



THE MT. WILSON OBSERVER

A DEUXAMIS PUBLICATION

WHERE YOUR COMMUNITY NEWS COMES FIRST

Friday, April 20 - April 26, 2007 Volume 2, No.16

Village People Prevail With Measure V Victory

By Katina Dunn

"It just goes to show that people in Sierra Madre are quite capable of making informed decisions."

— Heidi Hood

There are 88 provisional votes and about 30 more absentee votes to be counted, however, Measure V passed last Tuesday with 1,796 yes votes against 1,703 no votes, 51% to 49%, according to City Clerk Nancy Shollenberger last Wednesday. Measure V requires a vote of the people to approve building projects which go beyond the city's existing standards. All other processes remain the same, via Planning Commission and City Council.

The remaining votes will be counted next week.



Photo By Susan Henderson

There they will be checked for validity, Shollenberger said. About 40% of registered voters turned out, similar to last April's election for city council. Votes counted from three precincts totaled 3,499, Shollenberger said. "They almost sold out our town for big money," Clerk, in Norwalk.

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Measure V Opponents Have Mixed Reactions

By Susan Henderson

When the absentee voter counts came into City Hall on election night, the No on V supporters celebrated. "It's all over now," said realtor Dan Bryant, who lives outside Sierra Madre. "There's no way Measure V will pass."

The initial figures showed the initiative losing by 111 absentee votes or 58% to 42%.

Several opponents soon left City Hall to join other members of their campaign at the home of Sue Levee for a victory celebration.

After 9 p.m. when (continued page 7)

All Aboard with the Civic Club



Photo Courtesy of Civic Club

Anita Thompson conducted the Civic Club's recent auction, attended by 300 guests. Historian Phyllis Chapman reports that Ann Bixel created festive kites overhead, and Gail Skiles designed floral centerpieces with mini street cars. Judie Cimino's beautiful, homemade quilt was auctioned off. After the event, Club President Suzanne Decker and Ways and Means Co-Chairs Vickie Vernon and Nancy Fox hopefully had a well deserved rest. The event was catered by Green Street Restaurant.



Photo Courtesy of Priscillas
Three Generations of Lovely Priscillas
Centennial Tea was celebrated recently by members of one of Sierra Madre's most honored clubs The Priscillas. The Club originated in the 1890s, according to Historian Phyllis Chapman. (Photo from left) Mildred Berkshire and three generations of Priscillas: Marjorie Golden, Lynn-Marie Schlote and Lia Schlote.



Photos by Jennifer Dakan
Happy 60th Birthday Sierra Madre Nursery School
By Meredith Petersen

It was a very nice celebration of the preschool's 60th birthday. SMCNS was opened on April 14, 1947 by Milton and Harriet Goldberg. At the celebration there were 5 boulders around the front of the school, engraved with the names of families who contributed enormously to the school. There was birthday cake, bubble blowing and a craft table for making macaroni neckties.



A Word From The Publishers of The Mt. Wilson Observer:

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our readers and advertisers for their continued support. We are happy to announce that we have distributed over 200,000 newspapers since October, 2006.

Our advertisers have their own political beliefs that are independent of opinions expressed in columns and letters published in this newspaper. We encourage our readers to patronize all of our city's merchants and businesses. Thank you once again.

Katina Dunn & Susan Henderson, Publishers

Explosion In Mailbox On Park Avenue

By Katina Dunn



Photography by Hood

Police are investigating the mailbox blown to smithereens at the address of an electrician who grew up in the area, and who has worked on the homes and businesses of generations of families since 1958.

"It was a big boom," said Ed Clare, who is waiting for results from arson investigators. "The Sierra Madre police department responded immediately," said Clare. "I appreciate their response. I appreciate their professionalism."

Many heard the explosion Sunday night at 6 p.m. on Park Avenue, a quiet, pretty tree-lined street without sidewalks. Shrapnel from the exploded metal was found across the street and down the block, Clare said. He was eating at the Corfu restaurant when the blast occurred, and was summoned home by police, who called his cell phone. Clare also said he wanted to thank the community for being so supportive. "Friends and neighbors have stopped by and called us to offer their support," said Clare.

"It reassures us that we have good friends here in town."

In the week prior to the election on Measure V, 13 mail boxes belonging to pro-Measure V residents were vandalized on Acacia Street. During the City Council meeting April 10, resident Leslee Hinton said she filed a report with the FBI. Two other residents who have spoken on behalf of Measure V at City Council meetings reported a shattered car window and a smashed car mirror to the police department.

Mayor John Buchanan, contacted at home Sunday night after the mail box blast, said such an action could be a federal civil rights issue. "There is no excuse for anybody to do that for any motivation," said the Mayor. "Suppressing the vote is a denial of constitutional rights. It's wrong if it is attempting to target people for political purposes."

Last Tuesday, Police Chief Marilyn Diaz said that Captain Larry Giannone (promoted from Lieutenant) is investigating the bombing and incidents of vandalism. Diaz also acknowledged that the police blotters released to the local press this week were missing some information on vandalism committed on properties whose owners advocated for Measure V.

"I think we have them trained now to be more inclusive," said Diaz of her staff. "Whether any of these incidents were suggestive of political motivation." Regarding further reports of people pressuring neighbors and business people, and what could be done to stop it, Diaz said "If anyone feels uncomfortable about the direction a conversation is going, they are entitled to end it."

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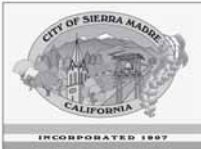
Weather Wise

5-Day Forecast for Sierra Madre, Ca.

Longitude W118.0, Latitude N34.2

Friday:	Sunny	Hi 70 - 80s	Lows 50s Windy
Saturday:	Partly Sunny	Hi 60 - 70s	Lows 50s
Sunday:	Sunny	Hi 70 - 80s	Lows 50s
Monday:	Sunny	Hi 70 - 80s	Lows 50s
Tuesday:	Sunny	Hi 70 - 80s	Lows 50s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service



City of Sierra Madre April Events

- 20 - Friends of the Library Cuisine and Wine Tasting - 7:00 PM - Alverno Villa
- 24 - Regular City Council Meeting - 6:30 PM - Council Chamber
- 25 - Library Board of Trustees Meeting - 7:00 PM - Conference Room
- 25 - All-America City Rally - 6:00 PM - Sierra Madre School
- 27 - Arbor Day
- 27 - City Hall Closed

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

Roy Roams' 91024

Volunteer to Serve on a City Commission!

- Community Services
- Tree Advisory
- Senior Community
- Community Arts
- Planning

For an application, visit www.cityofsierramadre.com.

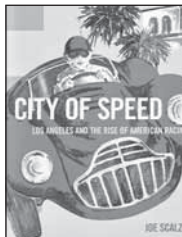
For more information please call (626) 355-7135

So Very Lizzie

When we stopped at the time capsule that is Lizzie's Trail Inn last Saturday, we were captivated by a photo of a flour-dusted lady making raviolis. It turns out Lizzie was famous for her raviolis - a good thing to be famous for in Sierra Madre decades ago. These days, Sierra Madre Pizza Company serves a nice dish of raviolis.

Many Joes but Which Joe?

Author Joe Scalzo would like to thank anybody wearing those "I'm For Joe" buttons. This gives him much needed support, since writing can be an excruciatingly solitary experience. Good to know the community is behind him.



SIERRA MADRE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Classes from the 40's Reunion

May 19th, 2007 11:30am - 5:00pm

THE OAK TREE ROOM

1150 Colorado Blvd.
Arcadia, Ca. 91006

Bring Pictures Old and New

There will be a tour of the school at 3:00pm

Followed by Picture Taking

Cost is \$30.93 per person

R.S.V.P. Louise Knight (Edwards) 626-351-9368

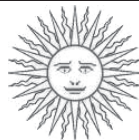
(Cut-off date May 1, 2007)

Friday, April 20 from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Friends of The Sierra Madre Library Wine Tasting
All proceeds go to the Sierra Madre Library. The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library contribute \$50,000 annually to children's and adult's programs, services and acquisitions for the collection.

Tickets are still available to Sierra Madre Library's Centennial Cuisine and Wine Tasting tonight at the elegant Alverno Villa in Sierra Madre.

Tickets, at \$60, will be available at the door and are also available in advance at the Sierra Madre Library, Savor the Flavor on Kersting Court and Arnold's Frontier Hardware on Sierra Madre Boulevard.

Popular area restaurants will showcase their cuisine and offer a variety of foods and beverages that will tempt the palate. Participating restaurants include: Lucky Baldwin's Delirium, Bristol Farms, Cafe 322, Chandra Thai, Claro's Italian Market, Corfu, El Cholo, Green Street, Matt Denny's Alehouse, Madeleine's, Nano, Papa John's, Pie 'N Burger, Restaurant Lozano, Starbucks, Sweets Pastries and More, The Only Place in Town, Trader Joe's, Village Pizzeria, Wildflower Baking Company, and Whole Foods.



Saturday, April 21st from 6:30 p.m.
Bingo promptly at 7:30 p.m.
Legendary Bingo Benefit for Sierra Madre Rose Float Association
The Sierra Madre Recreation Center at 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Admission: \$20 donation at the Door.
Pizza, Beer/Wine, Soft Drinks & Prizes
Call (626) 355-7005

Saturday April 28 and Sunday April 29
Theodore Payne 4th Annual Native Plant Garden Tour
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
See 30 Great Los Angeles Gardens
Attend seminar on butterfly gardens
Saturday 6:30 p.m. Tickets \$20
Visit www.theodorepayne.org

Saturday, April 28, 11:30 am
Centennial Year Sierra Madre Woman's Club Fashion Show
"The Fashionable Sierra Madre Woman - Then and Now" Tickets \$20 (626) 355-6225

Sunday, May 13 at 6:30 p.m.
"The Journey to Oz"
"MovieTalk" by Leo Braudy, English Department at USC
Sierra Madre's Centennial One Book, One City 2007
The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum.
Watch the Film after the Lecture
Sierra Madre School Auditorium at 141 W. Highland Ave.
Free - For more info, call (626) 355-7186

Sierra Madre is Finalist for 2007 All-America City
Join the Delegation by Wednesday, May 16
National Civic League event from June 6th through June 8th
Register with Elisa Weaver, Chair of Delegation (626) 355-5278
Cost: \$100 per delegate.
www.cityofsierramadre.com
(Group rates available for hotels)

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Farmer's Market

Every Saturday

8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Its strawberry season! Lili's herbs, fresh flowers, honey... Menu & tamale stand. Bring the kiddies. CAR WASH & Swap Meet 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. to benefit

All Star Band Trip to London

Swap Meet continues Sunday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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Friday April 20: Chris Murphy

Saturday April 21: Buzzin Cousin

Lucky Baldwin's

21 Kersting Court

Fish & Chips

(626) 355-1140

Mary's Market

Meet New Manager Henore Letourneau

561 Woodland Drive

(626) 355-4534

Got Electronic-Waste?

