



THE MT. WILSON OBSERVER

WHERE YOUR COMMUNITY NEWS COMES FIRST

Friday, May 11 - May 17, 2007 Volume 2, No.19

Showstopper/Heartstopper



Photo Courtesy of Elyssa Brown

Elyssa Brown expresses her extraordinary talent as a dancer, appearing in one award-winning showstopper after another. The 12-year old artist studies four days a week at the Dance House in La Crescenta, and attends Hebrew classes at Temple Beth David twice a week. Brown is also working towards fulfilling requirements of her bat mitzvah, a rite of passage in which Jewish adolescents do good deeds as they grow towards adulthood. Brown will dance with Team Kave L.A. to benefit the LAPD Memorial Fund. She has also danced to benefit Children's Hospital, and other children's causes. She is looking forward to helping at the Beagles and Buddies animal rescue shelter in El Monte. Brava Elyssa!

Council Approves 2007 Senior Master Plan

Mayor Joffe Runs Meeting On Time and Reaches Out To Citizens

By Katrina Dunn

The city's new Mayor Enid Joffe kept a brisk pace through the city council meeting Tuesday as promised, and also spoke to citizens in the council chambers, dissolving the wall between dais and citizens.

Battalion Chief Steve Heydorff, who sat on the edge of his seat due to the raging fire in Griffith Park, reported the Paramedic Program has been approved by the county and should be operable by June 5. Heydorff and Mayor Joffe thanked the anonymous donor who gave \$6,653 to the Paramedic Program, providing a back-up defibrillator and training mannequin for the city. Heydorff also warned residents to clear brush away from their homes.

Public Works Director Bruce Inman began the presentation for the 2007 Senior Master Plan, stating a first priority is the rehabilitation of Hart Park House, with \$227,000 in currently available funds already included in the budget. The Action Plan supports seniors who are safe, healthy, have access to quality facilities, adequate transportation; quality physical, social and educational activities; and available information about resources and opportunities.

Inman said another question is "How do we attract more men" to the programs, to which Senior Commission Chair Pat Birdsall wondered whether offering a sports bar that served beer might accomplish that goal. Respondents to the Senior Master Plan Survey were 40 men and 93 women. The two

community workshops were attended by 12 men and 20 women.

Senior Commissioner Dr. Paul Neiby's expertise has been a vital asset in bringing senior health care issues to the public's attention. The Senior Master Plan 2007 recommends a health fair, continuing free flu shot clinics, continued provision of pneumovax vaccine, and other frequent health screening opportunities such as bone density testing, audiometry, visual acuity, ocular tension measurement, and vascular disease. Free blood pressure checks are already provided.

Senior Commissioners Nancy Walsh, Ann Bixel and Dr. Neiby attended the council meeting. Mayor Joffe said senior concerns are among her top priorities for the city. Dr. Neiby said the community should plan on including active seniors throughout all its programming.

Birdsall noted the senior population in the 55 to 64-year old age group will increase 39% by 2011, and become 34% of the city's total population.

A person will be hired to run the senior center at Hart Park House, with the duties of day-to-day operations as well as writing grants and seeking funding. "We need a really good generalist and cadre of volunteers," said Commissioner Walsh. She also said that, curiously enough, the senior survey revealed that 187 people would like to play shuffleboard. (Continued on page 3)

Arcadia Voters Pass Measure B

By John Stephens

Arcadia voters passed the city council-supported Measure B Tuesday evening by a margin of nearly 3-1. The measure, dubbed the "no eminent domain for private gain" initiative provided a check on the power of the city council by limiting their use of the controversial eminent domain law for the transfer of private property to other private investors for development. The measure was put forward by the city council in response to the competing Measure A, which aimed to restrict the growth of the Rusnak Mercedes dealership into the area surrounding Rod's Grill between Huntington Drive, Santa Anita Ave., and Morlan Place.

The city-backed initiative had the financial support of the Rusnak dealership, something that was a cause for concern among Measure A supporters. Manny Romero, owner of Rod's Grill, and citizen activist Mark Bower, who saw Measure B as nothing more than an attempt to steal votes from Measure A. Measure B tallied over 4,000 votes in its 'Yes' column, compared to just under 1,400 for Measure A.

(continued on page 4)

Attitude!
Clothing and Accessories

CUSTOM HANDCRAFTED
Headbands & Belts

Hours of Operation
Tues. to Thurs. 10 am - 6 pm
Fri. to Sat. 10 am - 7 pm
Sun. 10 am - 4 pm

90 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Sierra Madre, CA 91024
(626) 355-3929

Deanne Davis and David Wheatley Debut Musical at Paz Naz

By Susan Henderson



Sierra Madre resident Deanne Davis, pictured above with collaborator David Wheatley, has done it all, if not most of it all. She is wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, writer, composer - plus, she's a genuine church lady. Now she is co-creator of a musical to debut this weekend at The First Church of the Nazarene (Paz Naz) this Friday and Saturday.

Davis worked with "brilliant composer/pianist/organist" David Wheatley on what she calls a "life transforming" musical called

"Hands!"

The production, with a cast of about 20 youth, uses humor to look at what familiar characters from the Bible have done with their hands - and what contemporary citizens could be doing with their hands today.

Davis and Wheatley collaborated on the songs, with titles such as "I'd Like Another Yesterday," "Change My Heart," and "Look For The Rainbow."

Wheatley is a full-time musician who has been accompanist on piano and organ at Paz Naz for the last five years. Originally from Canada, Wheatley says he is "interested in finding more personal ways of presenting the Bible."

The songwriting duo say they hope other churches will be interested in staging their production. "I can't think of anything more thrilling," says Davis. See Page 8 for more info.

Choir Practice



Students of Foothill Academy of Vocal Arts (FAVA) rehearse in space donated by the Sierra Madre Congregational Church. FAVA Founder and Music Director Dianne Harmel (standing left of the students) is building a youth choir in Sierra Madre as well as offering individual voice classes for singers ages 6 to 18. (Continued on Page 3) CHOIR

PUBLIC NOTICE

Volunteers Wanted

Gather Signatures for

Equitable Police Salary Initiative

This is not a tax, it would be a budget item

May 12 & 13 May 19 & 20

May 26 & 27

Saturdays at 7:30 a.m. Sundays at 9 a.m.

Meet at Sierra Juice Company, across from Kersting Court.

Questions: Call Officer Hasmeick

Hartunian (626) 824-1353

INSIDE THIS WEEK

1 Measure B Passes in Arcadia

2 Weekly Highlights

3 Kyle McClure

4 Grand Marshal Needed

5 OBSERVER PASADENA

6 Opinion

7 Letters To The Editor

8 ED

9 Peter Dills

10 TechKnowledge

11 One Of A Kind

12 Sports

(626) 355-1146

VILLAGE AUTO CLINIC
Domestic & Foreign Repair

Bill Schlote
22 E. Montecito Ave.
Sierra Madre

Honesty • Integrity • Product Knowledge

Clarity in Real Estate
Guiding Clients to be Knowledgeable Buyers and Sellers

Lia Schlote
(626) 355-5989
lia.schlote@att.net

Rhett Schlote
(626) 355-5989
rhett.schlote@att.net

8 East Foothill Blvd.
Arcadia
(626) 840-4790 cell
(626) 445-8330 fax
www.TeamSchlote.com

Team Schlote
An Independently Owned and Operated Firm

Weather Wise

5-Day Forecast for Sierra Madre, Ca.

Longitude W118.0, Latitude N34.2



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

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service



City of Sierra Madre May Events

- 11 - City Hall - Closed
- 12 - Toilet Drive - 10:00 am - Community Recreation Center
- 13 - One Book One City Movie Talk and Showing - 6:30 pm - Sierra Madre School
- 14 - Fire Safe Council - 7:00 pm - Council Chamber
- 15 - City Council Study Session - 6:30 pm - Council Chambers
- 16 - Tree Advisory Commission Meeting - 7:00 pm - Council Chamber
- 17 - Planning Commission Meeting - 7:00 pm - Council Chamber
- 18 - Spring Family Movie Friday - 7:30 pm - Kersting Court
- 19 - SMVFA Pancake Breakfast - 7:00 am - Fire Department
- 20 - Friends of the Library Art Fair - Memorial Park
- 21 - Friends of the Library Art Fair - Memorial Park
- 22 - Community Services Commission - 6:00 pm - Council Chamber
- 23 - Community Arts Commission Author's Night - 7:00 pm - Sierra Madre School
- 24 - Regular City Council Meeting - 6:30 pm - Council Chamber
- 25 - Strategic Planning Meeting - 8:00 am - Alverno villa
- 26 - Library Board of Trustees Meeting - 7:00 pm - Conference Room
- 27 - City Hall - Closed
- 28 - MWTR Pasta Feed - 6:00 pm - Kersting Court
- 29 - Mount Wilson Trail Race - 7:30 pm - Kersting Court
- 30 - Healthy Family Fun MWTR Kids Fun Run - 8:00 am - Kersting Court
- 31 - Memorial Day Holiday - City Hall Closed
- 32 - All-America City Presentation Rehearsal - 6:00 pm - Sierra Madre Room

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

SMGSA FUNDRAISING DAY

Date: May 12, 2007

Time: 9:00am—10pm

Come and join SMGSA for the 2nd annual Fundraising Day at Heasley Field. We will be having fun raising money for the league! After a full day of softball games, food and stuff to buy we will end the day with a movie in the park. So tell your family and friends to come and join the fun!

- Carne Asada tacos
- Raffle items (bike, tickets, etc)
- Craft sale booth
- Jewelry booths
- Diner food
- Movie in the park at sunset

Bring your check book and come join the fun!

SMGSA
www.smgsa.org

This event takes place the same time the preschool will have their carnival. The softball staff will be closer to the field.

Interested in setting up a booth?
Contact Tracy Kincaid
626-836-0490
tracykincaid@earthlink.net
Must be willing to give a portion of all sales back to the league!

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

Sunday, May 13 at 6:30 p.m.
"The Journey to Oz"
"MovieTalk" by Leo Brady, 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

Friday, May 11 at 7:30 p.m.
Travelers & Collectors "Incredible Indonesia" By Sigrid, Charles, and Kurt Bausback City Hall 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Sponsored by Friends of the Sierra Madre Library.

Friday, May 11
Travel the World of Music Pasadena High School Music Department Dine to an Evening of Musical Delights RSVP by Friday, May 4, call Connie at (626) 355-3596 Mediterranean Cuisine at PHS \$12 Adults, \$7 Band Members and students Prospective parents & students: A great way to get to know PHS at one of its classiest events!

Saturday, May 12th
National Association of Letter Carriers' National Food Drive Postal carriers will collect non-perishable goods from residents and donate them to the needy. Donate bulk items such as rice and canned goods, peanut butter, coffee, tea, juices, paper towels, TP and toiletries. Donations can be left by your mailbox, or in the lobby of the post office at 61 S. Baldwin Ave.

