joe Mosca? Don't get me wrong, some of my best friends are realtors, and many of them are appalled by AAR's pro-development stance—not just in Sierra Madre but all over the San Gabriel Valley.

During the next six weeks you are going to be inundated with mailings, fliers and phone calls urging you to vote against Measure V and against the Recall of Joe Mosca. Don't be fooled. "RSVP," Downtown Dirt, and the other "No on Measure V" advocates are just front organizations sponsored and supported by Webb-Martin, AAR, and the rest of their pro-development allies who think the residents of Sierra Madre are a bunch of ignorant hicks. Well, we're neither ignorant nor are we hicks. What we are is united in our opposition to the unnecessary and detrimental development of downtown Sierra Madre.

Do your part. Start collecting signatures. And on April 17th vote YES on Measure V. When the recall election is finally held, and I assure you there will be one, vote YES to recall Joe Mosca. Sierra Madre is our town and let's keep it that way. Remember: the battle for our hearts and minds can still be won!



A Note From Co-Publisher and Managing Editor, Susan Henderson

Due to the number of Letters to the Editor received, I decided not to publish my column and give our readers and neighbors the opportunity to share their thoughts with the community. I'll be back next week!



Democracy in All-American Cities and a Reflection on My Personal Fortune

By Stefan Bund

When my parents visit me in California I usually win their respect; coming to Sierra Madre is a special occasion for them. I never realized that what I call home, some folks would consider a vacation. I simply refer them to the local jail and they choose to walk the city.

I imagine that they respect my home despite its location in the dirtiest city in America, because it is an All-America City competitor. Not quite as prestigious as their own hometown, Ann Arbor, Michigan, which won it before I entered the seventh grade. But in the race, nonetheless.

The All-America City Award demands some consideration. Usually the cities who qualify at the top of the chart have the same things in common; tree lined streets, a lack of public urination, stable weather patterns, and that set of attributes we would call quality of life. It's hard to quantify cities that really work, but you know it when you see it. There is the sense that people have taken care of the place.

All-America City awards don't tend to go to big cities. The award itself seems to favor cities that haven't lost that Leave it to Beaver aura.

The criteria for an All-America City is how good a quality of life the city can deliver for its citizens. This implies a city council that guards the quality of life. The hidden challenge of the All-America City is not what the council does, but what its citizens do, to affect the quality of life. The All-America prize is therefore a test of democracy.

What so many Southern California cities lack is a sense that citizens actually affect the quality of life there. Most citizens do not have a quorum in which to decide development issues, and instead are overridden by special interests who build the city out to resemble human storage blocks.

It's important to remember how the city fathers of Los Angeles got to where they are. Eli Broad, for example, who moved here from Michigan to develop tract homes. As one of the early purveyors of the American dream, he led the vanguard of homebuilders who settled the largest, most densely populous American city.

It's outstanding that we're competing in the All-America City competition. But we're in that race because the average person makes a difference here. Don't forget this when it comes time to vote this April, when the average person can determine whether the city is developed by a Council, prone to corruption, or by the citizen, through his or her vote.

Letters To The Editor

I have lived in town for more than 70 years. I feel I am entitled to express my dislike of the inappropriate websites that are currently circulating around our town. The veterans on our Memorial Wall fought for our freedoms, including speech, and I firmly believe in this freedom, but the websites have gone too far.

I wonder where the writers live. Are they in any way connected to the other people that are trying to change our town? Would any one of them do this to their home town?

Most of these comments are hitting below the belt. Would you like them picking on someone in your family? The people writing this nonsense have absolutely no class and have not grown up yet and the only way they can express themselves is by belittling someone that doesn't agree with them.

After reading this trash there is nothing learned or gained. The solution to this nonsense is to not take it from your computer and if someone hands it to you, don't read it!

For fear these people might attack my family I wish to remain anonymous. I am proud to call Sierra Madre my home.

Dear Deuxamisés,

I just wanted to tell you that I have enjoyed your newspaper greatly. I am a busy guy, with a stressful job, a lively 4 year-old son and typically don't have time for the two large newspapers that come to our house, let alone your newspaper. But I enjoy your paper for bringing me news of our precious community and find more time for it than the LA and NY times. Thank you! Lloyd De Forrest

A NIGHT OF HELL AT THE COUNCIL MEETING -- OR -- HOW I BECAME MOUTHY AND GOT THROWN OUT OF CITY HALL

By Joe Scalzo

One cool evening to be alive, February 27, 2007, the Tuesday night of the city council meeting!

Feeling more frustrated than ever about all of the ways the police department is maltreated by Sierra Madre, I go to city hall to grandstand in front of the community's ruling pharaohs -- our city manager, mayor, and town council. I may make a jerk out of myself, but I want to explain to them what disgraces they are.

They grant me this favor.

Encouraged, I decide to lecture them about Sierra Madre's rich legacy of 100 mad years of history, an almost-forgotten subject I'm writing a book about, and one which the pharaohs know nothing. I'm on a roll!