La Salle High School Press Release - March 27, 2007

La Salle Hosts Collection Event April 28 and 29

Pasadena, CA - Bought that new 56" Plasma TV or high-tech laptop over the holidays and don't know what to do with your old one. You could put it in your garage to gather dust and take up space or you could bring it to the La Salle High School parking lot on April 28 and 29 from 9:00am to 3:00pm both days, for the e-waste collection event. For the second year in a row, Universal Waste Management, Inc. and La Salle Environmental Sciences will be hosting a FREE drop off event for electronic waste items. The proceeds from the event will benefit La Salle.

In February 2006, State law prohibited the disposal of electronic waste because of the long-term environmental implications it poses. On average, a single computer monitor contains 4 to 8 lbs of lead, making it "hazardous" upon disposal. The National Recycling Coalition estimates nearly 500 million computers will become obsolete this year, ¼ of which will be stockpiled in garages, closets, and attics, possibly exposing their owners to toxic substances. This year alone, 3 billion pounds of lead could be diverted from the landfills and water tables if consumers simply dispose of these items properly. Last year La Salle collected over 200,000 tons of e-waste. Please join La Salle for this most important community service event on April 28 and 29.

La Salle High School is located at 3880 East Sierra Madre Boulevard at the corner of Sierra Madre Boulevard and Michillinda Avenue in northeast Pasadena.

For more information regarding e-waste call La Salle at 626.696.4349 or visit the California Integrated Waste Management Board electronics website at www.ciwm.ca.gov/electronics

Mission to Asteroids

Marc Rayman

Sunday, April 22, 2:30 p.m.

Mankind's next small step (or giant leap) spaceward is NASA's Dawn Mission to the Asteroid Belt, planned for launch in late June or July. Dr. Marc Rayman of JPL will describe the Dawn mission, including its use of ion propulsion and its two exotic destinations.

The Dawn spacecraft will orbit asteroids Ceres and Vesta, which are among the last unexplored worlds in the inner solar system. They are the two most massive residents of the asteroid belt, a vast collection of bodies between Mars and Jupiter. Ceres is so large that it is included in the new category of dwarf planets (along with Pluto). The alien landscapes the Dawn orbiter will reveal are expected to provide humankind with a new perspective on the solar system. Remnants from the time when planets were formed, Ceres and Vesta may hold clues to help scientists understand the dawn of the solar system. This will be the first spacecraft ever to orbit an object in the asteroid belt and the first ever to orbit two targets. Such a mission would be impossible without the use of ion propulsion, a technology that has, until now, been mainly in the domain of science fiction.

The Altadena Public Library is located at 600 E. Mariposa Street in Altadena, two stop signs west of Lake Avenue at the corner of Mariposa and Santa Rosa Avenue ("Christmas Tree Lane"). Exit the 210 freeway at Lake Avenue in Pasadena and go approximately 2.5 miles north to Mariposa Street in Altadena. Turn left on Mariposa, go to the second stop sign, turn left on Santa Rosa, and turn into the parking lot at the first driveway on your right. The lecture is in the library's Community Room.

MWOA is a public-membership support group for the Mount Wilson Observatory, a major astronomical research facility located in the San Gabriel Mountains. MWOA's goals include improving the public's awareness of this observatory's rich history and ongoing scientific and educational programs.

For information about MWOA membership, call Don Nicholson at (310) 476-4413, or see the MWOA web site, www.mwoa.org.



Photo by Katina Dunn

Dr. Bill White Steps Back in Time at Lizzie's Trail Inn
Stop by Lizzie's Trail Inn on a Saturday between 10 a.m. to noon at Mira Monte and the Mt. Wilson Trail. "You'll see the place my momma told me to stay out of," said Bill Newbery last Saturday, swapping stories on the front porch. "They served beer and wine at that time and my parents would go in and Lizzie would bring candy to us out here." Dr. White is also usually around, delighted to share his knowledge. "The history is so fascinating," said Dr. White. "This is a very unique, independent-thinking city."

Earth Day 2007

I realize that Earth Day matters. It's a big deal. It's important. It's the day we toss all of the incandescent light bulbs and commit to carpooling and finally run the dishwasher (it's been filling up for a year). And who boy, that first Earth Day back in 1970, that was a doozy. It was the birth of the modern environmental movement. It earned founder Senator Gaylord Nelson the Presidential Medal of Freedom (the highest honor given to citizens of the United States who have never been to boot camp). It led to the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency, and to the passage of the Clean Air, Clean Water and Endangered Species Acts.

But even so, I am having a hard time working up a whole lot of enthusiasm for Earth Days of late. They have been more like yearly reminders of how pathetic we Americans are at organizing a halfway decent rally. It's always Mr. So and So's 3rd grade class building an above ground garden bed. Or, tens of people picking up cigarette butts and silver Capri Sun waste (Juice in a bag! Genius!) at Seal Beach on a Saturday morning. Where's the excitement?

Meanwhile, in India this week, angry crowds in several cities burned and beat effigies of Richard Gere after he hugged (in a movie star sort of way) and kissed (on the cheek) Bollywood actress Shilpa Shetty at an HIV/AIDS awareness event in New Delhi. "Such a public display is not part of Indian tradition," said the spokesman for the Hindu nationalist party. Umm, on second thought, maybe a nice quiet little morning of planting trees is just what the doctor ordered.

If you are in search of nonviolent ways to honor and celebrate your planet on the one day each year when such nonsense is officially sanctioned, may I suggest that you head for the Fresno Hills tomorrow? You can make it if you wake up early. Arrive at the Millerton Lake State Recreation Area (I don't know! Use map quest you lazy bum) at 10 a.m. to help put some native plants and trees into the ground. Then, if you like, stick around and lend your effort to the refurbishment and completion of the nature trail. Or, you can help out at the California Citrus State Historic Park. It's real. It's in Riverside. It needs trees trimmed and some drip irrigation installed.

If you are looking for something closer to

home that does not involve back-breaking labor and sunburn, travel to the Conscious Living Fair at the Pasadena Convention Center. Here you will find a "joyful gathering of persons committed to healthy living, personal growth, natural healing, spiritual awareness and living in harmony with nature." You can take their lunch money. No! Don't do that. But please do feel free to browse the latest products and services offered by 180 vendors, and "discover hidden powers within yourself as you explore the frontiers of your consciousness."

Even better, explore the frontiers of the olive bar at Whole Foods, Pasadena, (yes, the sign says no sampling, but that only means when actual employees are *watching*) where there will be environmental exhibits, coupons, a chance to trade in your old cell phone, and, at 2 p.m. a kids' "Gardening" Club. I don't understand the quotation marks around the word "gardening" here. They don't belong to me - they are from a Whole Foods employee. I can only guess that it isn't simply gardening because, whatever it is, it will be happening in a busy parking lot with very small parking spaces.

Anyway, yay for Earth Day 2007 California style! Crystals and dream catchers at the convention center followed by some good old fashioned free market exploitation at the organic-themed grocery chain. It could be way worse. At least you won't be marching the streets, yelling slogans with painful puns, wielding tempera painted signs that no one will read. That's hard work.



Midge Morash & Friends Tend to Bailey Canyon



Twice a year, Midge Morash of the Sierra Madre Environmental Action Committee (SMEAC) gets together with a group of citizens to clean up Bailey Canyon. SMEAC was formed about 40 years ago inspired by two ecology-minded Girl Scout troops and the concept of Earth Day. Last weekend, Morash & friends Jesus Belasco, Chuck and Dorothy Havard and about 30 others gathered and chopped dead branches and cleaned up Wilderness Park. Morash helped create both the Live Oak Nature Trail and the Canyon View Nature Trail in Bailey Canyon. Join Morash & friends with the mourning doves, northern mockingbirds and red tailed hawks at Wilderness Park. Call (626) 355-7606 to join SMEAC.



ELECTION (continued from page 1)

said resident Diane Shear.

"Some of my best friends are No People," said resident Debbie Sheridan. Sheridan and others echoed a desire for residents to now come together after a fractious campaign.

"They did a good job of confusing the voters," said David Smith, who described his view of the No on V supporters. Smith noted that the No on V group called themselves preservationists, claimed elections would cost the taxpayers lots of money, and suggested Measure V would cause high density condo units to be built in the city's neighborhoods. "It was the Big Lie," he said.

"They confused the people big time," said Rick Chartaw about supporters of the No on V campaign.

Realtor Dan Bryant of Prudential said "What is sad about that is, I had 150 inquiries on that property (the Howie's Market Site proposal which features 72 condos plus shops plus parking structure) and I had 50 offers. Roberta Jones, the owner of the market - her family was one of the pioneer families of Sierra Madre and she was on the city council - she interviewed every one of the 10 finalists; she selected the developer who would do the best project in Sierra Madre. She chose Mark Nashed." Bryant indicated he might sell the property again.

No on V proponents segued to the home of resident Sue Levee to watch the votes on TV, including Mayor John Buchanan. The storefronts of Webb-Martin Realty and Prudential, whose owners were both visible activists in the battle against local control, were dark and unoccupied late Tuesday night when the votes were counted.

At City Hall, the only Council Member present for the vote count was Kurt Zimmerman. Other attendees included Chip Ahlsweide and Tiffany Delepine of Schubert & Flint Public Affairs, the consultants who ran the No on V campaign.