Monday, May 14 at 6:30 p.m.
Sierra Madre Garden Club Show & Tell Come and share your gardening experiences Hart Park House at 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Stay for dinner - \$8 RSVP (626) 355-0606

Friday, May 18 and Saturday, May 19 at 7 p.m. Sunday, May 20 at 2 p.m.
The Wizard of Oz St. Rita Drama Club In O'Malley Hall Proceeds go to Orphans Against AIDS

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Farmer's Market

Every Saturday to 12:30 p.m. B-B-Berries. Lili's herbs, honey, menudo & tamale stand. Bring the kiddies. PHS parking lot 2925 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.



Café 322

Sunday Nights Let's Sing Opera & Broadway Pianist Danny Guerrero & Friends 322 Sierra Madre Blvd. Sierra Madre (626) 836-5414

Beantown

45 N. Baldwin Coffee & Ice Cream (626) 355-1596

Lucky Baldwin's

21 Kersting Court Belgian Ale (626) 355-1140

Mary's Market

Lemonade with Henore Letourneau 561 Woodland Drive (626) 355-4534

The Harvey Hyde Show

Every Sunday 6 p.m. - 7 p.m. Hard-hitting, high impact sports talk radio KSHP Las Vegas - 1400 AM Live! from BURGER CONTINENTAL 535 South Lake Avenue Pasadena

Book Sale at Sierra Madre Library Spring Forward Into Reading

The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library will have a "Bargain Books Table" inside the Library from Monday, May 7, through Saturday, May 12. Science Fiction, Young Adult books, Cook Books, Christmas Craft Books and Biographies will be featured - all in good condition.

440 West Sierra Madre Boulevard, Monday through Wednesday from noon to 9 p.m., Thursday and Friday from noon to 6 p.m., & Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Visit the Library's web site at www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us or call (626) 355-7186.

Race to the Park! Greyhound Picnic



You're invited to a picnic by Greyhound Save Greyhound Adoptions!

- Date: Saturday, May 12
- Location: Veterans Memorial Park, 222 Sierra Madre Blvd in Sierra Madre
- Time: 10am to 3pm
- Cost: \$15 per adult, \$8 per child under 12

What you'll be enjoying:

- Our "Santa Maria BBQ" includes grilled chicken breast, tri-tip, ribs, hot sauce, "sauce-on" beans, onions and soft shells!
- Cakes for people and greyhounds
- Have your dog take the Canine Good Citizen Test
- Parade of Hounds
- Silent and live auction with lots of cool stuff
- A variety of gifts and pet items for sale
- Bring your greyhound(s) with you (please don't bring little fluffy puppies)

(866) 473-9728

www.GreySave.org

Saturday and Sunday, May 19 and 20, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

JPL Open House

Visitors will learn about JPL's exciting space missions and see robots in action. Scientists and engineers will also answer questions about the solar system, the universe and our home planet.

Fun activities for kids of all ages. 4800 Oak Grove Drive. Exit the 210 (Foothill) at the Berkshire Avenue/Oak Grove Drive exit in La Canada-Flintridge - Free admission

Roy Roams' 91024

Spears & McPhee

Planning Commissioner Bob Spears took the level of discussion to a Higher Plan at the last PC meeting. Spears held up and recommended the book "The Control of Nature" by celebrated author John McPhee. The Pulitzer Prize-winning author of 27 books, McPhee is known for great writing on natural phenomenon, and the attendant human feats or follies.

The chapter "Los Angeles Against the Mountains" details the futility of building in the hillsides, due to the shifting mountains and periodic debris flows which course through entire neighborhoods after rainfall.

McPhee spends time in Sierra Madre, relating the history of the Lone Brothers, Miner Harkness and the Sierra Madre Search & Rescue Team.

Harkness, Barclay Kamb, Peter Fay and others stopped the check damming of Little Santa Anita Canyon, blocking the engineering efforts of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District along with the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

"They were doing this in canyon after canyon after canyon," Harkness told McPhee. "...they were virtually destroying the canyons."

Then there is isotope geologist Leon Silver who calls the San Gabriel Mountains "a weirdo wonderful block of rocks, the most complicated mountain range in North America." Thanks to Bob, for recommending this great book.

Book Clubs & Author Karen Miller

Sierra Madre Library Director Toni Buckner will be starting a book group for adults. Call (626) 355-7186.

One of a Kind writer Chris Bertrand also belongs to a lively book club. The club is now reading "When the Elephants Dance" by Tess Uriza Holthe. To join, email c.bertrand@themtwillsonobserver.com

The Arts Commission celebrates writers as artists, and begins a series of author's nights, according to Arts Commissioner Barbara Wamboldt.

First author to be honored Monday, May 21 at 7 p.m. will be Karen Miller, the Zen Buddhist priest who wrote the definitive book on how to raise parents, "Mamma Zen." Listen to Miller read at Sierra Madre School at Auburn and Highland.

Miller has also written essays such as "The Dharma of Barbie" and "What To Tell the Children." Visit her website at www.mommazzen.com

The Wild West

With Kyle McClure

Mitigation Of Climate Change

What a bunch of self-promoting publicity seekers. It's embarrassing. I don't care if they are well respected environmental scientists. The IPCC needs an intervention. Item: Igor Bashmakov and Omar Masera stepping out of limos sans underpants on their way into dance clubs where they charge tens of dollars to simply make an appearance. Item: Jayante Sathay and Joyashree Roy feuding publicly then making up even more publicly, driving the wrong way on freeway off-ramps, and staging pathetic career comeback attempts by lip-synching to their own songs in front of apathetic Hard Rock Café crowds. Item: The fourth "Assessment Report" on Global Climate Change. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is simply out of control.

In their latest manipulative and cynical effort to grab global headlines and distract us from the important issues of the day (What renovations do Posh Spice and Sir Sexy Abs have planned for the new Beckingham Palace? Will TomKat make it?), the IPCC has released a report called "Climate Change 2007: Mitigation of Climate Change." This is the fourth report released by the IPCC (in, like, the past two days) on Global Climate Change and how it's all our fault and we are all going to die oh no.

Now they are just playing with us. In previous reports, the IPCC showed conclusively that Global Warming is occurring and that it is "very extremely almost certainly" (that's an official scientific designation there) caused by human activities. They also listed, in great detail, exactly what types of environmental changes we can expect to begin seeing: whose house will now be in the middle of a massive desert of shifting (picturesque) sand dunes; and whose mud hut will, thanks to increased erosion, topple from the cliff into the ocean (which will fortuitously be several meters closer due to rising sea levels); and whose yurt will no longer have access to fresh water, causing its occupants to relocate to large central Asian slums; and which Canadian farmers will soon be supplying the world with strawberries and avocados. To sum up, they had us worried.

This new report, published last week, has the ostensible

purpose of assuaging our global warning fears fanned by those previous IPCC submissions. It provides "mitigations," after all. But don't get too excited. For all of its rock star bombast and worldwide fanfare, it is just another long and boring report. Which worries me, because now what lengths will Pete Smith and Kirsten Halsnaes go to, to get noticed? Maybe nasty phone messages left for their 11 year old daughters and leaked to the press?

So what does the IPCC recommend in this report? How can we arrest the onset of Global Warming and return harmony to our peace-loving, gentle world? According to the IPCC, we can improve the efficiency of our energy supplies (yawn), switch from coal to gas (yay), use nuclear power (which could actually lead to some exciting action), drive hybrids and (for the real men) cleaner diesel vehicles. We can enact "modal shifts" from road to rail and bike path, use efficient lighting (new light bulbs, yay!) and electrical appliances and improve grazing and land management practices. There is something for everyone! Add to the list reforestation, (which is similar to, but not the same as) afforestation, waste incineration with energy recovery, recycling and ... waste minimization. You mean to tell me that after all of these high profile shenanigans, the IPCC is going to stand there (wherever there is... Belgium, I think) and recommend that we recycle, and make less trash? Reduce Reuse Recycle? That's not news. That's pathetic. Come on, IPCC! I told you they needed help.



Lawsuit Jam At Santa Anita

By John Stephens

In a move openly expected by members of the Arcadia City Council and Caruso Affiliated, both Westfield and Arcadia First! have elected to sue the city of Arcadia, Caruso Affiliated, and Magna Entertainment, the owners of the Santa Anita Racetrack, under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The citizen coalition Arcadia First! announced in a press release late Tuesday night that they would "hold [Caruso Affiliated] and the City Council accountable by filing the appropriate legal action, separate from any other action which may be filed by other interested parties."

The wording of the statement obliquely refers to the Westfield suit filed last week, a matter about which Arcadia First! has until now remained mum. The City Council and other pro-Caruso parties expressed concern that a petition or letter writing campaign would be mounted by Arcadia First! The committee addressed these concerns in their press release, stating, "Initiating this action hopefully will spare Arcadia Residents millions of dollars in campaign mailers, phone calls and door-to-door solicitors similar to what the community has experienced with the applicant's recent barrage."

Prior to filing the suit, Westfield, who has been a vociferous opponent of the Caruso Affiliated Shops at Santa Anita, and who has a prominent financial interest in Arcadia First!, the anti-Caruso development citizens group, brought its own building plans in front of the council recently in request for approval. The Westfield expansion plan calls for the elimination of nearly 800 parking spaces during the months of

construction for the new outdoor shopping area, which will add 30 new storefronts in a large courtyard complete with fountains and lush landscaping.

The extension, which will connect to the current building on the southwest side of the property between Macy's and Nordstrom, will also include a new parking garage which will ease parking woes once complete later next year. Amid testimony from Pat Gibson, a traffic consultant for Westfield who came forth with an impressively long list of data - including the average daily number of cars and average stopping time in the drop off area at other, comparable Westfield properties - Council Member John Wu and the rest of the council are asking that Westfield provide additional parking staff through the holiday season, at which point staffing would return to their discretion, though still susceptible to review by the council.

Asked if his company would oblige the council's concerns, spokesman and President of U.S. Operations, Ken Wong, said Westfield was eager to "work with the city to make sure that the area is working smoothly." Council Member Bob Harbicht said he is unhappy with the lawsuit. "We're obviously very unhappy with Westfield; we've made no secret about that," said Harbicht.

As of press time, Ken Wong's office at Westfield had not returned telephone calls. Along with filing legal action, Westfield also officially declined an offer to match Caruso in donating \$5 million to the City of Arcadia in lieu of a lengthy and costly court battle. Concurrently, Caruso is due to cover any legal expenses the city may incur in defending itself of Westfield's allegations.