Just on general principles, I decide the pharaohs deserve to be ripped. And I'm in the process of accomplishing this, and I think fairly thoroughly, too, when suddenly there's an incident.

The council meeting explodes into violence! Even the TV picture is ripped from the screen.

The burlesque erupts when the mayor rudely interrupts me. My speaking time has run out! Unfair! I've not finished. I'm really rolling -- with vast notes of witty and wise things still to say that are vital for the council to listen to. Under the circumstances, I refuse to be quiet. I won't quit the microphone.

So the mayor turns out the cops on me. Now I am horrified to discover that instead of mayor, city manager and council, it is myself who's disgraced -- I'm being physically ejected from the proceedings!

Abruptly I'm at terrific risk. Perhaps I'll get clocked by hecklers in the peanut gallery who are rewarding me with shouted insults which I shout back. Or perhaps I'll absorb a kneecapping from the city bulls, those ungrateful bums, the very underpaid city employees I came to council to praise!

I see myself on film later! I'm a raving maniac!

Yet the evening hasn't concluded! Out in the court yard, I'm all by myself, cooling my heels, and plenty disappointed that I'm not permitted to go back inside to dig all the roaring hell going on, which, after all, I created.

The last shake-down: For good or ill, the Mt Wilson Observer is printing some of my remaining uncensored and unread salvos at SM government. Believe it or don't, it's still a free country. ATTACK!

I repudiate our City Manager. I repudiate our Mayor. I repudiate all the rest of you bad-news council jokers. But especially tricky Joe Mosca. All his wildly misguided supporters to the contrary, Joe's the trickster most responsible for Sierra Madre's terrible ongoing civil war. And he foolishly imagines that the majority of us are a pack of simpletons who don't realize what he's up to.

THE HEAT!

To their unending credit, and despite the miserly way Sierra Madre underpays them, our police are loyal. They mean us no harm. They bear us no grudge. The other Saturday my sled is pulled over on the boulevard, in the middle of the night. It's a mistake. The police officer, a most professional young woman, apologizes. I take the opportunity to offer condolences for the wretched way my City Manager, Mayor, and city council mistreat her sisters and brothers. And I offer her the opportunity to lash Sierra Madre. She declines. All she says in reply is, "I'm happy to be working for the city of Sierra Madre." That's loyalty. Way more than twenty-first century Sierra Madre rates.

HATRED!

I denounce the City Manager. The Mayor. Tricky Joe. Everybody else. Under your watch, now we are experiencing the agony and scandal of Sierra Madre's hackneyed but true city slogan "friendly foothill village" getting stood on its head and corrupted into "hate-filled foothill village." If ever you hunger for a taste of what the language of hatred sounds like -- raw, oozing, fulminating, unremitting, almost uncontrollable hatred -- then dial up a darling web site operated by a Beth Buck.

Nobody, of course, can force anybody to read a website. And thank god for that.

But Ms. Buck, the virago, is unquenchable. She's the one with the hatred franchise. She started all that in SM. I plead and implore her to please, please hate and unload on me, too. My publisher will pay Beth good dough. The book buzz will be priceless.

CIVIL WAR!

How come none of the council disgraces have failed to notice that twenty-first century Sierra Madre is convulsed in bloody civil war? We're tearing ourselves to pieces. This is hellish civil war fought between radically opposing "downtown development" armies. Each army distrusts and despises, and doesn't understand the other. Every day the situation deteriorates. Friends of mine for life have turned into my enemies for life. Unless something changes, we're heading for mutual, deserved, destruction.

A responsible mayor and council might try doing something radical like achieve armistice. Perhaps they might try cooling the overheated rhetoric that's vomiting out of both sides, and now me. This mayor and city exacerbate matters taking sides.

ARISE!

Since the evil era of Lucky (Beast) Baldwin, Sierra Madre has known enemies, always greenheads, who operate outside our city boundaries as well as inside them. Trying to rip us off one way or another.

Always desperately in pursuit of the long green. And so greedy they don't realize how repulsive they are.

History is on SM's side. A century ago, when Beast Baldwin raided our pristine slopes to steal our drinking water, our wonderful forbearers, fearless and splendid, kicked Beast clear back to Arcadia.

So how come we, in comparison, are such cowards? Beast, after all, made a far more intimidating enemy than 2007's Johnny-come-lately foes, i.e. real estate opportunists; land and property developer sharpshooters; god-fearing church schools and even churches themselves who reject their own ten commandments so they can set on us their vicious shysters; and, of course, least intimidating of all, the Sierra Madre copperheads, the enablers of our enemies, variously comprised of ex-politicians, present politicians, tricky Joe especially.

Our swinging little blue collar village -- how cool Sierra Madre is!! In fact this is the way SM's always been -- funky-cool. And never, ever, rich, glitzy, sterile, and oh-so-copcat retro Pasadena or Arcadia, two square-as-a-bear neighboring villages, both richer but both lesser.

Only somebody with a wallet for a brain and an empty soul would want to be like them! So let's take back Sierra Madre and keep it! Let's finally fight together for what we believe in!