Buchanan and Mayor Pro Tem Enid Joffe had both appeared as sponsors of No on V flyers distributed throughout town paid for from at least \$170,000 from state and national realtor organizations as well as the

Building Industry Association. Measure V supporters said that the initiative would not have been necessary if City Council Member Joe Mosca had voted at a city council meeting last June to allow the people's vote on the Downtown Specific Plan, as he had promised to do in his campaign.

"I'm happy the vote and election are over," said Mosca, who watched the vote totals from home. "Essentially, we'll look to integrate Measure V into our laws. We need desperately to come together and heal some of the wounds that have come up in the last couple of months. The people of Sierra Madre have voted to make this a law and I am fully prepared to enforce that. We'll have to make sure it will be integrated as smoothly as possible. We will work hard to put that in place."

Resident Caroline Brown said she figured "the special interests paid \$99 per vote."

"This is a victory, not only for the residents of Sierra Madre, but for the democratic process," said Zimmerman. "The yes votes for Measure V are proof positive that a grass-roots political movement can still make a difference. I hope what the Sierra Madre Residents for Responsible Development (SMRRD) accomplished tonight will inspire and empower other organizations to preserve what is good in their towns."

Bill Tice, who said he has run in every Sierra Madre election, was the first one at city hall for the vote count at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday. Tice also accurately predicted the outcome of the election.

"Wouldn't it be nice to live in a society where we were all friends?" asked Tice. "Sounds like heaven."

Resident Steve Isokane later said "Through this whole process I feel fortunate to be living in a community that is willing to stick up for itself. And in the end, I think it makes for a stronger city."

"They voted to keep it a village," said Kathleen Hood.

APRIL

20 - Centennial Friends of the Library Cuisine and Wine Tasting at Alverno High School
 22 - Creative Arts Group Garden Tour, various locations
 23 - Redlands Chapel Singers at Church of the Ascension
 25 - All-America City Delegation Rally, Sierra Madre Elementary School, Lower Campus, 6 pm
 29 - Healthy Family Fun Days: Overnight Camp-Out to Orchard Camp with Search & Rescue

CENTENNIAL PINS are now available for \$5 each at various shops in town.
 CENTENNIAL CALENDARS listing commemorative events throughout 2007 in the community have been sent to every home in Sierra Madre. Additional copies of the beautiful commemorative calendars are available at the library.



A Centennial Reflection

The heartbeat of a community is caught in poetry and art. During the '60's through the 80's several local writers formed the Washington group of the Chapparel Poets of Southern California, and met monthly in the basement of the Sierra Madre library. Among them were Millie Solury Berkshire, Daisy Marsh McFarlane, and Esther Webb. Their work was broadcast over FM radio station KMAX on the first Tuesday of each month. They brought beauty and inspiration to our community. A small anthology was published with cover art (shown above) by Marvin Weese. In celebration of our Centennial, it is fitting to quote from a poem on Sierra Madre by Wistaria poet Olive Herring...

...colors are ever changing
 Trails wind up the mountainside
 Here my soul knows God is living
 Here my heart knows paradise!
 All the ever growing wonder
 Of a mountain's charm spell
 Here is life and love's enchantment
 More than words can ever tell...

From Fay Angus (Resident of Sierra Madre for 48 years)

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ARMED RESPONSE

Fire Safe Council TIP OF THE WEEK
From Caroline Brown

It is beginning to sound as if we have a new weather pattern in Southern California: Brush Fires on Thursday, in Beverly Hills this time, followed by rain on Sunday. This was the pattern for the week before Easter with fires in the Hollywood Hills and Hesperia, with drizzle on Easter Sunday. Homeowners in the "Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones" of Southern California are vulnerable to brush fire in their immediate vicinity but also to "preparation fatigue." Not unlike "Hurricane Evacuation Fatigue" that was in the Louisiana Newspapers when Katrina and Rita were preceded by Hurricane Cindy that few of us knew of outside the area. We cannot be complacent when it comes to preparing a defensible space around our homes for fire fighters' safety and the added assurance needed to keep the fire from advancing on our homes. Go to: www.firesafecouncil.org for information.

The Sierra Madre Fire Safe Council is participating in the Southern California chapter of the Society of American Foresters meeting on April 20 and 21 at Nature Friends Club House in Sierra Madre Canyon. The meeting is open to all who share an interest in forestry, fire safety, open space and water conservation. If you have not pre-registered you can register and pay for the conference at Nature Friends the day of the meeting.

The next Fire Safe Council meeting will be May 14 at 7 P.M. in the City Council chambers. Call 355-9350 or 355-1182 for information.

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SIERRA MADRE POLICE BLOTTER

During the week of Sunday, April 8th, to Saturday April 14th, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 196 calls for service.

Tuesday, April 10th:

6:47 AM - Vandalism, 500 block Acacia St. A resident reported his U.S. Postal box damaged. The damage occurred between 7:30 PM Monday, 4/9 and 6:15 Tuesday, 4/10. The mail box was valued at \$20.00.
6:59 AM - Vandalism, 700 block Valle Vista Drive. A resident reported his U.S. Postal box damaged. The damage occurred between 6:30 PM Monday, 4/9 and 6:15 Tuesday, 4/10. The mail box was valued at \$149.00.
7:51 AM - Vandalism, 600 block Valle Vista Drive. A resident reported his mail box damaged. The damage occurred between 6:00 PM Monday, 4/9 and 7:00 AM Tuesday 4/10. The box was valued at \$50.00.
9:45 AM - Vandalism, 500 block Acacia Street. Three additional residents in the 500 block of Acacia Street reported damage to their home mail boxes. The damage occurred between 9:00 PM Monday, 4/9 and 6:00 AM Tuesday, 4/10. Total damage to the three boxes was estimated at \$150.00 each box.

Wednesday, April 11th:

8:56 AM - Vandalism, 100 block East Highland Ave. A resident reported his car, fence and "No on Measure V" sign were egged. The damage occurred between 9:30 PM Tuesday, 4/10 and 8:50 AM Wednesday 4/11. The damage was estimated at \$100.00.

Saturday, April 14th:

8:47 AM - Tampering with a vehicle, 300 block East Grandview Ave. A resident reported the driver's side rearview mirror smashed. The car was last seen undamaged at 11:00 PM, 4/13 and discovered 4/14 at 8:00 AM. No repair estimate was available.
9:05 AM - Tampering with a vehicle, 500 block West Highland Ave. A resident reported his driver's side car window smashed. The owner of the car told the officer nothing was missing from his car. The car was parked Friday, undamaged at 11:45 PM and the broken window was found Saturday, 4/14 at 9:00 AM. No repair estimate was available.

Pasadena Conservatory of Music

2005 Grammy Award Winner
David Russell
to present a Guitar Masterclass
at the Pasadena Conservatory of Music.
Sunday, April 22, 2007 @ 3:00pm

Classical guitarist, David Russell was the 2005 Grammy Award Winner for his CD Aire Latino, in the category of best instrumental soloist in classical music. He is world renowned for his superb musicianship and inspired artistry.

Mr. Russell has won numerous international competitions, including the Andres Segovia Competition, the Jose Ramirez Competition and Spain's prestigious Francisco Tarrega Competition. He has recorded eleven CD's with Telarc International, with whom he has an exclusive contract. Upon hearing Russell play in London, Andres Segovia wrote: "My congratulations on your musicality and guitaristic technique."

If you'd like more information about classes, lessons or concerts at the Pasadena Conservatory of Music, you may call us at (626) 683-3355, visit our website at www.pasadenaconservatory.org or email us at music@pasadenaconservatory.org.

Admission is FREE to PCM students and families and \$15.00 for the general public.

Mountain Clymer

By Kim Clymer

Thoughts After The Pack Station Part 4 of 5

Kim Clymer used to own the pack station in the San Gabriel Mountains. Now she is involved in other pursuits, including wrestling with philosophical issues and writing.

Electric Activism

Recently, I had another real eye-opening experience...one that made me realize just how oblivious (or maybe just indifferent or in denial) many people are to the seriousness of the situation our planet is in and to how their choices and priorities in life are taking us right to the edge of that cliff at an ever-quicken pace.

In an effort to do something that could make a small but measurable impact on global warming, I started "Sierra Madre's Bright Idea", an organization whose mission it is to distribute free compact fluorescent light bulbs and to educate the public about the effects that switching to them could have on the planet.

We set up a booth in Kersting Court a couple months ago for our first "give-away". We stopped everyone who passed by and offered them a bulb and told them the facts on the importance of using them. The facts are astonishing. Not only can you save up to 75% on the lighting part of your electric bill, but if every household in America switched just one standard incandescent bulb to a CFL, it would save enough energy to power a city of 1.5 million people or every household in Delaware and Rhode Island or we could shut down one standard power plant in the country. It would also reduce the amount of greenhouse gasses emitted into the air by as much as removing 1.3 million cars from the road. These facts are more than just a little impressive.

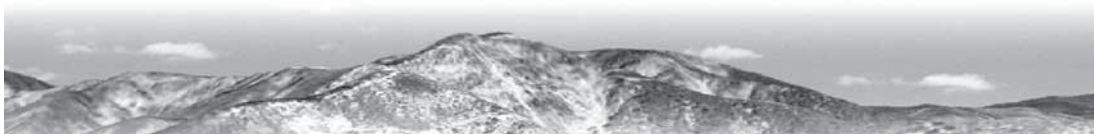
I would have thought that they would be

enough to persuade even those who have little or no regard for environmental issues...just for the plain fact that they would save \$35 over the lifetime of each light bulb they replace and would not have to get out the step ladder to change that hard-to-reach bulb again for another 5 years.

I thought that I had all the angles covered...a free bulb (no one would turn down free) that saves you lots of money and saves the world...who could say no to that??? Apparently not one, but quite a few people during the day... "no thank you" ... "we don't like the color of the light they put out"...never mind that they are now made so that the color (once a slightly greener hue than standard bulbs) is now indiscernible from that of incandescent lighting (which we were quick to inform those who presented that as an argument)...it was still apparently just too inconvenient and potentially aesthetically disruptive for them to take our free bulb and screw it in when they got home.