News from the Sierra Madre Police Department:

Seat Belt Violators Will Be Targeted

The Sierra Madre Police Department begins its annual *Click It or Ticket* seat belt enforcement campaign, with law enforcement from throughout Southern California stepping up enforcement of the state's occupant protection laws during the three week mobilization, May 14-June 3, 2007. This special enforcement period is part of the state's annual effort to increase seat belt use through a combination of heavy enforcement, advertising and public awareness campaigns. "Our department will be putting forth tremendous resources to make sure we have officers on the roads looking for drivers and passengers who are not buckling up," said Police Chief Marilyn Diaz. "The intent of the *Click It or Ticket* campaign is simple - to save lives and prevent injuries." California currently has the fourth highest seat belt use rate in the nation, with the 2006 *Click It or Ticket* campaign resulting in an increase in the state's seat belt use rate from 92.5% in 2005 to 93.4% in 2006. Since the campaign first began in California in 2005, nearly a million more motor vehicle occupants are buckling up. "It is our hope to see even more gains in California's seat belt use rate this year," said Officer of Traffic Safety (OTS)

Director, Christopher J. Murphy. "We are particularly interested in making sure the state's teen population is buckling up in greater numbers. California's 2006 teen seat belt use rate was 90.8%, well below the state rate of 93.4%, but up from 88.6% in 2005. California has a primary seat belt law which requires that every passenger in the car, including the driver, is required to wear a seat belt at all times. If stopped and found to be in violation, law enforcement will issue citations without warning. Tickets for seat belt violations range from \$80-\$91 for adults. When children under 6 are not properly secured in a vehicle, the parent or driver can receive one 'point count' on their driving record, with a fine of \$330 to \$401 on a first offense and \$795 to \$971 on a second offense.

Funding for officer overtime to support California's *Click It or Ticket* campaign was provided by a grant from the Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.



Cactus Gallery Presents:
GOOSEY Charter School
PHOTO SHOW

From May 12 Thru June 7, 2007
Admission: **Saturday May 12, 2007**
7:30pm - 10:00pm

New photography
at accessible prices done by teens:

Ana Malo	Gabriel Rodriguez
Hannah Goodman	Hannah Hoffman
Larissa Arnold	Melissa Wood
Nicole Larsen-Carson	Tamara Renu

Curated by Angela Maria Ortiz S.
Music by Patricia Lohman

*Students will attend all of their sessions at:
GOOSEY CHARTER SCHOOL, in Arcadia, CA
626-226-0882 www.gooseycharterschool.org

Admission & Info:
\$20 (Kids 12 & Under)
\$25 (Adults)
\$10 (Students with ID)
\$15 (Seniors 65+)
\$10 (Military & Veterans)
\$10 (Students with ID)
\$15 (Seniors 65+)
\$10 (Military & Veterans)

CHOIR (Continued From Page 1)

Students are also referred to Harmel by Alison Kalmus, Director of Sierra Madre Playhouse's Youth Acting Workshop.

Harmel is a mezzo-soprano soloist who graduated from the University of Southern California and continued at California State University, Los Angeles, with a Master of Arts in Music. "I want to get kids singing," said Harmel, who describes her show as "just a big, colorful party."

Sunday, May 20 from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

KidsFest 2007 Directed by Dianne Harmel

"Perfect for kids ages 2 to 10"

Door prizes, party favors, refreshments

Sierra Madre Congregational Church, Pritchard Hall

170 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.

Visit www.favachoir.org Sign up for Summer Voice Classes held

Sundays June 24 through July 29 (626) 580-7866

COUNCIL (continued from page 1)

Other Council Business

- Approval of Artisan Court at 110 E. Montecito was postponed until the next council meeting May 22. The Conditional Use Permit for that space has been contested by residents who say it is three stories high and will obstruct their mountain views. What the actual height and density factors are, and whether this project is subject to the newly passed Measure V, are likely to be points of contention.

- The City sold Sierra Madre Community Nursery School the one-acre property it has leased to them for 60 years. The school will purchase the land at a cost of \$1,410,000, minus improvements and a lease credit, to total \$1,185,000. Community Services Director Michelle Keith said that if the school should ever sell the property, the city has first right to buy it back.

- Council Member Don Watts, who did not attend due to illness, had asked Interim City Manager Don Hopper earlier Tuesday about counting all the "granny flats" in the city which would apply towards low-income housing numbers. Hopper said he would look into it, and that any structures counted would have to meet city building code standards.

- A bathroom facility will be installed in Bailey Canyon Park, paid from a grant from the LA County Regional Park and Open Space District.
- Council member Kurt Zimmerman volunteered for the new position of Council Liaison to the Sierra Madre Police Department.



The Planning Commission unanimously approved a Conditional Use Permit and variance for this proposed development "Artisan Court" at 110 E. Montecito Ave. During last Tuesday's City Council meeting, the project was withdrawn from the agenda and postponed to the next council meeting May 18. Some neighbors say the project is too dense and will block their mountain views.



Member:
San Marino
Police Officer's
Association

San Marino

Security Systems

Free estimates, no term of contract, free service calls
The highest quality system at a competitive price

We protect and service
museums, churches,
schools, businesses
and homes

+30 years experience
Owned and operated by
retired San Marino Police Sergeant

Call
(626) 285-7778

Phil Raacke
2384 Huntington Drive
San Marino

Protection by
SAN MARINO
Security Systems

ARMED RESPONSE



Fire Safe Council **TIP OF THE WEEK**
From Caroline Brown

In 1972 City Council passed a resolution designating the City a Wildlife Sanctuary, dedicated to the preservation and conservation of the natural wildlife resources in Sierra Madre. The Bailey Canyon Wilderness Area and the Sierra Madre Historical Wilderness Area had been designated in 1967. Residents in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone can protect wildlife and Open Space watershed and their homes from fire by creating defensible space following the Fire Marshal's guidelines. Fire fighters will have more time and resources to keep fire from spreading to and from homes to these areas, saving homes, wildlife and watershed with this margin of safety.

The next Fire Safe Council meeting, Monday, May 14, at 7 p.m. at the City Hall Council Chambers will feature guest speaker Veronica Fincher, Wildlife Manager from the Pasadena Humane Society. Making your home safe from the spread of wildfire will also protect our city, our Wildlife Sanctuary.

For information on brush clearance remember to check out www.firesafecouncil.org or www.fire.lacounty.gov/forestry/BrushManagement for additional information.

For information call: 355-9350 or e-mail us at: smfiresafecouncil@hotmail.com

La Bella Rouge

Women's Clothing,
Jewelry and Gifts

by
Heather Sheets Ann Ronken
Anne Futzow

34 N. Baldwin Avenue
Sierra Madre, CA 91024
ph: 626-355-1427
fax: 626-355-0932

**One-Man
Painting Company**

Residential Interior/Exterior

- Professional
- Reliable
- Reasonable

"I do the work myself
and pass the savings on to you!"
"Why? I love to paint!"

-References Available-
(626) 230-0441



SIERRA MADRE POLICE BLOTTER

During the week of Sunday, April 29th, to Saturday May 5th, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 163 calls for service.

Monday, April 18th:

2:47 PM - Fraud report, E. Carter Ave. A resident responded to emails from senders who claimed to be from the Nigerian and Irish governments and asked for his financial assistance in return for lottery winnings. The victim paid about \$25,000 and never received the lottery winnings. This came to the attention of a county official who recognized it as a scam and reported it to police. The case was referred to the FBI for investigation.

Sunday, April 29th:

5:50 PM - Vandalism/Commercial burglary, Sierra Madre Middle School, 160 N. Canon Ave. Witnesses reported seeing smoke coming from a classroom at the school and called police. Officers found several vandalized classrooms, including broken windows and televisions, paint spattered, discharged fire extinguishers, and other damage. The investigation led to the arrest of a 14 year-old resident. He was booked for felony vandalism and released to his parents. School officials are still assessing the monetary damage for repairs and replacement of property.

Monday, April 30th:

7:47 PM - Residential burglary, 1900 block Vista Ave. The resident's home is for sale. Between Wednesday, April 25th and Monday, April 30th his Dell laptop, cash, 19" TV, personal checks and business cards were taken. The loss was estimated at \$6,700.

Tuesday, May 1st:

10:09 AM - Theft from vehicle, 300 block Sycamore Place. A resident reported his unlocked car was ransacked. The car was parked at 10:00 PM Monday, 4/30. Suspect(s) took the victim's bank statement, vehicle registration and miscellaneous paperwork. The victim discovered the loss at 7:00 AM Tuesday, May 1st.

Wednesday, May 2nd:

3:48 PM - Petty theft, 186 West Highland Ave. A city employee reported a weed whacker stolen from the back of a city vehicle. The loss occurred Wednesday 5/2 at around 3:48 PM. The ECHO lawn equipment was valued at \$300.00.

Thursday, May 3rd:

2:20 PM - Attempted arson, 00 block Kersting Court. An employee reported smoke and an incendiary device burning next to a box in the storage room. Officers conducted an investigation and collected evidence.

Friday, May 4th:

7:16 AM - Vandalism, 300 block Foothill Ave. A resident reported the driver's side fender of his car was damaged when someone threw a rock at it. The damage occurred between 7:00 PM Thursday, 5/3 and 7:00 AM Friday, 5/4. No dollar loss estimate was available.

7:45 AM - Vandalism, 300 Camillo Ave. A patrol officer found a parked truck with a smashed window while investigating the Foothill vandalism. A large rock was lying by the truck. The owner parked the truck 7:00 PM Thursday, 5/3 and the damage was discovered Friday at 7:45, 5/4. No dollar loss estimate was available.

6:34 PM - Vandalism, 300 block Foothill Ave. A resident reported a house guest's car door lock damaged. The car was parked in front of the residence at Thursday, 5/3 at 6:00 PM and the damage was discovered Saturday, 5/5 at 5:00 PM. The damage was estimated at \$150.00.

**Moe's
Automotive Service Center**

Service First, Quality Always

Specializing in repairs of
domestic & foreign automobiles

Moe's Automotive Service Center is a family owned and operated business, servicing the car care needs of the foothill communities for the past 20 years. We have ASC Certified Technicians and the latest state of the art diagnostic equipment. We offer free local pick-up and delivery. Most jobs completed in one day. Call Moe or Andy for an appointment today. *Yes - Andy is still here!*

Moe

125 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA 91024
Ph: 626.355.4714 Fax: 626.355.4724
E-mail: Moesauto@verizon.net




ARCADIA VOTE (cont. from pg. 1)

"We're obviously very happy with the result of the election; it is the result I expected," said Council Member Bob Harbicht, a staunch opponent of Measure A from the start and acting Treasurer of the Rusnak funded pro-B committee.

Rod's Grill, whose storefront forms the boundary between the dealership and its desired properties for expansion, has served as a makeshift pro-A campaign headquarters, its leaflet-covered windows facing the dealership and passersby on busy Huntington Drive.

The battle began after an unsuccessful buyout attempt of Romero's diner by the city council on behalf of Rusnak.

The city and dealership then entered into a forgivable loan agreement in which the city will spend \$8 million in property acquisitions around Rod's Grill to be given to Rusnak with the understanding that such monies will be returned to the city by an increase in tax revenue over the next several years.

The plan relies on the assumption that the extra space given to Rusnak will allow for an increase in auto sales, something that opponents of the expansion question.