End the apathy! Defeat the Babbitt mediocrities among us! Vote yes on Measure V! Recall Tricky Joe! Fight hard for our cops!

Arise! Storm the Bastille! A la lanterne! Resist much, obey little! Into the Sierra Madre streets!

Basta! Enough, already

For a decent start, let's all go get fighting mad drunk together at the Buccaneer. That always works.

Salud.

Presidential Pets

By Rich Johnson



goats and geese.

The two presidents that take the cake at having the most presidential pets - Teddy Roosevelt and Calvin Coolidge. (Both republicans, hmmm)

Get this: Calvin Coolidge had a terrier, sheepdog, bulldog, shepherd, birder, 4 collies, and 2 chows. Added to that he had 3 canaries, 3 cats, 2 raccoons, a donkey, bobcat, thrush, a goose, mockingbird, a bear, pygmy hippo, an antelope, and a wallaby. Oh and don't forget the lion cubs.

Teddy Roosevelt, no slouch in the pet department, befriended a retriever, Pekingese, mutt, 2 terriers, 2 cats, a badger, pony, macaw, rat, snakes, 12 horses, 5 bears, 5 guinea pigs, rats, lizards, roosters, an owl, flying squirrel, raccoon, a coyote, a lion, hyena and a zebra.

The names of some of these presidential pets are too good to pass up. Grant named one of his horses Jeff Davis (all you Civil War buffs will get it). James Garfield had Veto the dog. And Abraham Lincoln had Jack the turkey. Isn't this all just fascinating? Anybody? Anybody?

Finally, I had one wonderful person respond to last week's request for historical presidential suggestions:

Pat Ostrye of Sierra Madre suggested Eleanor Roosevelt. She was the wife of FDR and niece of Teddy Roosevelt. Pat went on to remind us of her efforts as a UN delegate and coauthor of the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights. She was a great humanitarian, notable for her activities in politics and social issues, particularly where women and minorities were concerned. Thank you, Pat. If there is a topic you would like researched, let me know. If my daughter approves I just may get around to it.

My email is rich@versatate.com.

Paying Attention



By John Crawford

I came upon all the Measure V excitement a little later than most. I'd assumed that the Development Dracula had been firmly staked in the previous City Council elections, and now I could go on with my life without that grim annoyance to think about. But the bloody old bat has turned out to have mysterious and amazing resilience, eh?

Its ability to turn decidedly anti-development candidates into frantic pro-development councilmen is beyond compare. So I suppose it is time to get some lawn signs and pay attention. Here's my gripe: As any parent knows, getting a good education for your kids while living in Sierra Madre can be a difficult and expensive proposition. The Public Schools, despite the sacrifices and hard work of the highly qualified professionals who work in them, have through long years of radical underfunding and less than benign civic neglect fallen far behind their private school competition. And for parents who cannot afford the \$12,000+ a year cost that a private school can run them (per child), this is a grim and depressing situation. A situation that is for all intents and purposes a demeaning class and race-based dividing line that runs straight through the heart of Sierra Madre.

As far as I am concerned, any city or town that cannot adequately provide for the needs of ALL of its children is a failure. So since this town has passed on its most important responsibility, what is left? Certainly its most obvious asset is that it is a very nice place to look at. The mountains are a beautiful backdrop to the interesting and eclectic array of homes, and our downtown has a funky and original ambience that makes it easy to enjoy.

The Little League program here is amazing, the best I've ever seen. I can't get my kids to wear anything but their baseball uniforms. Many of the people here are interesting and kind, some amazingly accomplished, and we certainly have a wild streak of eccentricity and individuality among us that clearly differentiates this burg from, let's say, Encino. And God bless us for that.

But these are all things endemic to the town itself, and hardly have anything to do with the workings of our government. So what blessings do we stand to gain should we go along with this plan to tear up the downtown area for a few years and replace it with the usual Los Angeles County fussy boutique generic with accompanying condos?

Will we seize back our schools from the Unified Monster? Will we demand that our dear benefactors the developers make some kind of huge cash payment for books, computers and other important education needs? Will we give our (someday, at least in our dreams) very own and top-rated Sierra Madre Public School District (take that, Arcadia!) teachers the big raise and smaller class sizes that they and our children so richly deserve? Fat chance on any of that. But apparently if we behave ourselves and do exactly what we're told to do, what we might be able to enjoy someday is - get this - a Trader Joes.

I don't know about you, but I do not particularly enjoy being patronized, or having it assumed that I will be so dazzled by the allure of new and exciting shopping opportunities that I will turn a blind eye to all the accompanying chaos and loss of civic control that comes with the chance to purchase organic goat cheese in town.

So here's the deal. I'm voting for Measure V. Why? Not because I don't understand the need for some renovations in our fair city. And not because I don't get that our police and other dedicated public servants clearly need the raise a wider tax base would make possible. No, I'm voting for Measure V because I for one cannot be coerced into selling out quite this cheaply.