I could not help but try to understand exactly how these people prioritize things in their life...what thought process goes on in the heads of those who think like that?...

"On one hand I could possibly prevent having my navy couch cushions appear slightly teal, and on the other hand I could help prevent our planet from losing its ability to sustain life...couch cushions?...destruction of life on the planet?...tough call, but I just cannot see just throwing away all of that hard work my interior decorator but into my living room."



The Mt. Wilson Observer PASADENA

The Search for PCC's New President

By Dean Lee



Power Struggle - Faculty Adviser Mikki Bolliger playfully knights campus president Dr. James Kossler as both are set to retire at semester's end. Bolliger joked that she was leaving not being able to go through "breaking in" a new president.

The section of a new Pasadena City College President is in full swing—with the Vice President's (CFO) position at the school still vacant—as the first level hiring committee met Friday setting a timeline for candidate interviews and the College Board of Trustees set July 6 as the date they will announce PCC's next president.

The vice president position is also unfilled nine months after that position was vacated. A number of applicants have turned down offers made by the school although interim vice president Dr. James Albanese said that was changing. Albanese said April 4 the VP hiring committee, on which he sits, had a number of new potential candidates moving the process forward. The college is currently closed for the spring break.

Just before we started interviewing one of them took another job," Albanese said. "Another had second thoughts about leaving the district he was in after negotiating a raise similar to what we offered." He said he could not comment much more than that.

PCC's current president Dr. James Kossler announced Jan. 18 he was also stepping down to retire, after holding the position since 1995, saying his years as president were the single greatest privilege of his professional life.

Some described the announcement as very unexpected, almost shocking, leading some to believe there was something more to his retirement.

"After forty years in education, nineteen years with PCC, and twelve years as president, I think it is time to move on to another stage in my life," Kossler said in a

message to the campus.

Kossler had been under fire for a number of issues last year including his support for internet monitoring of faculty and staff. Some college trustees said they were disgusted and voted to cease the practice immediately.

Administrators said Kossler's retirement was long overdue with an average community college president lasting four to five years max.

Albanese said he thought the VP position would be somewhat more difficult to fill unlike the president. He also said he was personally contracted to stay until a new VP was hired.

"You have to realize that there are only 70 or so core college districts, each with a CFO, unlike the president where each college has one," Albanese said. "There are 127 community colleges in the state."

He went on to say that, further complicating the situation, currently statewide only six or seven openings existed for a CFO unlike the 40 openings for community college presidents. Santa Monica City College was the only school in Southern California with a CFO opening he said.

"The president and vice president work closely together," Albanese said. "This school's in fine shape and I don't see a problem with having new people filling both these positions."

Albanese was named PCC's interim vice president in July by the Board of Trustees on which Kossler sits.

A number of PCC governing bodies have held open meetings gathering input from community leaders along with faculty, staff and students on what they thought a new ideal leader should be qualified to do.

They agreed an applicant should have the ability to promote and apply the principles of shared governance and have sensitivity to the multicultural diversity of the college community and a diverse faculty, staff, and student body among other things.

PCC Student Samuel Perry III said he thought a new president should increase the library's study rooms, increase computer availability for student use, monitor restroom maintenance and improve textbook prices. PCC's website states that the VP should also have a good sense of humor.

Everyone knows Pasadena; this should attract presidential applicants from all over the country," Albanese said. "Possibly even all over the world."

Cheech Marin presents

The CHICANO Collection

By Despina Tsiknas-Arzuoman

Any teenager growing up during the early 70's probably remembers the comedy duo "Cheech and Chong"—the best counter-culture comedy team of that era. They were irreverent, and satirical, and you either loved them—or not. Cheech Marin might best be remembered as one-half of that duo; but though the team broke up, Marin went on to become a fine actor, director, writer, and musician.

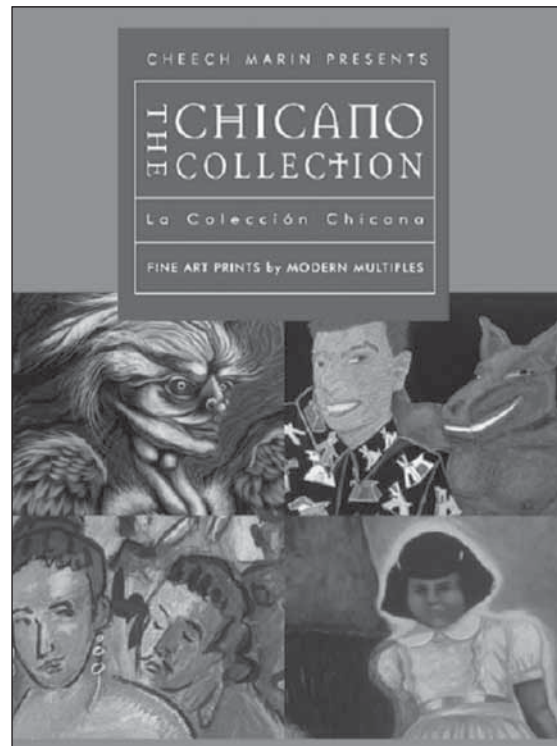
As Marin's career advanced, he began collecting art, in particular, Chicano art. This art expressed the art of "his people"; the people who shared the same heritage—that is, being raised in America by Mexican-born immigrant parents. Artist David Botello who was born and raised in Boyle Heights said the word "Chicano" originated in Mexico and was originally a "put-down" of Mexican-Americans. However, during the turbulent 1960's—when many "minority groups" in this country were seeking recognition—the word "Chicano" instead was embraced to define this "new" culture; or the people who were melding two cultures together as one.

Marin's collection of Chicano art is reflective of his impassioned support of Chicano artists, and such humanitarian nature helped advance Chicano art into national recognition. His collection has become one of the largest of its kind in the world. And as if that wasn't enough, he spearheaded a project that produced limited-edition digital reproductions (known as giclees) of paintings of 26 prominent Chicano artists that are slated for donation to 50 major U.S. art museums and universities in order to increase public accessibility to Chicano art nationwide.

Not all artists were present at the opening, and Mr. Marin was out of the country. However, I did get to speak with artist David Botello, and was able to discuss the giclee reproduction of his piece titled *Wedding Photos-Hollenbeck Park*. The style and technique he used for this particular piece seemed reminiscent of a Monet painting. However, if one researches Botello's work further, they'll find he has mastered a wide range of techniques and style. Botello has also worked with some of leading Chicano muralists. In fact, Wayne Healy and Botello were third-grade classmates who reconnected in 1975 and went on to paint murals and other projects together in various cities throughout the U.S.

Meanwhile, the favorite in the gallery—the one that everyone stopped at the longest—was George Yepes' *Axis Bold As Love*. An absolutely beautiful work. The form, the colors, the feelings sat together so harmoniously. It was like music for the eyes. And this giclee reproduction was stunning; one can only imagine how the original looks.

The Chicano Collection exhibit can be viewed at the Pico House Gallery, a historic building at 430 North Main Street downtown Los Angeles. It sits across old Los Angeles Plaza from Olvera Street and El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historic Monument. The exhibition continues through April 10th. For additional info about museum or university donations, contact Melissa Richardson Banks at (213) 972-0884 or melissa@causeconnect.net.





THE MT. WILSON OBSERVER

OPINION

Election Epilogue from the Twilight Zone

By Hail Hamilton



I grew up watching the Twilight Zone. Every Sunday evening our whole family would be glued to the TV set watching "the Zone." I remember how Rod Serling introduced and concluded each show. I remember that the Twilight Zone episodes were often foreboding, sometimes sinister, at times even humorous, but they always had a deeper meaning. As a kid growing in the height of the Cold War at the dawn of the Space Age, the Twilight Zone was food

for thought—an anthology for the imagination.

I remember a particularly disturbing episode entitled "The Monsters are Due on Maple Street." It was written by Rod Serling himself. It was about how an alien invasion could easily succeed because human beings were their worst enemy. It was an allegory of how irrationally people act under stress and, in particular, how mob mentality can often turn into a witch-hunt. This is especially prevalent near the end of the show, when shifting the suspicion to someone—anyone other than oneself, innocent or guilty—becomes a way of survival; ultimately, everyone is suspected of being an alien enemy in one form or another and the town descends into total chaos.

I remember the ominous ending with the two alien observers watching the rioting on Maple Street and discussing how easy it was to create paranoia and panic, and let the people of Earth destroy themselves—one place at a time. One of them tells the other:

"Understand the procedure now? Just stop a few of their machines... throw them into darkness for a few hours and then sit back and watch

the pattern. They pick

the most dangerous enemy they can find...and it's themselves."

Sounds a lot like the shenanigans that have been plaguing Sierra Madre recently. According to California Association of Realtors—Strategies for Fighting the Slow Growth Movement at the Local Level handbook this has all been part of a coordinated strategy. It describes in detail how a community can be manipulated and, if necessary, torn apart by a well-financed public relations campaign. It explains how residents of a small town like Sierra Madre can be pitted one against another using fear and suspicion, and how paranoia and panic can be used to divide and conquer a community. It is a shameful story of how the real estate industry plans to weather out the current slump in the real estate market by making millions from bogus and unnecessary development.

Sierra Madre is not unlike the Maple Street of the Twilight Zone: we're a little, close-knit community that wants to remain a small town.

We like our town the way it is and want to keep it that way. Nevertheless we are susceptible to being divided and conquered by our own prejudices and suspicions. I remember Rod Serling's prophetic conclusion to "The Monsters are Due on Maple Street."

"The tools of conquest do not necessarily come with bombs and explosions and fallout. There are weapons that are simply thoughts... attitudes... prejudices. To be found only in the minds of men. For the record, prejudices can kill, and suspicion can destroy, and the thoughtless, frightened search for a scapegoat has a fallout all its own for the children, and the children yet unborn. And the pity of it is... that these things cannot be confined to... The Twilight Zone."