While Measure A would have prohibited auto sales on the block, Measure B does not guarantee it, except on the properties already acquired by the city, including the self storage building directly to the east of Rod's Grill, and the church, which is currently in escrow. The Elks Lodge to the east of Rod's Grill, is also holding out.

"We lost, and it's a learning experience for us all. I am pleased though, that the headlines reflect what I've been arguing all along --that Measure B was meant to allow the Rusnak expansion and not to protect the city against eminent domain abuse. I think the citizens who voted for Measure B were more concerned with tax revenue than with the appearance of their downtown, and I think that is unfortunate," said Mark Bower.

Said Harbicht of the victory, "what's really important here is that Measure A would've blocked us from using the properties we've already bought, something that would have been devastating."

**Sandberg
Design**

Annika Sandberg
Interior Designer
F.I.D.E.R. Certified

390 N. Baldwin Ave.
Sierra Madre, CA 91024
Cell: (626) 618-6872
Office/Fax: (626) 355-4207
asandberg@sandbergdesign.com



www.sandbergdesign.com



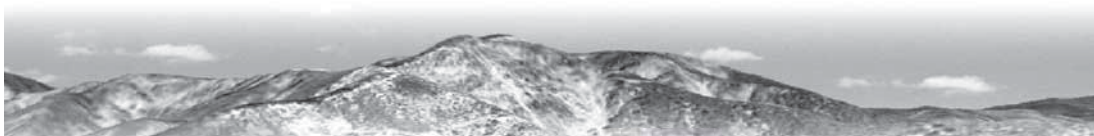
WANTED: Parade Marshal for Centennial Fourth of July Parade

The Sierra Madre Fourth of July Committee is looking for candidates for Grand Marshal of the 2007 Centennial Fourth of July Parade.

This year's Parade will be held on Wednesday, July 4, as a culmination of a four-day celebration, according to Hank Landsberg, Co-chairman of the committee.

Candidates should echo the spirit of Sierra Madre, with outstanding qualities of volunteerism and service to the community, particularly in this once-in-a-lifetime Centennial year.

To nominate the Parade Grand Marshal, please send suggestions to:
The Fourth of July Committee, P.O. Box 1073, Sierra Madre 91025.
Deadline is Monday, May 21. Contact: Hank Landsberg at (626) 355-3656



The Mt. Wilson Observer PASADENA

State Legislators Call for 'Transparency' on all Police Disciplinary Investigations

By Dean Lee



Photo by Daniel Bellis -

Two people were shot, one dead, in broad daylight Monday and then later that same day another victim was critically stabbed. Starting this week out so bloody in Northwestern Pasadena prompted NAACP President Joe Brown to say there was no question that police were needed, however, he called for a public investigation and hearings on the number of officers patrolling the area, which current law does not allow.

According to Richard McKee, former President of Californians Aware, a Supreme Court decision last year now prohibits police departments from sharing any information on police disciplinary review process or from holding public hearings.

"This would certainly also apply to L.A. Mayor Villaraigosa's promise as well, of a full investigation on last week's turmoil in MacArthur Park," he said. During a press conference May 2, the day after police clashed with demonstrators and the media at MacArthur Park, Villaraigosa called for an "absolutely transparent" investigation and said "nothing will be hidden from the public." As of Wednesday, LAPD said 60 officers were being looked at and two high ranking officers were disciplined. Deputy Chief Cayler "Lee" Carter Jr., the highest ranking officer at the rally, was demoted to his home. Cmdr. Louis Gray was moved within the department, LAPD Police Chief William Bratton said Monday.

Senate Majority Leader Gloria Romero authored SB 1019 (the Copley Bill) which is aimed at overturning last year's Supreme Court ruling to seal police disciplinary actions.

"That's all good and well..." said Romero's spokesperson, Russ Lopez. "But by law Bratton and Villaraigosa cannot make this public. Villaraigosa can say it will be transparent but unless

SB 1019 passes that cannot happen." Lopez added that currently police commissions, civilian review boards, personnel boards or civil service commissions are prohibited from releasing any information.

The Los Angeles Police Protective League made a strong statement last week saying, "We support the California Supreme Court ruling that police officers have the right to keep their personnel records private." The League also criticized

Bratton for supporting disciplinary hearings being open to the public.

A spokesperson, on behalf of Bratton, said he only supported section E of SB 1019. ACLU Spokesperson Michael Soller said "I would agree with Romero that he needs to support the whole bill or none of it can happen."

Villaraigosa announced his full support for any legislation which will "open the disciplinary process to the public once and for all," but later reports said he also only supported provision E in SB 1019. Telephone calls to Villaraigosa's office were not returned by press time.

"Last year's court decision really was a hard blow to open government," McKee said then referred to AB 1648 authored by Assemblyman Mark Leno of San Francisco also dealing with police records.

"AB 1648 is essentially the same as Romero's bill overturning Copley," McKee said. "I think having two bills going through the state right now shows the concern this has generated."

Leno said he thought his bill was good for "rank-and-file" officers as a way to bring credibility to police departments. "It's important so there can be trust," Leno said.

Pasadena Police Officers Association President, Robert Mercado said the association did not have any current position on either AB 1648 or SB 1019, not having discussed them, but said they were of interest and would probably be taken up at their next meeting in June. SB 1019 passed out of the Senate Appropriations Committee on Monday. The next stop is the Senate floor for a full vote. "I think it's more likely to be heard in a few weeks but it could happen right away," said Lopez.

AB 1648 is not set to be heard until early next year, said Leno.

Aardvarks to Zebras – Pet Rescue Equipment for Most Creatures

By Dean Lee



The cost of \$55 per mask is "a small price to pay," according to Animal Control Officer Jasser Cepeda of the Pasadena Humane Society. The oxygen masks for pets will be provided to the eight front-line Pasadena fire engine companies.

The new equipment was introduced Tuesday at the city's Fire Station #33.

Pasadena Paramedic Johnie Simpson showed how the masks work, and are used, on animals affected by smoke inhalation at a fire scene. All fire and paramedic personnel in the city are trained to use the equipment, he said.

The masks come in three sizes and each rescue kit has two dog leashes as well as a cat bag to restrain the animals, Cepeda said.

"It handles Aardvarks to Zebras, A to Z," said Pasadena Fire Chief Dennis Downs.

Downs earlier explained their partnership with the Humane Society. "Through donations the Humane Society has gotten the funding to equip all fire departments," Downs said. "But right now Pasadena is the only one in the county implementing this kind of work. We often have pets that are injured, they can't care for themselves, and they can't get out as readily as humans a lot of the time," Downs said. "So what ends up happening is, we get animals overcome with smoke inhalation... and what we can do now is utilize these masks to give them the life saving oxygen they need."

He also said prior to the program regular human masks were altered. Both pets and people will still continue using the same oxygen tanks, although, "humans come first," he said.

"Eighty percent of homes in Pasadena have pets," Downs said. "So we treat every situation as though they have a pet. That's the safe way to go."

Downs also said Tuesday was a red flag day with conditions above wind speeds of 25 mph and humidity at less than 15 percent. Tuesday's heat, along with red flag conditions, broke a number of historical records and led to the large 817 plus acre Griffith Park brush fire. As of Wednesday night, L.A. fire officials said the blaze was at 50 percent contained.

The fire came within a mile of the Los Angeles Zoo which was evacuated and closed as a precaution. All non-essential zoo personnel were also sent home, Zoo Spokesperson Jason Jacobs said.

There were no reports of any animals in the zoo's collection injured. The zoo remained closed Wednesday. "Some of the animals were taken inside," said Jacobs. "During these kinds of situations we really have to evaluate what we do based on the location of the fire."

The zoo would remain closed until further notice, said Jacobs.

New Council Members Robinson and McAustin Sworn In



Photo by Daniel Bellis -

Residents packed the Pasadena City Council Chambers to witness the swearing in of two new council members and two re-elected sitting members including Mayor Bill Bogaard.

Vice Mayor Steve Madison said that in his eight years as a member this was the biggest shake up he had witnessed, and then thanked both outgoing council members Paul Little and Joyce Streato. "I can't think of anyone that's been more instrumental to this board than Paul," said Madison.

Mayor Bogaard welcomed new members Jacquie Robinson representing District 1 and Margaret McAustin representing District 2. McAustin won her seat in a landslide with more than 70 percent of the vote. Bogaard also won re-election with 90 percent of the votes in his favor.

"It takes a lot of courage to step up to a political campaign," said Mayor Bogaard. "And I'm confident because I talked with you during the campaign that you found extremely trying at times, stressful, exhausting, uncertain, and confusing. I wish I could say that life from this time on is going to be better."

Monday, May 14 at 6:30 p.m.

**Joint Meeting
Pasadena City Council
and
Pasadena Unified School District**
Pasadena Conference Center
East Pavilion, at 300 E. Green St.

The public meeting will give the community an opportunity to learn more about how the city and schools are working together to increase collaborative partnerships. New City Council members, and new Board members will be introduced and an update will be given on current joint projects as well as a discussion about future joint projects.

There will be time for public comment. Free parking will be available at the Conference Center and free child care is provided.



THE MT. WILSON OBSERVER

OPINION



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

Pasadena Desk
Dean Lee

Contributors
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

The Mt. Wilson Observer is a publication of Deuxamis Publishing, Inc. established and copyrighted in 2006. This paper is published weekly with offices in Sierra Madre, California. All letters to the editor and correspondence should be sent to: Mt. Wilson Observer, 280 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. #327, Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024. Phone: 626-355-2737 Fax: 626-604-4548 email: deuxamispub@aol.com

All submissions become the property of The Mt. Wilson Observer. We reserve the right to refuse publication of any material that conflicts with the mission of this paper.



Member

Mt. Wilson Observer Mission Statement

We honor the traditions of the community newspaper and place our readers above all other concerns. We deliver local, state and national news every week. We support a prosperous community of well-informed citizens. We hold in high regard the values of the exceptional quality of life in our community, including the magnificence of our natural resources. Integrity will be our guide.

Around The Town With Sir Eric Maundry



"Thieves respect property. They merely wish the property to become their property so that they may more perfectly respect it."
G. K. Chesterton

I traveled on business last week to **Chicago**, and attended more meetings than I care to or can remember. I've always wondered why companies send their people to the truly great American cities only to keep them locked up in hotel conference rooms. It has been my experience that no matter where you are, from the inside hotel rooms all look pretty much the same. I could have been in **Boise** for all I know. Not that there is anything wrong with Boise, mind you. I've attended meetings there as well, and the rooms were nice. But after the day's work was done we did get to leave the hotel and go out for dinner, and it is always enjoyable to hear what people have to say beyond mere commerce.