Show me a plan that indicates our town officials have finally recognized their real responsibilities and maybe then I'll give them a listen. But until that time? Don't bother knocking on my door.

Ed Alverno, Arroyo Pacific Academy, La Salle, Maranatha, Pasadena High School, St. Francis, Sierra Mesa Middle School, The Barnhart School, The Gooden School, Field Elementary, 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

La Salle High School Students Sign National Letters of Intent

Kasey Johnson, Lauren McAulay and Sara Turcios receive full athletic scholarships

By John Blackstock



Photo courtesy La Salle High School
Lauren with parents, Coach Lopez and John Blackstock

Lauren McAulay Signs with San Francisco State

Senior soccer player, Lauren McAulay has signed a National Letter of Intent to attend San Francisco State on scholarship. Lauren, a varsity starter as a freshman she has earned four letters for soccer. She has been selected All League for two of the last three seasons.

Lauren fielded offers from a half dozen schools, most notably Loyola Marymount and USD, "but I really liked the program at San Francisco State and I love the bay area," she said.

Sal Lopez, the varsity head coach commented that "Lauren has proven to be a leader. She has demonstrated great ability to get the team together. She is the biggest influence behind our team working together and sacrificing themselves to win as a team."



Photo courtesy La Salle High School
Kasey with parents, Coach Lopez and John Blackstock

Kasey Johnson Signs with the University of Southern California

Senior, Kasey Johnson has signed a National Letter of Intent to attend the University of Southern California on a full athletic scholarship.

During the past year, Kasey was recruited by over 50 universities and colleges from coast to coast. Kasey interjected, "I really wanted to play on the west coast, and I had offers from every school in the PAC 10 and WCC. It was a wonderful problem to have - choosing from so many great schools, but I'm really looking forward to being a Trojan."

Kasey was also a Princess on the City of Sierra Madre's Tournament of Roses Float. Her father, Jeff, pointed out that she was always nervous speaking in front of large groups before the Rose Court experience. Now it's really no problem. "I kind of enjoy it," she said "A great once-in-a-lifetime experience."



Photo courtesy La Salle High School
Sarah and her mom, with Coach Lopez and John Blackstock

Sara Turcios Signs with the University of Washington

Senior Sara Turcios has signed a National Letter of Intent to attend the University of Washington in Seattle on a full athletic scholarship. Sara, a four year varsity letterman on the Lancers' soccer team was recruited by a dozen universities including Notre Dame, Oregon, Oregon State and Loyola Marymount. An aggressive midfielder, Sara has been named All-League for two of the past three years. She has been on the Cal South State ODP (Olympic Development Program) team since 2002.

Sara chose to play for the Huskies because she said it just "felt right" when she toured the campus, plus she has relatives in the Seattle area and can deal with the rain. "Washington is in the Pac 10 so there will be lots of trips to Southern California," she noted. Sara has also been invited to play for the U-20 Argentine National Team this summer.

SCHOOL DIRECTORY

Arroyo Pacific Academy
41 W. Santa Clara St.
Arcadia
(626) 294-0661

Alverno High School
200 N. Michillinda
(626) 355-3463
March 7-9, 2007 - Senior Retreat.

Bethany Christian School
93 B. N. Baldwin Ave.
(626) 355-3527
March 14-15, 2007 - Hoop-a-thon fundraiser for computer lab.
March 23, 2007 - Pre-school grandparent's day.
March 29, 2007 - Pre-school and kindergarten partner's day.

The Gooden School
192 N. Baldwin Ave.
(626) 355-2410
www.goodenschool.org
March 9, 2007 - Drama morning for kindergarteners, first graders, and second graders.
March 14, 2007 - Workshop for fourth and fifth grade parents whose children are going to middle school.
March 29-30, 2007 - No school for students.

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

March 15, 2007 - Grandparent's day celebration.
March 20-24, 2007 - Student Emerson Project in Tijuana, Mexico.
March 23, 24, 30, and 31, 2007 - Spring musical.
March 27, 2007 - Students make dinner at Union Station.
March 29, 2007 - Café biblio-tech (arts learning day).

Odyssey Charter School
725 W. Altadena Dr.
Altadena, CA
(626) 229-0993
www.odysseycharterschool.com

March 15, 2007 - Restaurant night at Souplantation, 5:30.
March 30, 2007 - Spring Performance.

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

March 12, 2007 - Welcome reception for Superintendent Diaz (Cafeteria 6:30-7:30)
March 23, 2007 - Spring dance and career fair.
March 30, 2007 - Talent show.

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

March 14, 2007 - Mother and son game night sponsored by the PTA.

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

March 14, 2007 - Mother and son game night sponsored by the PTA.
March 15, 2007 - Winter star session ends.
March 20, 2007 - School sight council meeting.
March 22, 2007 - ELAC meeting.