Around The Town With Sir Eric Maundry



"To dare is to lose one's footing momentarily. To not dare is to lose oneself."
- Kierkegaard

You, dear reader, are truly an extraordinary individual. Measure V won, and it did so because the people of this town were not taken in by the cynicism and hype of a small group of politicians lavishly funded by commercial interests who saw Sierra Madre as little more than a place to exploit for monetary gain. And let me say this, because I got involved in the fight for Measure V, I met many good and courageous people. People who stood up to one of the most despicable and cowardly smear campaigns it has ever been my displeasure to witness. And they stood tall, and they did so with grace and with pride. God bless them...

...And speaking of those with a propensity for the unpleasant, has a certain notorious downtown blog become the place to go when one wants tips on where the **Dirt Taliban** will strike next? Blown up mailboxes, vandalized cars, and now attacks on businesses over where they spend their advertising dollar? Rumor has it that the FBI has been doing some local reading lately. It's called **racketeering**, ladies ... So how does one go about getting an award in this town anyway? You know, like **Citizen Of The Year Who Can't Do The Cha Cha**, or **Mayor's Prize For Most Polite Citizen At A City Hall Meeting**? During the Measure V imbroglio so many of those who were outspoken in their opposition barked loudly about who amongst them got what awards. I'd never heard of 90% of these awards. Do they just make them up and give them out to each other? Is it some sort of local establishment "I'll scratch your back if you scratch mine" ritual? Maybe I'll start handing out some awards. Does the world not cry out for more affirmation? ...**The Maundry Little Tinkly Dog Collar Prize In Courage Award** - AKA the "Sulky If Not Taken Seriously" Prize for the quarter ending in the last few weeks or months goes to **Sierra Madre Mayor Emeritus Glenn Lambdin** for his inability to attend the April 5 public debate on **Downtown Development**.

His fear that he might be forced to endure an audience that, in Glenn's remarkable words, might not "understand the principles of civility," is a courageous confession in my opinion. Imagine having to present your murky views on important issues to an audience that might actually possess the wit and honesty to laugh at you. Talk about standing up for your convictions! Better to stay home in the safety of your own kitchen and complain to the poor people there who have no choice but to put up with your malarkey ... And speaking of heroes, **SGVN** front-line correspondent **Bill Coburn's** decision to leave the Apr 5 debate after becoming convinced that the **No On V** posse would not be attending gives us a unique perspective into this intrepid newsound's investigative acumen. Would **Edward R. Murrow** have left a story before it played out if the side he was toadying for didn't show up? **Walter Cronkite**, you're no **Bill Coburn**! ... If the restrictions listed in this year's "**Sierra Madre Fourth Of July Parade Entry Form**" don't show the killjoy spirit in its most **Grinchy** fashion, please let me know what does. The curbs on spraying water upon sweltering parade attendees will certainly curtail one of the parade's most beloved features. But banning the throwing of candy? Of course, I do recognize the danger in being beaned by a flying bubble gum cigar, but in all honesty, this is not going to go over with the younger set. I don't know who listed this candy throwing restriction into this year's requirements, but if the author is reading please be warned. My kids and their noisy friends are attempting to organize a debate at the elementary school. Do try and summon the courage to attend. And be prepared to answer some very tough questions ... Inquiry for you: In the "**inSierraMadre.com**" interview with (Joe Mosca), the councilman speaks of his official way to stop the building of a **Best Buy** in **Sherman Oaks** when he was a resident there not so long ago. A (Best Buy) that, by the way, ended up being built despite this intrepid crusader's opposition. Anyone have any info on this one? Got some **Sherman Oaks** contacts? If so, please send your findings my way @ sir.eric_maundry@yahoo.com ... Cheers!



The Bottom Line

By Susan Henderson

Bottom line (n): the primary or most important consideration

Well, one of the biggest events that Sierra Madre has ever seen is over. The election was held, the votes have been counted and the final verdict is on its way. Unless the uncounted and provisional ballots defy the percentages of the votes already counted, it appears that the citizens of Sierra Madre will have the final word on development in this town. That is a very good thing.

The campaigning involved in this election didn't match the character of this town, but I guess that is what happens when you bring outsiders in. I know several people in this city whom I totally disagree with over Measure V and a host of other things, but we manage to remain civil and neighborly. I actually like some of them. However, just like in elementary school, when you bring in those "other kids," the whole scenario changes. Instead of just snubbing your opponent at Beantown, this election brought out the - I started to say backbiting, however the name calling was not done behind anyone's back, it was right in front of their faces.

This election brought out the most shameful behavior I have seen in many years.

Information on the issues at hand was buried beneath the out of control desire by outside interests to win at any cost. And now, here we all sit with the aftermath.

But, there is a very bright side to all of this and that is, the bottom line looks very rosy. You see, after all is said and done, Sierra Madreans in this election did something extraordinary. The city turned out in record numbers to vote in a non-presidential election. The turnout was almost 50% of registered voters. Amazing. There are many that say the results show that the city is divided, but I disagree. These election results simply show that the citizens of this town do pay attention. Just because we don't agree on how to protect the town, doesn't mean that we are divided. These results indicate that this city is not up for grabs.

Regardless which side of the vote the majority of citizens were on, the bottom line is what is most important. In this case, the bottom line is very simple, money cannot buy this town.

You see, conventional political wisdom says that the more money a campaign has, the better the chances are of winning. Well, we just proved them wrong. Hopefully it will translate to other elections as well.

The best feeling in the world was to wake up on Wednesday morning and know that the regular people had their voices heard. The bottom line - this is still America and your vote does count.



Editor
Katina Dunn

Managing Editor
Susan Henderson

Art Director
Marco Carreno

Production/Layout
Joe Russo

Photography
Felix Orona
Buddy Windsor
Jacqueline Truong
Steve Padilla
Linda Ott-Albright

Contributors
Dean Lee
Stefan Bund
Stanley J. Forrester
Paul the Cyberian
Madeline Miller
Kyle McClure
Pat Birdsall
Bob Eklund
Caroline Brown
David Smith
Rich Johnson
Chris Bertrand
Peter Dills

Student Correspondents
Pasadena High School
Alverno High School
Oak Crest Institute of Science
Grace Persico

Editorial Cartoonist
Ann Cleaves

Web Master
Gary Miller

For Advertising Inquiries contact:
JULIE PUTERBAUGH
626-836-6524
DOROTHY JIMENEZ
818-314-9417

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Member

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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.

If you would like to send a letter to the editor for publication, you may do so via fax - 626-604-4548, email - deuxamispub@aol.com or U.S. Mail - 280 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. #327, Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024. Please include your full name and telephone number for verification. All materials submitted become the property of The Mt. Wilson Observer and are subject to editing.

Letters To The Editor

Dear Mr. Smith
c/o Mt. Wilson Observer

Just had to reply to your editorial in above publication, March 16-22-2007. Indeed, I dislike change. Reputedly, most males do. When discussing Sierra Madre, this is sticking one's head in the sand!

As a forty six year resident, reader of Wall Street Journal, faithfully since 1961, The Economist, Forbes and myriads of other business information and research material, let me tell you.

The only consistent thing about Sierra Madre is mis-management of virtually every facility. My initial experience was with the school busing fiasco the city got into, in the early 60's, apparently to save money on building a high school and utilizing cheaper Pasadena schools instead of Arcadia option. This fiasco caused house prices to decline and be a burden for years. The Recreation Center, built in 1979, had recent cost overruns due to not having kept the plans...

Next, as I recall was the urgency to replace City Hall, which was in imminent state of collapse. Several times the electorate turned down initiatives. The city then, apparently in collusion with Bank of America, funded present City Hall with CRA bonds. My complaint is that the unsafe building is still standing and occupied.

I hate to recall the Maranatha disaster. The facts have never been clear to me. Another travesty was allowing the contractor on the Sierra Madre School site to dump dirt and refuse on the playing field above the school, and then beg for \$400,000 to restore the field. More recently is the \$16,000 spent to properly trim the poorly planned shrubbery on S/M Boulevard. It seems the city has spent \$500,000 to buy a residential lot on south Sunnyside

Avenue for a park. If I lived nearby, I would strongly question a park in this quiet residential area.

Among other peevish is the vastly over equipped Fire Department. This is a relic of the past when cities were spread apart. It makes no rational sense to have local fire services and not utilize regional resources instead of overlapping. As to EMS, national opinions are that this is a make work facility to vastly overstaffed fire departments, nationwide. Better that private services cover this need. As an observer, the police only lack a "Swat Team." The motorcycle officer matches the Chevrolet Trailblazer and the big Chevrolet four door pick up truck for police work. In Sierra Madre, P T Cruisers might make better and more practical sense. The terrible handling of traffic on Michillinda Avenue in the 1995 hillside fire is a horror to recall. Residents were accosted by S/M police and the rest of Southern California was allowed free access.

The recent publicity and mailings from former mayors would make me oppose their suggestion to vote No on V. I have no separate knowledge of these men individually, but I do not believe the city could have been run more ineptly, in all the years I have lived here.

The boarded-up former hospital and lack of a local grocery, are all reasons change is needed, urgently. Preserving historical facilities is admirable. It is my view, of seeing the insides of most buildings on Sierra Madre Boulevard and North Baldwin, that they are ill built fire traps awaiting disaster. The poorly located parking on the south side of S/M Boulevard could not be more poorly utilized!

There are probably more complaints from my observations, but this is a start. V may not be a panacea, but the city needs to move on and up.

Thomas C. Pedersen

Dear Editor:

I would like to comment on the article by Dean Lee in the April 6-April 12, 2007 edition, Pasadena Page, entitled, "Gallely Good to Go on Ambassador West's 318-unit complex"

The very first line contains the word "lawsuit." How apropos... any project involving Glendale developer Greg Gallely and his firm Dorn-Platz, almost always, as a matter of due course, produce lawsuits, lawsuits, and more

lawsuits.

Prior to the impending decimation of the only open spaces left in Sierra Madre- One Carter, the Hefflin Estate, the Gallely/Dorn-Platz lawsuit count numbered 135! Now, we must also add to that, the eight (at last count), lawsuits recently lodged against the small City of Sierra Madre.

PASADENA, FASTEN YOUR SEATBELTS!