The topic one evening turned to over-development and the rapaciousness and greed of those who engage in the practice. One gentleman, a resident of **Manhattan**, told a rather astonishing story. He had grown up in a privately owned apartment that had a magnificent view of the **Hudson River**. It was one of those places most people can only dream of, and his family was quite happy there. Years later his parents passed, he inherited the place, and he and his wife decided to make it their primary residence. And that is when progress stepped in. A developer had acquired land that stood between his friend's building and the river, and announced his intention to build something so large that the river view would be all but obliterated. Our friend and others living there hired a lawyer and vowed to take the developer to court in order to keep something that they felt truly belonged to them. Long story, they lost. Why? The developer, anticipating just such a legal challenge, had gone to the city and for several million dollars acquired the **Air Rights** to the space between his friend's place and the Hudson River. In other words, the empty elevated areas between the river and the building in question now belonged to the developer, and he could do whatever he wanted within that space. Including casting

it into an eternal darkness. And you thought things had become bizarre here ... Has **Harry S. Truman** become a last refuge for scoundrels? It would appear that our slowly departing friend **Beth Buck** has now completely shut down her noisome **Downtown Dirt** blog, leaving in its place nothing more than the vastly overused "Give Them Hell" quote so often employed by failed politicians. A recent case in point, the lamentable **George W. Bush**. Faced with approval ratings that are embarrassing even to someone as notably obtuse as himself, **President Bush** has also on several occasions likened his person to that of **Harry Truman**. Apparently "Give 'Em Hell Harry" was also beset by both an unpopular war and an approval rating rivaling that of **O. J. Simpson**. And Bush, or at least his handlers, sensed a political advantage in identifying with this departed president. But while Truman was fighting the scourge of an insidious totalitarianism, Bush has merely been engaged in fibbing furiously to get his **Texas oil** patrons some business advantages in the **Iraqi petroleum** patch.

And what of our development diva **Beth Buck**? Yep, another winner in the **Hardly Harry Sweepstakes**. However, now that she's apparently put her house up for sale and could be departing the town she had so recently claimed to love more than the rest of us, perhaps a **Richard Nixon** reference could have been more appropriate? "We won't have **Beth Buck** to kick around anymore." Sounds good to me ... And if you currently find yourself out of a job and seeking gainful employment, it would appear that the **City of Sierra Madre** has turned to an employment agency to help fill its celebrated **City Manager** position. You can read all about this exciting career opportunity at <http://www.mathisassociates.com/career.php>.

Apparently the job pays somewhere between \$120,000 and \$140,000 per annum, which is just about what it takes to live in this bucolic burg if you are part of the mortgage with children set. Personally I think **City Hall** is going about this in the wrong way. As cash-strapped as this town claims to be, shouldn't we just hold a raffle for the position? At \$50 a throw, and with let's say 5,000 applicants, we could raise enough cash to pay the lucky winner's salary for almost two entire years! And given the recent controversies surrounding this august position, we'd probably end up with a better **City Manager** as well ... That's it for this week. As always I do enjoy hearing from you, even if it's only for dating tips. Why I get so many requests for those I do not know. Write me at sireric_maundry@yahoo.com ... Cheers!

Mother's Day

By Susan Henderson

Mother's Day

(n) the second Sunday in May appointed for the honoring of mothers



Just when I was about to pen the article that was burning my mind this week, I glanced at the paper and realized that, despite the fact that two mothers own and operate this paper, Mother's Day had really not been properly acknowledged. So, instead of hearing me rail about life as usual, I want to take the time to say to all Mothers out there - thanks for being you.

Mother's Day brings on a lot of personal memories for me. I am sorry to say that the money-grubbing capitalist within me had its' roots in Mother's Day. When I was a child, the youngest of four, I made it a point to find out what Mama wanted for her special day. I would barter that information with my dad, sister and brothers. Sometimes it was money, other times it was just for ice cream, but I always had the information they wanted to know. And that was just the beginning. I also got paid for not telling what everyone had bought for mother. And then I got paid again for telling my mom what she was going to receive on that special day - hey they never told me not to tell!

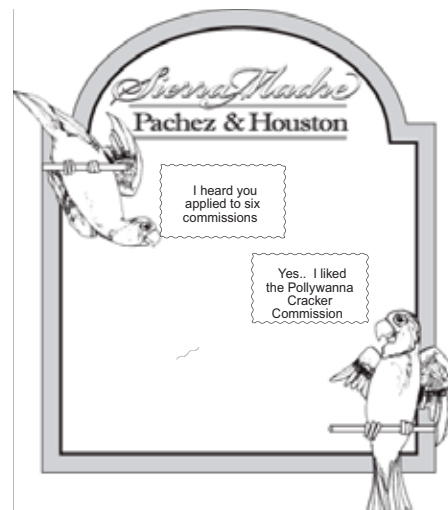
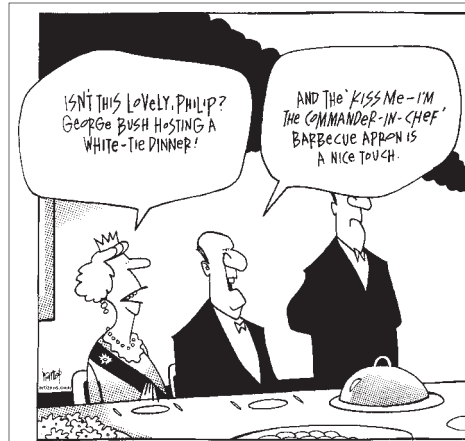
I was fortunate and never got caught, that is until my sister probably reads this column.

When I became a mom, things and times changed. I never knew that one could actually receive so many pot holders, aprons and flowers, but they were all appreciated. One of the most memorable presents from my children I never received. My youngest son, at age 10 or so, and his best friend went shopping for their moms. They spent hours walking around the mall I am told, trying to find the perfect gift. They found it. The same thing for both of us at Godiva. Beautiful boxes, too. Problem was, when I opened it the chocolate was missing. A pitiful Fred said, "We just sampled it and suddenly there wasn't anything left. But I thought you would like the box." I couldn't do anything but hug him, he looked so pitiful. However, within the hour his friend's Mom called and she didn't find it quite so amusing. In fact, as I recall, I think her son spent the rest of the day with us.

So, in recognition of the day that Julia Ward Howe proclaimed in 1870, I shall simply remind all of you to remember that long suffering, patient, kind and loving mother, without whom you would not be able to read this column today.

Happy Mother's Day to all. Don't worry fellas, your day is coming.

Happy Mother's Day
from the
The Mt. Wilson Observer
Publishers and Staff



Letters To The Editor

Thank You Mt. Wilson Observer

To all of you at the Mt. Wilson Observer THANK YOU for taking a stand for Sierra Madre during the "difficult" Measure V period. There is no doubt in my mind that "our town" would have been sold out if it wasn't for your integrity and compassion. WELL DONE!

Andy Brendle

Dear Editor:

I want to let folks know about the very dirty tricks the opponents of Measure V employed during the recent election campaign.

Much has been reported to me, by folks who gathered signatures and attended frequent "coffee" hosted by former and current mayors as well as other opponents of Measure V.

It seemed one of their tactics was to have these little get-togethers and even send out fancy invitations - one of which I actually saw.

The citizens who attended were profiled.

Opponents of Measure V went after groups of gay people, liberal people, conservative people and handicapped people.

Each group was told fallacious "facts" by their hosts.

* The gay voters were told that the Yes on V people were anti-gay. A very hurtful lie, especially to the people who supported Yes on V who are gay and have gay friends and relatives.

* The liberal voters were told by their "hosts" that the Yes on V people were selfish right-wing extremists who didn't

want poor people living in Sierra Madre, who were going to make sure there was no low income housing. Another lie. Again, hurtful to the people who supported Yes on V who are liberal.

* The conservative voters were told we were leftist anarchist types who wanted to destroy the economy of the town. Yet another lie. Very hurtful to those of us who supported Measure V who are conservative.

* The handicapped people, some visually impaired, were told there would not be enough money to put gas in police cars or fire trucks if Measure V passed. The cruelest lie of all, in my opinion. One lady who attended one of these is a blind lady. She was so upset she attended a city council meeting to voice her support of the measure.

* I'm sure senior citizens were targeted also, people being sent fallacious letters, appearing to be from the city, urging them to vote NO on Measure V. Sierra Madre must never be subjected to these dirty tricks, paid for by out-of-town big development interests. It's shameful and wrong.

Diane Shear, Sierra Madre

I Broke the Law and Now I'm On the Lam

By Rich Johnson



Remember last week's column about enacting new and sensible laws? Well, I broke one this weekend. And now I suppose my days of freedom are numbered. It's just a matter of time before the FBI comes by and hauls me off. The FBI you ask? Why would the FBI come looking for me? Because I broke the law and then crossed over state lines. I've seen Bonnie and Clyde. That's what happens. The state police have probably set up a roadblock and are waiting at the border for me. What happened? It's a long story. Okay, I'll come clean. Last Friday I flew up to Portland to attend the wedding of the son of some very good friends of mine. I didn't rent a car as my friend, Roanna, was already there and picked me up. Because I didn't rent a car I, therefore, had no idea that the pernicious act I was about to commit was illegal. Ignorance of the law is no excuse. Just ask my future cellmate, Paris Hilton. (Hmmm, that might ease the pain of incarceration. Nah!) Anyway, on Saturday evening, the wedding went off without a hitch. Well, actually there was a hitch as the bride and groom were hitched, but there was no glitch hitch which is no small feat considering this wedding was outside. Remember this is Oregon where it rains most of

the time. God was gracious to Amy and Kevin, the bride and groom, and kept it dry and glitch hitchless. God could have made it a bit warmer, but let's not push it. The horrible and unspeakable act I committed took place on Sunday morning. Meeting up with Kevin and Amy for a bon voyage send-off at the romantic Elmer's Coffee Shop - Roanna, myself and her other son Scott, and other daughter-in-law Jennifer left the hotel around 9 a.m.

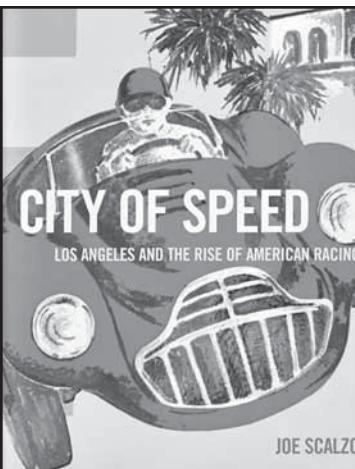
We were in a White Ford SUV. Probably was a Bronco, with the OJ package. Roanna, the by-now exhausted MOG (mother of the groom) asked me to drive. Sure, why not? On our way to the affair I noticed we were perilously low on fuel. I made the command decision to "gas up" (I'll probably get the gas chamber for this). I stopped at the next gas station (looked like a self-serve). I got out, went to the pump, did the credit card thingy and started to remove the nozzle. A young female gas station attendant came out to the Bronco. (I thought she was just bored.) She looks at me and blurts out, "You're from out of town aren't you?" "It's that obvious I asked?" Then she let me put \$10 in the tank. Did you know it's illegal to pump your own gas in Oregon? I didn't. I wasn't caught, but what is the statute of limitations in Oregon? This may be my last column. It's been nice knowing you. Oh, and by the way, if any of you have friends or relatives up in Oregon would you have them check the post offices for my face?