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

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By
Katrelya

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TABLE FOR TWO by PETER DILLS



The title of this story is Pub Grub. It rhymes but does it match? I have been writing/thinking about this for a few weeks now; I have visited a few restaurants that I would put in the category of having pub grub. I have visited Lucky Baldwin's, Yard House, Crown City Brewery, and Brits and have fond memories of the 'Old' John Bull on Fair Oaks. I finally put it all together after a visit to the Red Lion Tavern in Glendale. I was trying to compare apples to oranges and yes - Pub Grub to a Steak House. Unfair! The underlying bond at all of the pub grub places is an unpretentious good time.

The comedy about my search for the 'good food' was that in all the times that I mentioned, the food was just okay and at a certain pub the common reply was, "yea but did you try the fish and chips?" Okay, No! I didn't. Either fish and chips are incredibly easy to make or these restaurants all get their cod from the same purveyor.

The star at all of the above restaurants is the wide selection of beer - dark, light, bottled, filtered or on tap. The Red Lion Tavern in Glendale opened in 1962 and up until 3 years ago was owned by the same owners. The restaurant is two levels with bars on each level. My party enjoyed potato pancakes, schnitzel, a sausage platter, Hungarian Goulash and Beef Rouladen. Go to their web site www.redliontavern.net for the complete menu. Prices range from \$10 to \$20. Portions are large, and very suitable for sharing. Ask for extra pickles.

Reasons to go: Live music Thursday thru Sunday Night. Weather permitting, go to the upstairs patio and enjoy a cold beer with friends. Menu lends itself to sharing; Sausage Platter with Knackwurst, Bratwurst and Bockwurst. Atmosphere is very relaxed.

Reasons to stay away: Sorry I don't smoke, but you can stay at the bottom floor bar to stay clear of the smokers

Service: I give the service thumbs up; Tina was pleasant and attentive; in the upstairs patio the bar maid was overworked and told us immediately to go to the bartender for our drinks. Okay... We did and Scott took good care of us. I have been told regulars get better service.

Bottom Line: I am sure you have your favorites; let me know if I missed your favorite pub?

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The Rating Criteria:

****By train or plane I would find a way to get to this restaurant

***I would drive anywhere in the city to get to this restaurant

**If I am in the neighborhood I would go to this restaurant

*If I got a flat tire in front of this restaurant, I might go inside

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Sat. Mar 17-	Steven Huffstaders Jazz In Latin
Sun. Mar 18-	Opera to Broadway
Wed. Mar 21-	Crooner Rick Blessing
Thur Mar 22-	Preston Smith
Fri. Mar 23	Donovan Muradian Quartet
Sat. Mar 24-	Susan Krebbs

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Looking Up

With Bob Eklund



Photo by Jean Boenish

Others (like me) resist the change and keep thinking for weeks that "it's really six o'clock, even though the alarm clock says seven." But no matter how we may grump about the change when getting up, we all rejoice in that extra hour of sunlight at the end of the workday.

According to Webster, the term "Daylight Saving Time" entered the English language in 1919, the time change having been introduced the year before as a WWI energy-saving measure. With a few exceptions (notably Arizona and Hawaii, which remain on Standard Time year-round), it is now observed throughout the United States and in many other parts of the world.

Another exception happens to be in Sierra Madre's own back yard—atop Mt. Wilson. Since the sun and stars know nothing about Daylight Saving Time, the spring time change is a great inconvenience to astronomers. When my wife first went to work at Mount Wilson Observatory in the early 1980s, meals were served on Standard Time year-round. So a visiting astronomer who didn't know about this policy might be an hour early for dinner (which was better, at least, than being an hour late). In addition to Standard Time, astronomers also use Universal (Greenwich) Time and Sidereal Time—the time of the stars, which runs four minutes per day faster than ordinary (solar) time. Having to keep track of three clocks is complicated enough. But adding a fourth clock for Daylight Time for much of the year makes time more complicated than it needs to be. From an astronomer's point of view, we should just stay on Standard Time. To save energy, instead of changing their clocks, people could change their work schedules. The stars can't change theirs.

And so we humans tinker with time, trying to use it to our advantage. But what

This Sunday, March 11, we'll be setting our clocks ahead one hour, in keeping with Daylight Saving Time. "Spring forward and fall back" is how the saying goes.

The spring time change, traditionally on the first Sunday of April, has been moved beginning this year to the second Sunday in March. And we'll be setting our clocks back to Standard Time on Sunday, November 4 (instead of the last Sunday in October), when we regain that hour of sleep we lost in March.

These changes, mandated by the Energy Policy Act of 2005 in order to reduce the nation's electricity usage, extend Daylight Saving Time by one month.

Some people, it seems, can take the time change in stride, adjusting instantly to having the alarm go off an hour before it should.

TechKnowledge

Technology Science Business

A STITCH IN TIME

is time, anyway? On a globe like the Earth, the time of day is always dependent on space—on where we are situated in an east-west direction. When it's 7 a.m. in Sierra Madre, for example, one-third of the way around the globe, at the Greenwich Observatory near London, it is eight hours later—3 p.m.