Pat Birdsall

Dear Editor:

I live on the corner of Hermosa and Ramona, right in the middle of the Hermosa drag strip. It's great because by the time my fellow racers get to my house, they have maxed out their speed, usually between 45 and 50. Sometimes, I take my twin 3 year olds and sit in front and watch them race by. God forbid my kids ever get loose.

When I bought my house, I thought I was buying in a quiet residential neighborhood for the discount price of a billion dollars (plus tax). I was wrong. Now I'm restricted to playing inside or in the back. Forget about skating or

biking out front. Seriously, we can't get speed bumps and one stop sign? There are plenty of other access routes for the Police and Firefighters, why can't we slow down an overused residential street? If we put a stop sign in the middle and add a few speed bumps, drivers won't be able to get to the higher speeds. By the way, who do I thank for the Jet Plane landing strips?

If you use Hermosa as a cut through, listen up: STOP. Sit on Orange Grove like a good neighbor and wait your turn to go left on Baldwin. I will like you more.

Nick Latshaw

Birth is a beginning
And death a destination
And life is a journey:
From childhood to maturity
And youth to age;
From innocence to awareness
And ignorance to knowing;
From foolishness to discretion
And, then perhaps, to wisdom;
From weakness to strength
Or strength to weakness--
And, often, back again;
From health to sickness
And back, we hope, to health
again;
From offense to forgiveness,
From loneliness to love,
From joy to gratitude,
From pain to compassion,
And grief to understanding--
From fear to faith;
From defeat to defeat--
Until, looking backward or ahead,
We see that victory lies
Not at some high place along the
way,
But in having made the journey,
stage by stage,
A sacred pilgrimage.
Birth is a beginning
And death a destination/
And life is a journey,
A sacred pilgrimage
By Rabbi Alvin Fine
Submitted by Enid Joffe

OPPONENTS

(cont. from page 1)

the precinct votes came in, the No on V supporters were quiet. Among those present from the No on V camp at the beginning of the evening were Mayor John Buchanan, Margie and Rick Simpson, Margaret Quigley, Planning Commissioner John Hutt and Architect Fred Wesley.

Wesley, the architect for the proposed development at the Skilled Nursing Facility (55 condos plus shops) became upset. "This is going to cost us nothing but lawsuits," said Wesley. He did not say if there were already plans to file suit. He then stormed out of city hall, yelling. Margaret Quigley emailed this

newspaper: "...I think that John Hutt was right in his evaluation of Measure V. There are ambiguities that may prove to be less than beneficial to Sierra Madre and its downtown area. I think of the old saying, 'The Devil is in the details.'"

Colleen McKernan declined to comment. "Thank you, but not at this time," she said.

Paid political strategists Chip Ahlswede and Tiffany Delepine of Schubert Flint Public Affairs were present at City Hall throughout the process.

Ahlswede did not return phone calls by press time.



The Cumquat Kid is Going Down

by Rich Johnson

Not knowing whether chaos or anarchy might break out on the streets of Sierra Madre Tuesday night, I established my election headquarters nestled safely in the protective care of Lucy and Lisa at the local watering hole, The Delirium. That was short-lived 'cause after an hour or two I realized they had no access to election coverage. So, I stumbled my way home. If I seem a little groggy please forgive me. I stayed up all Tuesday night watching the election results on channel 3. Boy, could they take a few tips from the networks on running election night coverage. I kept waiting for the numbers to change. You probably didn't watch all night. It's a good thing. Anyway, I was looking out for all of us. Please permit me the latitude in this week's column to defend myself. My honor has been besmirched by the lowest of the low. Experienced journalists like me (let's see, I've written 12 columns). Veteran journalists like me have nothing if we don't have our honor. So what slimy, dastardly, dark denizen of the deep spewed forth vitriolic venom about me? The Cumquat Kid (CK).

What's more he did his denigrating deed on the internet for the whole world to see. (He probably doesn't know that one of my long-term clients is the State Bar of California. CK, I have my pick of 160,000 active lawyers to chase after your sorry little tale.)

And what did I do to him? I didn't even know about his website (who does?) I had my people check out the Cumquat Kid, AKA Jim Snider. He claims to be an artist. Yeah right! He also claims to be a humorist and we know that isn't true. His dad was an artist of a different kind. Dad was a "fine" artist. The family is from Texas and they moved around a lot (In Texas they call that being on the lam). Of course, in front of a world audience, he picked on my weight. Okay, so I'm big boned. It's not my fault. It's hereditary. I'm a victim of my genes. I can stop anytime. Here's a plan Mr. Thin Skinned Fruit, let's settle this Texas style. Meet me at the pub Monday night and we'll have it out mano y mano. Of course, if you bring nachos we can talk it over. By the way, I'm fairly certain Lisa will be on my side. Darn, I've run out of space. No room for my Measure V recommendation. One thing: don't ever ask the poll workers for voting suggestions. So, how did I vote? I based my decision on how Snider Whiplash voted.



Dear Editor:

I have been reading the Mt. Wilson Observer over the last several months and I love it. I look forward to each new edition. My family and I recently moved to Sierra Madre and love it more and more every day. Yes, despite all the things ongoing. I love the passion, personality and down-to-earth personal nature of your paper. I read USA Today, NY Times and BBC on a daily basis. Along with a plethora of other professional magazines and journals. When I pick-

up or open the Internet to read the Mt. Wilson Observer, it is about my most immediate community - it's personal. I am still learning about Sierra Madre, allowing myself to absorb everything. Once I get a good fill, understand it, then I would like to start becoming more active to contribute my part. Yes, I will be voting Yes on Measure V - what else would any sensible Sierra Madre citizen do?

Krikor Deramerian, MD



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, Weizmann Day School and the PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

School Board Gets Optimistic Duo Harrison And Cooper

By Dean Lee

The PUSD Board of Education will see two new faces, as will the Pasadena City Council, with both Bob Harrison and Renatta Cooper winning Tuesday's runoff elections with Cooper having an enormous 63.5 percent lead with 6,099 votes over Mark Mastromatteo's 4,642 votes or 36.4 percent for PUSD seat 2. Harrison knocked incumbent William Bibbiani out of Seat 1, in what most said was going to be a tough race, with a much narrow margin of 6,959 votes giving him 53.1 percent to Bibbiani's 6,115 votes.

"It's time for the board to stop reacting to everything as crisis and start taking some preventative measures," Cooper said. "That's what I want to bring is forward thinking and I haven't seen that in the PUSD in years."

Harrison said much the same saying the board needed to be proactive and using the recent district management audit was a good starting point. He also said he looked forward to working with new Superintendent Edwin Diaz.

"What I really want to see out of the audit is board training," Harrison said. "My background is in conflict resolution and I hope to use that with the board." Harrison also said he thought it was ludicrous that the district had outdated job descriptions, which auditors said was vital for holding employees accountable for what they do. Harrison said that was one of the first things he wanted the board to fix.

Anxious candidates for both the City Council and

PUSD Board paced the Pasadena Convention Center all night poking their heads in where the votes were counted. Harrison left the Convention Center for a victory party at his own business, the Green Street Restaurant.

Another restaurant owner, Robin Salzer, who ran for City Council district 1, stayed upbeat the entire night. At one point he had a 10 percent lead over challenger Jacques Robinson who ended the night with 1,009 giving her 53 percent of the votes. Salzer is owner of the popular Robin's Woodfire BBQ and Grill. Robinson said education was her primary goal having lived in the district she sought to represent and that residents should not have to wait for the state to fix school problems. She also said that open space was a big priority having her district next to the Arroyo Seco.

"I'm very glad to see Pasadena as a green city," she said. "I plan to do what I can in preserving that, I understood the concerns over traffic and congestion when they wanted to bring an NFL team to the Rose Bowl. The Arroyo needs to be cherished." Longtime member of the city's Planning Commission Margaret McAustin coasted to victory, over Jim Lomako, getting 61.1 percent of the vote for Council district 2.

All of the candidates will be sworn in the first week of May according to the City Clerk.

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(626) 355-3463

Bethany Christian School
93 B. N. Baldwin Ave.
(626) 355-3527

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

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

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

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

Sierra Madre Elementary School
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(626) 355-1428

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

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

Weizmann Day School
1434 N. Altadena Drive
Pasadena, CA 91107
626-797-0204
Lisa Feldman Head of School



Science Fair at the Ed Center

Friday, April 20 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturday April 21 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The best of science experiments from Middle School students.

Projects include:

- Are There Meteorites in My Backyard?
- Which Grows Faster - Hair or Fur?
- Can Magnetic Force Be Used to Levitate a Train?
- The Sweet Secrets of Humming Birds
- Are Dogs Right, Left or Ambidextrous Pawed?
- Is Toothpaste Really Doing Its Job?
- Are Chemicals of Happy or Sad Tears Different?
- What Are the Effects of Acid Rain on Plant Life?
- Burning Calories

Students are from Eliot Middle School, Wilson IB Middle School, Washington Middle School, Norma Coombs Alternative School, McKinley School, Marshall Fundamental, and Blair IB Magnet.

At the Board Room at the Ed Center 351 S. Hudson Ave.

YOUTH Needed to Serve on the Community Services Commission.

Interested in local City Government?
Volunteer to sit as the youth member of the Sierra Madre Community Services Commission, an advisory team to the Sierra Madre City Council. It meets once a month on the 3rd Monday at 6:30 p.m. As a member, you would serve as a communication link between the community, City Council and the Community and Personnel Services Director regarding recreation and community service items. Serving as a youth commissioner is a one year commitment from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. Work on the City's Youth Master Plan. For more information, please contact Michelle Keith at the Community & Personnel Services Department at 626-355-7135.

Pasadena Conservatory of Music Summer Camp

Folk dances and songs from south and central American countries and around the world, games and rhymes in Spanish and Portuguese -

for 1st through 6th grade students.

Instructor Rebecca Straayer from the Pasadena Conservatory of Music will also lead explorations of art and music with an instructor from the Armory Center for the Arts.

The Young Musicians Summer Camp

July 16 to 27

Monday through Friday, 9:15 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Pasadena Conservatory of Music,
100 N. Hill Avenue, Pasadena.