Have A Wine Tasting Party!

It's Fun! It's Easy! It's Educational!
Call Professional Wine Consultant
Harry Orlove @ 661.312.5803
to plan your party now!

for more info: visit www.cheapwineclub.com

Great for Birthdays and other Special Events!



Joe Scaldo's latest book, *City of Speed*, a study of automobile racing, is published by Motorbooks International, and is available on Amazon

Take Advantage Of Our Great Advertising Rates!
Your message mailed to over
6,000 homes Weekly
Please Contact us at 626-355-2737
www.mtwilsonobserver.com

merry maids.

Count on
our team

when the rest of
the afternoon has
let you down.

Customized cleaning
Satisfaction guaranteed
\$20.00 off 2 hours

merrymaids.com
626.564.8724

MARY KAY
makeup
now

From the latest on-trend colors
to the classics. I can help
you create a look for every occasion
and every new outfit in your
wardrobe. Call today for
your complimentary
color makeover.

Dale Ann Perales
Independent Beauty Specialist
www.marykay.com/dalearn
626.576.2787

Join The Supporters Of

THE MT. WILSON OBSERVER



I want to become a subscriber of The Mt. Wilson Observer.
Enclosed please find my payment in the amount of
\$152.00 per year. I Other _____
You can also join online by going to
www.mtwilsonobserver.com

"Your Support Keeps Our Newspaper Strong"

Please tear this off and sign up today!
280 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Suite 327
Sierra Madre, CA 91024
626-355-2737



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.

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

Students Explore & Create Theater

By Dominic Catrambone, Director of DiscoveryOnstage

While working as professional stage, screen, and television actors and acting teachers for a combined twenty years, Jeremy Kent Jackson and I came together in late 2006 with an idea:

We realized that through our years of involvement with young performers, we had never come across a program that gave students the ability to create original theatre pieces from within their own imagination.

So we decided to pool our knowledge, experience, and resources to form a unique youth-oriented theatre company that would offer Southern California a different kind of theatrical education.

The name of the company sprung from the simple principle by which we began, DiscoveryOnstage, and a new venture was born.

Having worked with many theatre companies and educational organizations locally and across the country, we felt that there was room in the arts community for a place that focused specifically on student conceived, written, and performed projects. DiscoveryOnstage is committed to the idea that human evolution begins and ends with the imagination.

"We believe that through creative theatrical exploration, we can teach self-awareness, self-confidence, leadership and team-building skills that will last a lifetime," said Jackson. By providing young people with a nurturing workshop environment in which to develop their own, original theatrical ideas and imparting the artistic training, skills, and opportunities necessary for translating those ideas onto the stage, a door is opened to a whole new world of imaginative creation.

Invaluable and everlasting life skills can be learned simply by supporting the idea that each of us has something to say, something inside of us bursting to get out. Whether pursuing theatre and the art of acting as a life-long career or simply exploring it as an exercise, it is our mission to provide our students and our audiences with an experience that engages the imagination and therefore encourages inspiration, unlocking the creator in all of us.

Summer Acting Day Camp

Runs 3 weeks at Centre Stage Academy in Downtown Monrovia.

Offered to students ages 6 - 18, it will culminate with a final student-created production to be performed live under-the-stars in Monrovia's Library Park.

Two sessions are currently being offered, July 9 - July 27 and July 30 - August 17.

For more information, call 626.736.9179 or visit www.discoveryonstage.com.



Charter School Still Homeless

Founders' Pacific Oaks pedigrees and a grant from Bill Gates' foundation yields no home from Pasadena Unified Board

By Dean Lee



Photos by Dean Lee

The PUSD Board of Education voted 4-1 during a special meeting May 3 to write a rent check for \$65,000 to the Charter School named Rhythms of the Village (ROV) because it would not provide space within the school district.

Trying to start a new charter high school on \$5,416.57 a month did not seem to be adequate, said ROV Co-Founder Onochie Chukwurah.

After a request by Superintendent Edwin Diaz, Board President Peter Soelter also directed district staff to help the charter school find a suitable offsite location. Soelter was also the only nay vote.

"I feel that we were not part of that process tonight," said Chukwurah. "This is why I asked for everything in writing. I think they can do this under proposition 39? But I want to call our lawyer to find out." Chukwurah's wife, also a co-founder, added that she felt they "had been swept under the rug."

Diaz said \$65,000 was chosen as the amount it would cost for one portable classroom to be placed on a district school site although Rhythms staff said the amount sounded ludicrous to them.

During a number of meetings with the district's sub committee on charter schools it was made clear Rhythms charter school would need a number of portables no matter where they were located. At one point it was estimated that 14 portables would be needed to locate the school at the vacated Linda Vista elementary school, their first choice, amounting to \$910,000 at \$65,000 each, according to Rhythms staff.

The large number of portables was needed due to a mold problem, condemning the use of the school's main buildings, according to board member Ed Honowitz. The Linda Vista Annandale Association had fiercely opposed the elementary school.

The latest plan, to offer space at Blair IB Magnet School using empty bungalows on the school's north village,

was also vetoed. Blair Principal Rich Boccia told the Board he saw a projected growth to 1,400 students through next year, which prompted Diaz to suggest more portables would have to be used on that site as well with a cost of \$500,000.

Diaz said the district could not afford the amount.

PUSD Board Members had also considered co-locating Rhythms on the former Edison Elementary site with Nia Charter School. Rhythms' lawyer said the idea was counter productive to the school's educational goals. Nia staff said they were strongly opposed to sharing facilities as well, saying money was also a large factor.

Board member Prentice Deadrick, whose seat was up this Monday, made good on his promise of not showing up and voting at the special meeting May 3. He said he thought this was the new board's problem.

Deadrick highly praised the charter school for tackling the problem of teaching students the district viewed as "non-achievers," saying other schools should thank them when their test scores go up. But he did not leave before first chastising the charter school for not taking a more proactive role in finding an offsite location.

Newly elected board member, Renatta Cooper, said last week she thought the board should go back to the Linda Vista plan in spite of fierce opposition from the Linda Vista community who said they wanted to see All Saints Church bring a children's center to the location by August. Deadrick had also frequently suggested the idea of going back to Linda Vista.

Cooper said she thought The Pasadena Boys and Girls Club would be a good location for the school.

Rhythms staff said they were currently looking at 965 N Fair Oaks Ave, the vacated Armory Northwest Gallery, as a possible location as well as the Boys and Girls Club but said their students would have to be bussed across town to make the Boys and Girls Club work.

Rhythms of the Village is a Diploma Plus school, part of the Gates Foundation, which gave it a grant of \$405,000.

"We can't use that money for rent taking away from books and supplies," Chukwurah said. "That's no way to run a school."

Chukwurah and his wife also said they will be working close with faculty members at Pacific Oaks College and Children's School in spite of reports that said otherwise. The Chukwurahs are both alumni from Pacific Oaks. His wife had taught at the college for years, he said.

"It is not just Pacific Oaks," Chukwurah said. "We plan to work with all the colleges in the area such as Pasadena City College and Cal State L. A. Our students will be required to take college classes before they graduate."

Kiwanis Club Grants
The Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club offers cash grants to students and schools.

Paul Magaris Community Service Grants can be applied for by any local student or school. Up to \$300 per student or \$500 per school may be awarded to applicants who can show that a grant would benefit their education or provide a benefit to the community.

Grants are awarded twice each year: in November and in May. Any individual, school, or organization who wishes to apply for a grant should contact Kiwanis Club Present Hank Landsberg via e-mail:

hennyeng@aol.com

The deadline to apply is May 31, 2007

Pasadena Conservatory of Music Offering Scholarships

The Pasadena Conservatory of Music is offering partial and full tuition scholarships for students who play any of the following instruments: oboe, bassoon, French horn, trombone, tuba, and baritone. Scholarships for individual lessons will be awarded to beginning, intermediate and advanced students for the 2007-08 school year.

Interested students should call 626-683-3355 for information and to schedule an interview.

Beverly Lafontaine, Marketing Director
Pasadena Conservatory of Music - 626-683-3355

SCHOOL DIRECTORY

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

Alverno High School
200 N. Michillinda
(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
141 W. Highland Ave.
(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

"Hands!" The Musical
Book & Lyrics by Deanne Davis, Music by David Whelan
May 11th & 12th - 7:00 p.m.
"Hands!" The Musical is a David Whelan Production
It Is Performed at
Pasadena First Church of the Nazarene - Lee Chapel
3700 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., Pasadena 91107
Information/Directions: 626-351-9631
www.gunsan.org
(The hands are God's hands today, yes, and there is so much we can do with them to further God's kingdom. And YES! What are YOU doing with your hands?)
Suggested Donation: \$10/Adult, \$5/Child, \$2/Student. Students with I.D. AND, if you really really love it, additional donation will be gratefully accepted.

SIERRA MADRE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Classes from the 40's Reunion
May 19th, 2007 11:30am - 5:00pm
Cost is \$30.93 per person
R.S.V.P. Louise Knight (Edwards) 626-351-9368
(Cut-off date May 1, 2007)

Blair IB Magnet Music Department
presents
EVATIONS
May 10-11-12-2007 Thursday Friday Saturday 2:30pm Saturday Matinee 2:30pm
Pasadena City College - Wilma Linderoth - 1570 East Colorado Blvd.
Patrons: Adult Inv.
Patrons of the Opera - The W - 42nd Street - Blair - Pasadena Center - Solid Gold 4th
General Tickets: \$10 - Students: \$5 - 2 A Dinner: Free
To order tickets please call: www.blairmagnet.org or call: 626-441-2286 ext. 304
Production sponsored by the Blair Music Division in the Linderoth 40th and 41st Years

TABLE FOR TWO by PETER DILLS

FU-SHING

- Lucky Star -



If you have watched my TV Show, "The Chef Knows" on KJLA TV you know I like good food!!! A few issues ago I mentioned that King Crab Legs are one of my favorite dishes. A close second has to be Maine Lobster. And if you have followed



my reviews, I have said time and time again, that lobster is lobster. As long as it is fresh!!! So why overpay! The Fu Shing Restaurant in East Pasadena, like many Chinese restaurants, offers a nice selection of seafood items, one being a live Maine Lobster. The Fu Shing serves it three different ways: Steamed, (my choice) fire roasted garlic and a ginger scallion. The Chef cooks the lobster two in a wok and it is served cut-up. If you are a lobster lover like I am, the price is right. Usually about \$1 or \$2 above market price depending on the season. Owner Cindy Chang doesn't mind if you order two. There are no restrictions.

Another good bet is the Explorer Dinner, it is a multi-course dinner for four that showcases some of Fu Shing's best dishes, at this writing it was \$18 per person. Please go to www.fu-shing.com for current menu and prices. What you get with Starters is cold appetizer salad or a hot appetizer wonton with real crab meat in a tangy chili paste. Next is the South Seas Seafood Fire Pot with five different seafood items. The main course(s) include: Jumbo Scallops, Fire Cracker Lamb, Mayo Shrimp, Macadamia Nut Chicken, Fresh Catfish and a Buddhist Feast in a Noodle Basket with fresh vegetables.