There, marked by a north-south line drawn on the pavement in front of the Observatory, is the Prime Meridian—zero degrees longitude, and the place from which Universal Time (also called Greenwich Mean Time) is measured. To avoid confusion (such as, "are you talking Pacific Time or Eastern Time or what?"), scientists often express time measurements in terms of Universal Time—the time it would be if you were at Greenwich (during the part of the year when it is on Standard Time).

Just as the time of day is bound up with where you happen to be on the Earth, time seems to be intimately bound up with space in other ways. For example, clocks have been shown to run more slowly on board a moving rocket or high-speed airplane than when stationary, due to Einstein's Special Theory of Relativity—which also predicts that someone traveling aboard a spacecraft accelerated to velocities near the speed of light would age more slowly than a twin who stayed behind on Earth.

"Time is just like another direction in space," said Stephen Hawking. But as for me, the only directions in space that I can visualize are front-and-back, side-to-side, and up-and-down—and I am left asking what that other direction could be. At this point, other unanswerable questions begin to swim into my head—like how long is a moment, and what does "eternity" mean? For lack of a better explanation, I am left with Woody Allen's famous quip, "Eternity is very long, especially near the end."

For now, I am content to leave these deep questions of space and time to Professor Hawking and his physicist friends, and focus on the problem at hand: getting to work on time (instead of an hour late) on the first Monday of Daylight Saving Time. Wish me luck!

One hour of lost sleep.
And eight months of bright evenings:
A stitch in spacetime.

Time way out ahead
Of us, and we chasing it...
Later than you think.

(Poems used in this column, unless otherwise attributed, are copyright © 2007 by Robert L. Eklund.)

WorkForce

with Madeline

Q: I just completed a group project and have been selected to give a presentation in front of a rather large audience. I'm unaccustomed to giving speeches and am very nervous. What can I do to prepare myself?

A:

- Make sure you know your subject matter "inside and out." You're the expert.
- Write out your speech. An outline is fine for an experienced speaker, but if you're new at it and nervous, your notes might become just a blur. Do not read your speech. Your paper is just to refer to occasionally.
- Keep it as short as possible without leaving out essential information. No one likes to listen to long-winded speeches.
- Consider an "ice breaker." This reminds me of a recent presentation I went to by Harry Belafonte on human rights. He opened by singing the first line or two of his famous song, Day-O. Afterwards he said, "That's over with, so now I can get on with my speech." Of course, I don't expect you to burst into song.
- Personalize your speech by incorporating an anecdote about something that happened while working on the project. If it's humorous, all the better.
- Use hand gestures. Make them strong and appropriate. However, don't overdo.
- Use facial expressions to show emotion.
- Maintain eye contact with your audience.
- Vary the tone of your voice. Speaking in a monotone will surely put your audience to sleep.
- Prepare props to clarify the subject matter of your presentation.
- If a podium is provided, move away from it from time to time—more toward your audience.
- Allow a certain amount of time for audience questions. When that time is over, be firm about ending your presentation. There are always people who love to hear themselves talk and will go on and on with useless questions. Remember, you're in charge.
- Videotape your speech beforehand and analyze it. You'll probably be your harshest critic.
- Enroll in a public speaking class. This will increase your skills and give you confidence.

Good luck with your presentation.

Send your questions to Madeline at complype2@aol.com



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One of a Kind:

Featuring unique homes & gardens... and the people who create them

By Chris Bertrand

Bringing Old Treasures to New (Old) Residences



Gayle Stoner and Tom Jenkins prepare to photograph peepholes for doors for an out of state customer.

Where do those "in the know" shop to find authentic or unique building materials for an older home? The answer in the past two years has quickly become Pasadena Architectural

a collection of reference books, and much more.

In these days of internet sales, many of their inquiries come from far and wide. Today, Gayle and Tom received an inquiry about peepholes for doors. They prepared to photograph not one or two, but eight, for the customer's review. You want doorknobs? There are thousands. Glass, brass, chrome, plain, fancy, large and small. Rachel Ray's television show just filmed a segment, scheduled for early March, on budget conscious style with items from Pasadena Architectural Salvage, using, for instance, unusual doors as a headboard. More exotic re-uses of salvaged items are documented on an idea board. Two antique elevator cages are now in new usage, one as a garden gazebo, and another as a practice venue for a drummer.

Many items have traveled from previous "lives" in England, including arched church doors and the antique stained glass Hartlein drug store department signs, which include the Cigar department sign, complete with a venting window for cigar smoke. A recent salvage brought fabulous old doors stored on the property of a



Salvage. With 20 years of experience and 5 railroad cars of salvaged wrought iron, columns, doors of all sizes, windows, door handles, fireplace mantels, bathtubs and much more, owner, Cary Pasternak, moved his Houston based company to Pasadena in 2005. Retail Manager Gayle Stoner and Web Sales Manager Tom Jenkins also joined him in that move.

Pasadena's love of all things Craftsman seemed a natural location for the business specializing in building materials from 1880's-1930's. Designers, architects and savvy homeowners all find themselves dreaming and searching in the well organized store. Aisles of doors, hinged for easy inspection, lead to all manner of lighting fixtures, windows sized and categorized, extensive stained glass, Arts and Crafts furniture, quite

home formerly owned Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston. Their next salvage project is the 1912 La Canada School administration building. Who knows what treasures await?