Fee: \$350.00

For information, email the Conservatory at music@pasadenaconservatory.org or call 626-683-3355

ALL-STAR BAND SWAP MEET & CRAFTS FAIR

APRIL 21ST & 22ND

AT PHS FRONT LAWN



FUN & EASY FUNDRAISER

Participants will be given free lawn space to sell their own garage sale items and crafts to earn cash towards their personal All-Star Account on Saturday, April 21st. Unsold items will go on sale Sunday, April 22nd with proceeds divided evenly among participants working the weekend event. Specialty items and antiques will be sold separately on eBay with proceeds credited to individual accounts.

CAR WASH

Here's one more way to earn extra cash on Saturday. Sign-up to work the Car Wash for a two hour-shift and receive a portion of the proceeds!

VOLUNTEERS AND USED STUFF NEEDED

Can't commit to volunteer all-day Saturday or Sunday or you have nothing to sell? Volunteer to work the swap meet or car wash (for a minimum of two hours) or donate your own stuff to the designated Booster Yard Sale Space to receive a share of the proceeds from the weekend.

Saturday, April 21st Set-up at 6 am and sale from 7 am to 1pm
Sunday, April 22nd Set-up at 9 am and sale from 10 am to 2 pm
Location: Pasadena High School Lawn on Sierra Madre Avenue
Contact eBay Coordinator Katina Dunn @ 818-802-2111 to sell your valuables or collectibles on eBay.
Contact Car Wash Coordinator Chuck Broslawsky @ 626-585-1348 to volunteer.
Contact Event Coordinator Greg Salce @ 626-797-8644 or at gsalce@sbcglobal.net to participate or volunteer.

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Saturday, April 28 at 6:30 p.m.

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Auditions

The Theater Arts Committee of First United Methodist Church in Pasadena, announces auditions for its summer youth musical program. The production, Cole Porter's "Anything Goes," will be held at 9:30 a.m. on May 19. Bring a song to sing, if you are interested in any solo work. All youth entering grade 7 through first year college are welcome to participate regardless of audition. The FUMC summer musical program has been operating free of charge for over 25 years. Students rehearse weeknights and Saturdays throughout July with the performances taking place Wednesday through Saturday in early August. Young people are encouraged to participate and bring friends.

500 E. Colorado Blvd. (626) 796-0157

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- DANCE
- INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC
- VISUAL ARTS
- THEATER

DOWNLOAD THE APPLICATION AND GUIDELINES AT pasadenaartscouncil.org

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2007

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT MEGAN AT THE PASADENA ARTS COUNCIL AT (626) 793-8171 OR mmacdonald@pasadenaartscouncil.org

TABLE FOR TWO by PETER DILLS

The French Fries



Viva la... Belgium?

I wanted to find the best French Fries in The San Gabriel Valley. I decided that a little French Fries 101 was in order. Where were the French Fries invented? Ah... Google would know. So like any good student, that's where I went. So I type in... *Where were the French Fries invented?* Waa Laa, there would be my answer. No... not so fast Einstein. Many answers came up.

The Irish? Germans? One story was that Thomas Jefferson boiled potatoes to rid them of their poisons and then cooked them.

My Answer? I will give credit to the Belgians as to the inventors of the French Fries. Credit for bringing the Fries to The United States? Well, that goes back to WW I. Soldiers loved the cooked potatoes that they had from street vendors in France. Today, French Fries account for more than 1/4 of all potatoes sold in The United States. We Americans consume 30 pounds of some form of potatoes annually.

My top Four places for French Fries: Islands - Tops on Allen - Robin's BBQ - In-N-Out Burger

My only advice is: never get fries to go: they just don't stay warm for very long. I tell you what all of these restaurants have in common. They make the fries fresh. They actually cut the potatoes on the spot and serve them. So if you are a ketchup or blue cheese dipper, let me know where you like to go for great French Fries!!

Robin's BBQ

395 N. Rosemead Pasadena, (626) 351-8885

Tops Burgers

1792 E. Walnut (626) 584-0244

Islands

3533 E. Foothill Blvd. Pasadena (626) 351-6543

In-N-Out

In Arcadia, 420 N. Santa Anita

In Pasadena, 2114 E. Foothill Blvd.



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Sun. Apr. 8	- Opera to Broadway
Thurs. Apr. 12	- Adam Schroeder
Fri. Apr. 13	- Blues!!! with Mojo Clam
Sat. Apr. 14	- Vocalist Deborah Ash
Sun. Apr. 15	- Opera to Broadway
Thurs. Apr. 19	- Blues Slide Guitar Great Big Barry Brenner
Fri. Apr. 20	- Blues!!! Lightning Willie
Sat. Apr. 21	- Vocalist Judy Wexler
Sun. Apr. 22	- Opera to Broadway

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Looking Up

With Bob Eklund

TechKnowledge

Technology Science Business

Astronomy Day: Come Wish Upon A Star



Photo by Jean Boenish

When's the last time you or your children looked at a star or planet through a telescope? Maybe never? Then you've missed a very special experience! But don't worry—you can easily remedy that this evening or tomorrow night, April 20 and 21, thanks to the Old Town Sidewalk Astronomers.

This group of service-minded stargazing enthusiasts will be setting up telescopes for everyone's pleasure tonight, April 20, from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. on Colorado Blvd. near De Lacey Avenue (which is between Fair Oaks and Pasadena avenues) in Old Town Pasadena. Then tomorrow evening, April 21—which happens to be National Astronomy Day—they will be setting up in Monrovia's Library Park, northwest corner of Myrtle and Lime avenues (two blocks north of Colorado Boulevard), next to the Mark Twain statue, from 7:30 to 10:00 p.m.. Both events are free, and children are especially welcome.

What's there to look at in our light-polluted city skies? Actually, quite a bit. Saturn, Venus, and the crescent moon will be visible, and they are delightful objects to see when magnified 50–200 times in an amateur telescope. And they are so bright that they show up very well despite city lights. If the sky happens to be especially clear, you may see considerably more—nebulae, colored stars, and star clusters like the Pleiades, for instance.

Star party hosts Jane and Morris (Mojo) Jones, founders of Old Town Sidewalk Astronomers, have been setting up

telescopes on sidewalks since 1990. They kept the Sidewalk Astronomers active in San Francisco, the birthplace (under the tutelage of John Dobson) of the worldwide Sidewalk Astronomers movement, until refocusing their public astronomy efforts in Southern California in 2003. In case you're not free on April 20–21, they'll be holding similar star parties in Pasadena and Monrovia every month on the weekend closest to the first-quarter moon (in May, that's the 18th and 19th). You can get updated info on other star party dates at their web site,

<http://www.otastro.org>.

And in case you feel like an outing a bit farther from home tomorrow, here are three other ways to celebrate Astronomy Day:

- Take in the Astronomy Day 2007 program at the Valencia Public Library, 23743 W. Valencia Blvd. in Valencia (near Magic Mountain). From 1:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 25, there will be exhibits, lectures, a demonstration of how to make a telescope, and telescope observation for adults and children—including daytime solar observing and nighttime observing of the moon, planets, nebulae, and galaxies. The program is presented jointly by the Los Angeles County Public Library and the Local Group Astronomy Club of Santa Clarita Valley.

- Take a guided tour of Mount Wilson Observatory. Meet 1:00 p.m. at the Pavilion building overlooking the big parking lot just inside the Skyline Park entrance. Approximately 20 miles from La Canada via the Angeles Crest Highway. Free admission to Observatory, but the Forest Service requires that those parking in the area carry a "Forest Adventure Pass," available for \$5 (one day) or \$30 (season) at Clear Creek Ranger Station, Red Box Ranger Station, or the Shell Station at the base of the Angeles Crest Highway, as well as at major sporting goods outlets such as Sports Chalet. The Observatory area is open to the public 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. daily until winter closure, with 1:00 tours on Saturdays and Sundays.

- Visit the new Griffith Observatory. Parking is remote, with shuttle buses to the Observatory (shuttle reservations required). Star party 2:00–10:00 p.m. Saturday April 21 and monthly. Info: www.GriffithObs.org or call (213) 473-0800 between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Tips for Wireless Home Network Security Or A Glossary of Terms You Always Wanted To Know

By Paul the Cyberian

Here are a few suggestions that should help you protect your identity and computer.

1) Change Default Administrator Passwords (and Usernames)

Changing the default password is important because everyone that purchases the same Wireless access device knows the original password.

2) TURN ON (COMPATIBLE) WPA / WEP ENCRYPTION

By default, your Wireless device comes without the encryption enables. WPA / WEP are security programs that forced your computer to provide an encrypted password before you are allowed access to the wireless access point.

3) CHANGE THE DEFAULT SSID

SSID is the network name of your wireless network; most people leave the default name, such as, Linksys or NetGear. By changing the name, intruders have a more difficult time identifying your system and use known vulnerabilities. (And of course, use the unchanged default password.) One mistake people make is naming their home network their family name and or address. When cruising a neighborhood of wireless devices, it's always scary to see Smithfamily201Elm.

4) DISABLE SSID BROADCAST

In Wi-Fi networking, the access point or router typically broadcasts the network name (SSID) over the air at regular intervals. This feature was designed for businesses and mobile hotspots where Wi-Fi clients may come and go. In the home, this feature is unnecessary, and it increases the likelihood an unwelcome neighbor or hacker will try to log in to your home network.

5) ASSIGN STATIC IP ADDRESSES TO DEVICES

Most home networkers gravitate toward using dynamic IP addresses. This means that

the IP Address, (the IP Address is needed to participate on a network.) is typically assigned automatically. A dynamic IP address on an unsecured system can also supply a hacker with a IP Address.

6) ENABLE MAC ADDRESS FILTERING

Each piece of Wi-Fi gear possesses a unique identifier called the "physical address" or "MAC address." Access points and routers keep track of the MAC addresses of all devices that connect to them. Many such products offer the owner an option to key in the MAC addresses of their home equipment that restricts the network to only allow connections from those devices. Do this, but also know that the feature is not so powerful as it may seem. Hacker software programs can fake MAC addresses easily.