Bonus: Of course Fu Shing offers many Chinese entrees, if you like sizzling rice soup, order it here it is very good.

The restaurant features a patio and an upstairs for private parties. Price per entrée \$13.95 to \$20. Casual dress. Reservations are suggested, especially for the Explorer Dinner feast. Plenty of free parking.

*** Three Stars

Fu Shing Restaurant 2960 E. Colorado Pasadena (626) 792-8898
Open daily from 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Watch Peter Dills every Sunday Night at 8 PM on KJLA TV... Right after Race Replays from Santa Anita.
E-mail Peter at chilipete@aol.com

The Rating Criteria:

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

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

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

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



What's New For You At www.mtwilsonobserver.com

Got A Favorite Restaurant or Chef? Tell Peter Dills

A to Z One Stop Home Improvement
Free In-Home Estimate

Spring Remodel
Kitchen Cabinets
Granite Counters
up to 20 linear ft.
\$5,895

Carpets
Hardwood Floors
BLINDS
Shutters
Hunter Douglas
Low Priced

941 1/2 W. Foothill Blvd. Call Now!
Monrovia 626-357-9997

LOFT ONE-22
HAIR DESIGNS

122 North Baldwin, Sierra Madre

SHERI SEMIEN (626) 394-6691
HAIR DESIGNS & FACIALWAXING

CORINA GARCIA (909) 908-4254
HAIR DESIGNER/MAKE-UP ARTIST

\$10 off if you mention this ad

CORFU
Restaurant

New Management offering:
- Shish Kabobs
- Appetizers
- Wine List
- Catering

48 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Sierra Madre, CA 91024
Tel. 626-355-6993

Winifred R. Harris'
Between Lines
A Contemporary Modern
Dance Company



Friday & Saturday May 11 & 12, 8pm
The World Premier of *And Then Again*
Sunday May 13, 3pm
The Los Angeles Premier of *Joy Comes in the Morning*



Ivar Theater
1605 N. Ivar Ave
Hollywood, CA 90028
\$25 or \$15 (with student ID)
To Reserve Tickets:
(310)313-1647



Yoga Madre
Yoga Studio
and Wellness Center

Classes for all levels

626.303.1004
www.yogamadre.com

300 E. Foothill Blvd • Arcadia, CA 91006

**EAST PASADENA
SHADE CO.**

SINCE 1965

**CUSTOM WINDOW
TREATMENTS**

- DRAPERIES
- MINI-BLINDS
- ROMAN SHADES
- WOOD BLINDS

626-793-9101

WE MOVED

2548 E. Colorado Blvd.
Pasadena, CA 91107

Looking Up

With Bob Eklund

TechKnowledge

Technology Science Business

In Celebration Of Light



Photo by Jean Boenish



Photo Courtesy by NASA

I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT LIGHT this past week. What got me started was a picture in the paper of a torchlight parade in Kurdistan, Northern Iraq. Some kind of war rally, I wondered? But no, they were celebrating a millennia-old spring festival known as Nowruz—simply rejoicing in the ever-increasing amount of daylight this time of the year brings. The Kurds, it seems, are related to the ancient Persians, for whom light—symbolized in a Creator these ancient peoples called Ahura Mazda—represented the supreme good.

So what is it about *light*, I wondered, that makes us feel good? I thought about this again one recent sunny afternoon when I stopped for a sandwich at a sidewalk café on Baldwin Avenue. It seemed like half the town of Sierra Madre was out there, enjoying early-May sunshine. As I settled into my sidewalk table, a very elderly blind lady came up the sidewalk, finding her way, tapping her cane, happily bumping into my table, serenely making her way around it. Following her came another and then another sightless person, all of them quite cheerfully feeling their way up to their chosen Baldwin Avenue shop. At that moment the proprietress of my sandwich shop recognized them and ran out, taking each in turn by the arm, greeting them like long-lost friends, helping them along. Returning to her shop, she winked at me and said, "I baby-sit them all!" "What a town," I thought. A glimpse of light in Sierra Madre on a Tuesday afternoon, in more ways than one.

MEANWHILE, THINGS GOT VERY BRIGHT this week in a galaxy 240 million light-years away. In fact, the brightest stellar explosion ever recorded was announced May 7 by astronomers using NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory and ground-based optical telescopes. The discovery of this supernova, known as SN2006gy, indicates that violent explosions of extremely massive stars were relatively common in the early universe, and that a similar explosion may be ready to go off in our own galaxy.

"Of all exploding stars ever observed, this was the king," said Alex Filippenko, leader of the ground-based observations at the Lick Observatory at Mt. Hamilton, Calif., and the Keck Observatory in Mauna Kea, Hawaii. "We were astonished to see how bright it got, and how long it lasted."

"This was a truly monstrous explosion, a hundred times more energetic than a typical supernova," added Nathan Smith of the University of California at Berkeley. "That means the star that exploded might have been as massive as a star can get, about 150 times that of our sun. We've never seen that before." Astronomers think many of the first generation of stars were this massive, and this new supernova may thus provide a rare glimpse of how the first stars died. It is unprecedented, however, to find such a massive star and witness its death.

The star that produced SN 2006gy apparently expelled a large amount of mass prior to exploding. This large mass loss is similar to that seen from Eta Carinae, a massive star in our galaxy—raising suspicions that Eta Carinae may be poised to explode as a supernova. Although SN 2006gy is intrinsically the brightest supernova ever, it is in the galaxy NGC 1260, some 240 million light years away. However, Eta Carinae (visible from the Southern Hemisphere) is only about 7,500 light-years away in our own Milky Way galaxy.

"We don't know for sure if Eta Carinae will explode soon, but we had better keep a close eye on it just in case," said Mario Livio of the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore. "Eta Carinae's explosion could be the best star-show in the history of modern civilization."

DON'T HOLD YOUR BREATH, THOUGH. For astronomers, "soon" could be anywhere in the next few million years. For now, I'm content to leave watching over Eta Carinae to the astronomers, and simply revel in the light of these ever-lengthening spring evenings. So here's to Ahura Mazda, bringer of light. (Incidentally, the car I drive is, guess what, a Mazda.)

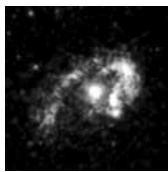


Photo Courtesy by NASA

BiblioFile

with Jeff Brown

Death Of A Maid By M.C. Beaton

Death of a Maid is M.C. Beaton's enjoyable 22nd Hamish Macbeth mystery. Macbeth is a lovable town constable in Lochdubh, a small village in the North Scottish Highlands. We get to spend our time in these books in a town full of picturesque cottages, a castle, and wonderful Scottish characters with the Atlantic and the highlands at the borders.

Underneath this quaintness, passions rage frequently spilling over into murder with Macbeth having to solve the crime. He keeps a low profile, preferring to have people assume he's not very competent or intelligent because he doesn't want to get promoted which would entail leaving the Highland paths and trout streams of Lochdubh for the crime ridden streets of the larger city of Strathbane. Despite the involvement of high powered police officials, he's the one who solves the crimes by observation and investigation of the people involved. Hamish Macbeth's low-key but continual process of detection has led one reviewer to say of a novel in this series, "The pleasures of the book are akin to those of a good gossip session with a perceptive old friend."

At the start of Death of a Maid, Macbeth comes across the body of a gossip housecleaner, Mrs. Mavis Gillespie. She's been bludgeoned to death with her own pail, and there are plenty of suspects in the village. None of her clients liked her, but they insist she was an excellent maid. Macbeth, noticing thick layers of dust in their homes, digs deeper and learns that Mrs. Gillespie was a more skilled blackmailer than a housecleaner.

That just begins the long involved case. Macbeth at one point has his own life threatened by a powerful enemy. Beaton's delightful Macbeth novels are always fun to read and anyone looking for some light diversion will certainly enjoy them.

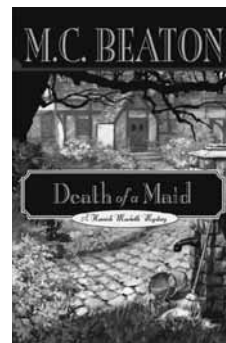
All 22 mysteries except one begin with Death of, such as Death of a Prankster, Death of a Scriptwriter, etc.

Hamish Macbeth became a successful television series in the United Kingdom. The author Marion Chesney is known primarily for the more than 100 historical romance novels she has published under her own name and under several other pseudonyms: Helen Crampton, Ann Fairfax, Jennie Tremaine, and Charlotte Ward.

M.C. Beaton is the pseudonym she reserves for her mystery novels. The first Hamish Macbeth novel came to Chesney while she was learning to fly cast for salmon at a fishing school in northern Scotland.

Marion Chesney was born in Glasgow, Scotland, in 1936. Along with writing books she worked as a women's fashion editor for the magazine *Scottish Field*, as a reporter for the *Scottish Daily Express* (Glasgow), and the *Daily Express* (London). Like another amateur sleuth she pens, the Agatha Raisin series, Chesney lives in a cottage in the English Cotswolds.

For any comments or recommendations you can contact me at mtbibliofile@yahoo.com



31 US States Form Registry To Cut Carbon Emissions

By Timothy Gardner

NEWYORK(Reuters)-With pressure growing on the U.S. government to regulate greenhouse gas emissions blamed for global warming, 31 U.S. states will start a registry next year to track those emissions with an eye toward reducing them. "If you don't have a sense of what your disease is you can't diagnose it," Heather Kaplan, a climate policy analyst at the Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management, who has worked to help form registry, said in a telephone interview. The Climate Registry will log emissions from corporations, nonprofit groups, and municipalities in states representing 70 percent of the U.S. population. Two Canadian provinces, British Columbia and Manitoba, also have agreed to participate. The tool to track, verify, and publicly report greenhouse emissions across industry sectors and state borders was formed by the governors and environment secretaries of the states. It will start accepting emissions data in January 2008. "The big story here is that this many states from all sides of the political spectrum have established a registry together," said Kaplan. The United States is the world's top emitter of carbon dioxide and the other five heat-trapping gases scientists link to global warming. She said there was "no way" that entities could overstate their emissions in an attempt to ease any future emissions

limits placed on them, because all emissions logged will be verified by a third party. Scientists say greenhouse emissions could lead to more deadly droughts, heat waves and flooding. Unlike developed countries in Europe, the United States, the world's top emitter of greenhouse gases, does not regulate them. But states on both coasts have formed regional pacts to cut emissions, and several bills in U.S. Congress seek a national cap. The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative in the East seeks to cut carbon dioxide emissions from power plants. California, which is seeking to cut greenhouse emissions 25 percent by 2020, and four other states have formed the Western Regional Climate Action Initiative to cut emissions. The registry will support those programs and other states taking actions to cut greenhouse gases. It was modeled on the California Climate Action Registry which has certified more than 300 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions, about the amount of Brazil's greenhouse emissions. The log anticipates opening several regional support offices throughout the country. Companies and organizations could log early actions in cutting greenhouse gases on the registry and possibly get credit for them if future state or national limits on the gases are passed.