Do you have a fascinating new use for a swinging carousel chair, an English stained glass portrait of Lady Rich of Boleyn lineage, or the robe closet from judge's chambers at the Old City Hall? Visit Architectural Salvage.

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BIRD'S EYE VIEW

By Pat Birdsall

Your Call Is Important To Us....

I know that all of you reading this can identify with this recent experience of mine...and then some.

I don't know what possessed me, but I felt the need to call our local cable company to ask a question about my bill. This would be the second call I've made since they became our cable provider.

The company preceding them, I believe, had a problem with the law.

After my first experience of being left on hold for over 15 minutes, that fact almost pales in comparison...This time I wrote down the time my call was answered by the ever so sincere recording, "Your call is important to us. Please continue to hold." Definition: We couldn't care less about you people because we have the contract. And while we're at it, we will have some fun with those of you stupid enough to try to talk to an actual "person." Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha.

I got the same emotionally-challenged young man I had waited an eternity to speak to the first time. I told him that I had been on hold for over 14 minutes and was a bit ticked off to say the least. Expecting to hear a profuse apology, all I got was a very bored, "What can I do for you?" How tempting...

I told him that I certainly couldn't be the only person to have ever complained about being on hold for so long. He told

me that people don't usually complain until they have been on hold for 20 minutes or longer; making me feel like a total loser because I had only endured fourteen.

I think this guy works alone and totally enjoys the drama elicited from callers when he finally takes their call. With his borderline sadistic personality I think he would be equally at home in any number of careers...He might revel in working for an HMO, assigned to inform people that their heart transplant procedure has been denied; or as a liquor salesman hawking his wares at rehab facilities and AA meetings. In his off hours he could be a blogger. No money in it but hey, you can rip people and reputations apart without the aid of a scalpel.

He ended up answering my question in about 20 seconds, but I still wasn't finished with him. I asked him if he would be happy waiting for 14 minutes.

In a totally exasperated tone of voice he told me that when he calls his gasoline credit card company about his account, he plans on at least a 20 minute wait and finds something to do to occupy his time. Frankly, the visual I had conjured up wasn't pretty...Suddenly, "please continue to hold" took on a whole new meaning.

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SPORTS

ALVERNO BASKETBALL SCORES



By Mary Claire Malooly,
Jaguar Basketball Co-captain

The Alverno High School basketball team had their best season in a long time this year, going to CIF playoffs for the first time in more than a decade. After a rocky pre-season when they won only one game, the Jaguars came back during the season and proved they wanted a spot in the playoffs.

The first playoff game was against Cornerstone Christian in Wildomar, CA. Danielle Tan, senior co-captain and starting guard for the Jaguars, said, "We didn't know what to expect but we played our hardest and we won!" The final score was 38-5, which gave the team the confidence boost for the next game.

The second round of playoffs was not any closer for the Jaguars, who spent two-and-a-half hours on a bus to play Noli Indian School in San Jacinto, CA. That long bus ride was worth it, because we won 48-29. You couldn't imagine how happy the team was after that game. All the way home on that bus we talked about how excited we were to go

to third round of playoffs.

After two days of practice, Alverno faced Los Angeles Baptist. La Salle High School graciously allowed the teams to play on their court, but unfortunately this proved to be the Jaguars' last game. They were defeated 28-49 by the #1 ranked North Hills school, which later went on to finals. "It was disappointing to lose the game," says senior starting forward Vanessa Cullen. "But we played our hearts out and that's all that counts."

Why was this the Jaguars' year to shine of the basketball court? Junior starting guard Melissa Campos put it this way. "We finally came together as a family, and when that happens you move as one. That's what allowed not just the starters but the whole team to move into playoffs."

Congratulations to the Alverno varsity basketball team for making it to quarter finals. They were the underdogs going into playoffs, but they proved they belonged there.

TUCKER ADDS TO PHS HISTORY BOOK



Photo courtesy Pasadena High School
Proud students and faculty, including principal, Dr. Derick Evans, far right corner, celebrate Coach Tucker's and the teams success.

By Larry Bortstein

For Pasadena High's boys basketball coach Tim Tucker, the third time was the charm.

Playing in their third CIF-Southern Section championship game under Tucker, the Bulldogs made off with the Division II-AA title Saturday at The Honda Center in Anaheim, defeating St. Bernard, 79-63.

Pasadena had lost in the finals in both 2002 and 2005 and their triumph gave the Bulldogs their first title in Tucker's 11-year reign.

"I waited a long time for this," the exultant coach said after the top-seeded Bulldogs (30-2) won the fourth boys basketball championship in school history. "I'm going to cherish this for a long time."

The victory elevated Pasadena to a spot in the Division I state playoffs.

Though the Bulldogs were far ahead in the closing moments, the game against St. Bernard seemed to Tucker as if it would never end.

"The last two minutes were like an hour," he said. "I kept looking at the score and the clock and hoping it would end."