7) TURN OFF THE NETWORK DURING EXTENDED PERIODS OF NON-USE

The ultimate in security measures for any wireless network is to shut down, or turn off your wireless access point when you are not using. You are the most vulnerable at work or asleep, and mischief minded people know it.

8) POSITION THE ROUTER OR ACCESS POINT SAFELY

Wi-Fi signals normally reach to the exterior of a home. A small amount of "leakage" outdoors is not a problem, but the further this signal reaches, the easier it is for others to detect and exploit. Wi-Fi signals often reach across streets and through neighboring homes. When installing a wireless home network, the position of the access point or router determines its reach. Try to position these devices near the center of the home rather than near windows to minimize this leakage. Any questions? If so, email me at

p.carpenter@themtwilsonobserver.com

WorkForce with Madeline

Q: My office is a mess. I've gotten myself knee deep in clutter and I need some advice on how to clean up. It seems as if getting rid of two papers only adds to the arrival of three. I love my job but my work environment is causing me stress. There are days when I hate going into my den of disaster. HELP!

A: Ah! This is a common problem. According to Rodika Tchi in *Your Guide to Feng Shui*, "Clutter is low, stagnant, and confusing energy. It negatively influences or even completely blocks the flow of events in your life."

Start by clearing everything off your desk and putting all this stuff on the floor or on a shelf. Only keep on your desk the papers you are currently using.

Tackle one pile of clutter per week. Start on Monday. By Friday, that pile should be completely gone. Look at each piece of paper once and deal with it. Never put anything in a "think about it later pile." The later pile will soon start to get so high that you'll be right back where you started from. Say to yourself, "Why am I holding on to this? Is this something I really need?" You will find that in most cases, the answer to the latter will be NO. If you are uncertain, then it's not worth saving. If it's something you really need or want (like your certificate for 15 years of outstanding service), then place it in an appropriate spot in your office. And don't be a magazine and catalogue hoarder. Most of this information can be found on the Internet plus it becomes out-of-date very quickly.

The next week, attack the stack of papers right next to the first. The Fly Lady (flylady.net) suggests working around the room in a clockwise fashion starting at the door. Don't skip a pile. Think how good you will feel when more and more empty space appears.

From now on, when stuff appears in your office, take care of it immediately either by throwing it out, filing it, making that phone call, recording it on your calendar (such as an office meeting), or distributing it to an outside source.

When my husband retired from Lockheed Martin after 30 years as an engineer, he took home family photos, some wall hangings, and a few (very few) assorted memorabilia. He closed the door to his office and said, "I don't need any of this stuff and probably never did." I was a bit nervous that the entire contents of his office would appear in my house, but this wasn't the case.

You can conquer clutter and feel more at peace. Write back to me in four weeks. I expect to hear that you've cleared away four piles of mess. Get busy!

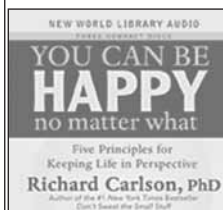
Direct your questions to Madeline at comptype2@aol.com or 888-489-8372 (8 AM – 6 PM, Monday – Friday).

BiblioFile

with Jeff Brown

You Can Be Happy No Matter What: Five Principles for Keeping Life in Perspective

by Dr. Richard Carlson



Dr. Carlson is the author of the bestseller "Don't Sweat the Small Stuff"

In this book, which is written in a light, easy style and interlaced with personal stories, Carlson shows readers how to be happy, no matter what the situation.

By understanding five key principles which are: the nature of thinking, the reality of our moods, our separate realities, the origin of feelings, and the importance of the present moment we can discover a happier self by applying these ideas to everyday life. We are raised to believe our happiness depends on controlling outside forces and events, that by achieving success, or solving one's problems we will find contentment.

The author states "Our most natural state of mind is one of contentment and joy. The barriers

or obstructions that keep us from experiencing these positive feelings are learned negative processes that we have innocently accepted as necessary or the way life

is. True happiness has nothing to do with what goes on around us." He teaches how to remove those obstructions and to find one's natural, healthy self.

Carlson shows us how the two kinds of thinking, one being your "computer" mind based on past experience and accumulated knowledge; and the other being the "transmitter" mind, the deeper source where joy, contentment and wisdom lies.

This book is not about positive thinking or analyzing our way to happiness, rather it is more on how thought shapes the reality we see from the inside out and how we both create our own thoughts and then respond to them. Do you live in the now, in your intrinsic happy self, or in the endless stream of past or future thinking, with its corresponding regrets, worry and anxiety?

Carlson repeats in various ways with examples many of the key ideas as a way to help us understand these concepts. This is a helpful book that can be re-read many times. It is in paperback and audio book.



Story and Photos By Chris Bertrand

Miller notes that most of the year, the garden is one of textures in a palette of greens, with the occasional azalea and


The Koi, all with pet names, venture from protected waters to greet Karen Miller.

It's in the bag...

Well, enough creative thinking for one day... I'm feeling hungry and a bit parched, any guesses on where I might be headed?

Mary Jane

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SPORTS

NewsFlash from the Field:

*More Exciting Baseball:
Sierra Madre Pony / Colt League*

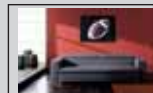
By Jeff DiPane

This week Sierra Madre Pony entered phase two of their season. Each team will play every other team twice, once as Visitor and once as Home team. The standings of this series will be calculated and used



Future baseball star Ryan Gleason bides his time while his older brothers put some muscle behind the bat. Brother Trevor, 13, is a Tiger and Andrew, 11 plays for the Indians.

View From The Couch



By Stanley J. Forrester

to determine the seeding for a double elimination tournament that will determine the season Champions. The winner of the double elimination tournament will take home the Championship, with the number two seed taking the runner-up trophy. The tournament begins May 31st and will finish around June 12th. Because the season Champions are determined by this tournament every team has a chance at the title regardless of their standings. This has led to some very exciting baseball in the past, and this year should be no exception.

So far the practice games have been pretty close, with the majority of the games finishing within a 2 to 3 run spread. At this point the Championship is anyone's guess.

This is also the time when the All-Star teams are chosen. Sierra Madre Pony picks both a 13yr old team and a 14yr old team to represent the league in Pony sanctioned tournaments. The All-Star teams will also play in some local tournaments to hone their skills. It's not unusual for the teams to go to section and even regional levels during the tournaments.

Pony League Schedule

DATE	TIME	HOME	VISITOR
April 17, 2007	4:45	Cubs	Tigers
April 18, 2007	4:45	Dodgers	Red Sox
April 19, 2007	4:45	Braves	Yankees
April 21, 2007	10:00	Red Sox	Dodgers
	1:00	Yankees	Braves
	4:00	Tigers	Cubs
April 24, 2007	4:45	Cubs	Red Sox
April 25, 2007	4:45	Tigers	Yankees
April 26, 2007	4:45	Dodgers	Braves
April 28, 2007	10:00	Braves	Dodgers
	1:00	Red Sox	Cubs
	4:00	Yankees	Tigers
May 1, 2007	5:00	Tigers	Braves
May 2, 2007	5:00	Red Sox	Yankees
May 3, 2007	5:00	Cubs	Dodgers
May 5, 2007	10:00	Dodgers	Cubs
	1:00	Yankees	Red Sox
	4:00	Braves	Tigers
May 8, 2007	5:00	Yankees	Dodgers
May 9, 2007	5:00	Braves	Cubs
May 10, 2007	5:00	Red Sox	Tigers
May 12, 2007	10:00	Tigers	Red Sox
	1:00	Cubs	Braves
	4:00	Dodgers	Yankees
May 15, 2007	5:00	Braves	Red Sox
May 16, 2007	5:00	Tigers	Dodgers
May 17, 2007	5:00	Yankees	Cubs
May 19, 2007	10:00	Cubs	Yankees
	1:00	Dodgers	Tigers
	4:00	Red Sox	Braves

MEMORIAL DAY BREAK

Tournament Schedule

Tournament is double elimination played from May 31, 2007 to June 10, 2007

Number 42

Sixty years ago when Pasadena's own Jackie Robinson took the field for the Brooklyn Dodgers it represented much more than an African-American playing in the major leagues. Major League baseball executive Branch Rickey's decision to integrate the game in 1947 did much more than put a Black man on the field.

Rickey's decision occurred during the era of baseball as the sport played by and followed by all Americans. In the movies, when you wanted to prove that someone was a spy and not an American, the question would be asked, "Who won the World Series?" Baseball was not the only American institution that lacked participation by people of color at that time. The decision by Rickey and the Dodgers to integrate baseball placed this country on a path of opening all areas to all people.

This past Sunday was the sixtieth anniversary of that historic day. The now Los Angeles Dodgers put on a show befitting that event. Two giants in baseball, both African-American - Hank Aaron and Frank Robinson - were there to throw out the first pitch. Hank, the all-time home run hitter, and Frank the first player to be voted most valuable player in both the National and American Leagues, were there to honor Jackie. That was special. Those three men are a true example of what happens when we open the doors and allow all to participate. We are

better for it, and the bar is raised for all who come after.

Could you imagine baseball without Willie Mays, Roberto Clemente (who was also brought into the game by Branch Rickey), or without any of the other great ball players of color? Sadly, times have really changed. Today the discussion is about the lack of African-American players in the Major League. The numbers are surprisingly small. When we focus on that, we miss seeing that baseball is now international. The Major League boasts players from around the globe. It is important for all children to see and hear people that look like them. It is important that all are involved. That is not to suggest that African-Americans should be left out, or that baseball should not do more to recruit in that community. It is meant only to acknowledge the new world flavor of baseball.

This global outreach could only have occurred because of Jackie Robinson. Sometimes we forget that by including all, the result is a better product. Baseball needs the international player. This player will attract new fans, and put new faces in the bleachers. Baseball is in a fight for its life. The day of baseball as the American way of life has passed. In order for the sport to survive it must reach out to all, and isn't that what Mr. Rickey wanted to do sixty years ago?

Ways to Spend Saturday Afternoon in Sierra Madre



Photos by Katina Dunn



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