Tucker was a player on one of

Pasadena's previous championship teams and his own son, Landon, is a member of this year's team.

Nigel Ajere, a senior forward who transferred to Pasadena this year from Arcadia High, led the Bulldogs in scoring in the Division II-AA title game with 27 points and also took down nine rebounds. Senior Trevon Harmon, the team's scoring leader all season, added 25 points and six assists.

"I came to the right team with the right players and we all came together to get this championship," Ajere said.

St. Bernard led, 24-23, early in the second quarter. But Pasadena scored the next 10 points, including five in a row by senior Torey Phillips, and took a 35-28 lead into intermission.

Phillips, playing his usual exceptional all-round game, finished with 17 points, five assists and four rebounds.

The Bulldogs dominated the boards, 32-17, and forced 20 turnovers, scoring 32 points on those Viking miscues.

Pasadena qualified for its spot in the II-AA final game with a 78-56 rout of Murrieta Valley at Muir High on Feb. 27.

St. Bernard reached the championship game by edging Arroyo Valley, 57-52.



View From The Couch

By Stanley J. Forrester

Bring Them Along, A Salute to Our Coaches

The other evening I was online and saw an article about the teenage phenom Michelle Wie, professional golfer. Everyone has an opinion regarding what young Ms. Wie who is 17 years old, should be doing. In case you are not a golf fan she is the young woman from Hawaii that wants to play and win on both tours, the Professional Golfers of America - PGA (men) and the Ladies Professional Golfers of America LPGA.

At the age of 15 she turned pro, and has been granted sponsor exemption to compete against the professionals. This past year she did not do very well, as a matter of fact she played better before she declared herself a professional. As a parent I am not sure what I would have done if faced with her dad's problem - a 15 year-old child being offered millions of dollars to become a professional golfer.

At the end of the article (back to my reading) there was a poll asking which would occur first in Ms. Wie's professional career: a) LPGA tour wins, b) making a cut on the PGA Tour or c) neither. Those questions caused me to think about how early we introduce organized sports into our children's lives. Do we do so to give them exercise or is it for other reasons? Those parents that have a young prodigy have a different set of issues which must be addressed. But those of us that

have the average child, not the budding superstar, we usually just want our children to play some type of organized sport. WHY?

Maybe it is because organized sports are such an important part of children's development and our society. AYSO, the youth soccer organization has caused the term "Soccer Mom" to be a part of our collective consciousness, and if you went to the opening of Little League in our town you know how important Little League and T-Ball are to the development of our young men and women. It is a right of passage.

However, is it that through team sports we want them to learn to do their best, play with integrity, and learn to work inside the framework of the team? We want them to learn that no one player is larger than the team and to learn how to work for the good of the team while exhibiting good sportsmanship.

Often those early years of organized sports is the first instance of relationships outside of the family. If it is an individual sport, like golf or tennis, the lessons regarding trying your best are the same. In either instance, team or individual, there is a real emphasis on relying on your talents and abilities to help you achieve your goals.

These lessons of techniques and sportsmanship are taught to every young athlete by a volunteer coach, that guy or gal that devotes their spare time to enhance the lives of our children. They can make a real difference in your life. I know they did for me. Thank You Coach Gil.

Gale Force Lancers Seize CIF Championship

By Larry Bortstein

La Salle's girls soccer team didn't allow Bishop Montgomery to score a goal in the Lancers' two Del Rey League meetings with the Knights during the regular season.



Photo by Jacqueline Troung

That's what concerned La Salle coach Sal Lopez when the Lancers faced Bishop Montgomery for the CIF Southern Section Division IV championship Saturday at Downey High's Allen Layne Stadium.

"It's hard to beat the same team three times in one season, especially a good team," Lopez said.

The Lancers pulled off the hat trick of shutouts, defeating the Knights, 1-0, on a goal by senior midfielder

Sarah Shevlin midway through the first half.

Goalkeeper Erin Smith recorded her third shutout of the season against Bishop Montgomery and 19th of the season as third-seeded La Salle finished a brilliant 25-2-2 season.

It was the first title for the Lancers in girls soccer since they shared Division V honors with Pasadena Poly in 2002.

La Salle out-shot Bishop Montgomery by a wide margin, 23-5, twice missing the mark close to the Knights' net. Bishop Montgomery ended the season with a 15-6-3 record.

The championship game was hard-fought, but didn't compare in intensity with La Salle's semifinal matchup the previous Tuesday against second seed Granite Hills of Apple Valley on the opponent's pitch about 100 miles from home.

The Lancers didn't assure themselves of a berth in the title game until the 106th minute when Kasey Johnson scored a sudden death goal on a pass from Lauren McAulay.

"This was the hardest game I ever played in," Johnson, who will play at USC next year, said after the marathon struggle.

Desert winds gusting as high as 40 miles per hour affected the play of both the Lancers and Cougars.

La Salle took 14 shots on goal, to four for Granite Hills, but neither team was able to break through until Johnson's sudden death score.

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