Car

We love our cars. We live in our cars.

But our cars pollute, a lot, and are a major source of carbon dioxide emissions causing global warming.

The average car emits twice its weight in CO₂ each year. Offset it today!

Homes

Keeping your home cool in the summer and warm in the winter takes a toll on more than just your utility bill.

The good news is that you can reduce your CO₂ footprint in your home with simple changes like adding insulation and switching to compact fluorescent bulbs. But if you can't cut it, tag it! and offset all electricity and gas your home uses.

Planes

It's good to see the world, but it's also good to have a world left to see. Our flying is filling the wild blue yonder with more greenhouse gases everyday.

A roundtrip flight from New York to Los Angeles emits more than 2,000 lbs of CO₂—about a third of the amount a hybrid car emits in an entire year! Offset your next flight today!

Termite & Pest Control

ACCURACY PLUS

DON'T TEST YOUR HOME USE ACCURA-FOAM

Call for Inspection and Free Estimate
NATIONAL CHARGE FOR DISCOVERY

(562) 690-7700
(888) 675-0258
(949) 945-1127

Our Accura-Foam Treatment is designed to Eliminate Present and Prevent Future Termite Infestation

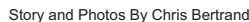
- Environment Friendly
- Virtually Odorless
- No 3-5 Day Home Out
- No Bad Damage
- Warranty to Entire Home

We also eliminate
Ants, Roaches, Fleas, Rats and Mice

SAVE \$\$. Mention this flyer and receive:

\$200*	SAVE 10%	1st Control \$48*
on overage	off any	initial treatment with
COMPLETE	SPOT	insulation of the soil
AccuraFoam	Application	and one year service
		regardless of
		Call for details

Se Habla Español



SPORTS

Pasadena Poly Gets Props from Rasmussen's Fastball

By Larry Bortstein



Photo by Jacqueline Truong

Rasmussen and the baseball team at Pasadena Poly aren't supposed to make national headlines. The small private school of 360 students, in the shadow of Cal Tech, competes in CIF Division VI, in the lower echelon of the Southern Section. But Rasmussen, a 18-year-old senior lefthander, is at 5-foot-11, small and slender for a power pitcher. But with a fastball that has been clocked at 91 miles per hour, he is the star of a Panthers team that is ranked first in the San Gabriel Valley. Rasmussen turned his game up to a new level recently when he struck out a school record 20 Glendora batters en route to a 5-1 victory. Regulation high school baseball games last seven innings or 21 outs, which means that

only one Glendora player was put out on a batted ball.

"I think I could have struck out 21," says Rasmussen, who recorded 83 strikeouts in his first 35 innings this season. His strikeout ratio per seven-inning frame is a remarkable 16.6. "You get spoiled as his coach because you almost expect him to strike everyone out," said Poly coach Wayne Ellis, who has guided the Panthers to a 12-1 record. "He allows us to compete against teams like Monrovia and Temple City and the other top teams in the area."

Rasmussen, who has attended Poly since the seventh grade, has a remarkable 31-2 career record and 1.12 earned run average. His resume might be even more glittering had he not been limited to six games in 2006, his junior year, because of a stress fracture in his lower back.

He recovered in time to help the San Gabriel Valley team capture the national Babe Ruth League championship for 18-year-olds and under in Ohio.

Already armed with a baseball scholarship to UCLA for next year, Rasmussen is looking beyond his college days, though he has a 3.4 grade-point average.

"If I can continue to improve the way I know I can, I think I have a legitimate chance of playing in the major leagues," he said.

Ellis agrees. "He is," said the Panthers coach, "the first player in school history who has a chance to get there. We have six to eight scouts at our games every time he pitches." Rasmussen said his determination to excel is fueled by the facts that Pasadena Poly is not a big school with a strong athletic tradition and he is not a commanding physical presence.

"Small schools and height are things I like to fight," he said. "It's things I like to prove."

Alverno's Escamilla Rising

By Larry Bortstein

Michelle Escamilla recently sat out two weeks with a sore shoulder that prevented her from pitching for the Alverno High School softball team.

"I could hit but not throw," the 5-foot-10, 16-year-old righthander recalled. The absence may have been just what the doctor ordered. In her return to the mound, she struck out 19 San Gabriel Mission batters. San Gabriel Mission then was battling Alverno for the leadership of their league.

"My arm felt stronger and I think it was because of the time off," she said. As they head to the CIF playoffs, her opponents probably feel they could use time off from Escamilla and her dominating presence.

Escamilla's 2007 statistics at Alverno are nothing less than eye-catching. She has an 0.91 earned run average and is striking out 13.7 batters per seven-inning game—nearly two per inning. En route to a 15-1 record, she has hurled eight shutouts and held opponents to a microscopic .132 batting average.

An excellent hitter in her own right, she is batting .410 and has walloped five homers for the Jaguars through 20 games, of which they won 18.

The best news for coach Frankie Russo is that Escamilla is only a junior and will be back next year before she is expected to accept a college softball scholarship. She is attracting college scouts more for her performance in "travel ball" during the summer than for her efforts at Alverno.

The Jaguars play in the Division VI Horizon League, which consists of five other all-girl Catholic schools.

"It's not known as being a great league,

but we schedule some good non-league teams from higher divisions, like Flintridge Sacred Heart and Duarte High," Russo said, "and she dominates them just like she

dominates the teams in our league. "She's really become known by the scouts. In those leagues, she pitches from a mound 43 feet from home plate instead of the high school regulation 40 feet. The ball has more movement on it from the longer distance."

The movement on her pitches, more than their speed, is Escamilla's chief weapon. "I like to throw change-ups and risers with spin on them," she pointed out. Michelle is the second member of her family to play softball at Alverno. Her older sister, Monique, now 21 and a student at Pasadena City College, was a member of the 2003 team that won the CIF championship in their division. Michelle then was in the eighth grade at San Gabriel Mission.

"Michelle has been playing the game since she was eight," said Ron Escamilla, her father, who helps Russo at team practices and at the Jaguars' Tuesday and Thursday games.

"She wants to take the game as far as she can go. She really works hard at it."



Photo by Jacqueline Truong

Wondries Toyota/Scion

800.476.6308

<p>NEW 2007 YARIS 3DR</p> <p>\$11,488</p> <p>10 AT THIS PRICE</p>	<p>0% APR*</p> <p>OR UP TO \$2000</p> <p>Factory Rebates</p> <p>On Selected Models</p>	<p>NEW 2007 COROLLA CE</p> <p>\$12,388</p> <p>10 AT THIS PRICE</p>
<p>NEW 2007 TACOMA REG CAB 2WD</p> <p>\$13,288</p> <p>7 AT THIS PRICE</p>	<p>NEW 2007 COROLLA LE</p> <p>\$13,388</p> <p>7 AT THIS PRICE</p>	<p>NEW 2007 COROLLA "S" 4DR</p> <p>\$14,388</p> <p>10 AT THIS PRICE</p>
<p>NEW 2007 TACOMA ACCESS CAB 2WD</p> <p>\$16,488</p> <p>7 AT THIS PRICE</p>	<p>NEW 2007 CAMRY LE's</p> <p>\$14,688</p> <p>10 AT THIS PRICE</p>	<p>NEW 2007 MATRIX 4DR 2WD CUV</p> <p>\$14,688</p> <p>10 AT THIS PRICE</p>
<p>NEW 2007 HIGHLANDER 2WD 4DR SUV</p> <p>\$19,888</p> <p>10 AT THIS PRICE</p>	<p>NEW 2007 SIENNA CE 2WD</p> <p>\$20,988</p> <p>10 AT THIS PRICE</p>	<p>NEW 2007 PRIUS HYBRID STD</p> <p>\$21,588</p> <p>10 AT THIS PRICE</p>

WONDRIES SCION

PRE-OWNED CLEARANCE

<p>07 BUICK LESABRE</p> <p>\$4888</p>	<p>07 CADILLAC DEVILLE</p> <p>\$5888</p>	<p>07 CHRYSLER PT CRUISER</p> <p>\$6888</p>	<p>07 DODGE STRATUS</p> <p>\$7888</p>	<p>07 FORD MUSTANG</p> <p>\$7888</p>	<p>07 HONDA CIVIC</p> <p>\$7888</p>	<p>07 HYUNDAI ELANTRA</p> <p>\$7888</p>	<p>07 MAZDA MPV</p> <p>\$8888</p>
<p>07 OLDSMOBILE AURORA</p> <p>\$8888</p>	<p>07 TOYOTA COROLLA</p> <p>\$8888</p>	<p>07 NISSAN SENTRA</p> <p>\$10,888</p>	<p>07 HONDA CRUISE</p> <p>\$10,888</p>	<p>07 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA</p> <p>\$11,888</p>	<p>07 TOYOTA CAMRY</p> <p>\$11,888</p>	<p>07 TOYOTA SIENNA</p> <p>\$12,888</p>	<p>07 CHRYSLER PT CRUISER</p> <p>\$13,888</p>
<p>07 BUICK LESABRE</p> <p>\$15,888</p>	<p>07 CHRYSLER PT CRUISER</p> <p>\$16,888</p>	<p>07 VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT</p> <p>\$16,888</p>	<p>07 FORD MUSTANG</p> <p>\$17,888</p>	<p>07 NISSAN SENTRA</p> <p>\$23,888</p>	<p>07 MAZDA MPV</p> <p>\$25,888</p>	<p>07 HONDA CRUISE</p> <p>\$38,888</p>	

Wondries Toyota/Scion

800.476.6308

CALL Carmen Burton 626-590-9411

1543 W. MAIN ST., ALHAMBRA

WWW.WONDRIES.COM

View From The Couch

By Stanley J. Forrester

The Solution?

The recent death of the St. Louis Cardinal young relief pitcher, Joshua Hancock, has sent shock waves through the baseball community. The fact that Hancock's death was due to an accident which occurred after the young man had consumed enough alcohol to be declared legally intoxicated, has been at the heart of the debate. Missouri, like California and many other states, set the limit of alcohol in the body at .08. Hancock was at +0.15 meaning he was about twice the legal limit. The response by many major league clubs has been to ban alcohol in the clubhouse. The first to do so was the St. Louis Cardinal's - a team that until recently was associated with the Anheuser-Busch family. The stadium carries the name of a family which is known as the "King of Beers."

By recent count about a dozen teams have instituted some type of policy against beer in the clubhouse. Some have allowed it to remain in the visiting teams' club, the thought being that those players will not get behind the wheel of a car when leaving the ballpark. The home team players may drive home and clubs feel that this is the solution to the situation. There is a big flaw in this thinking because Hancock is alleged to have been drinking at a bar not at the ballpark.

That however is not the real problem. This edict of No Beer in the clubhouse is yet another example of a knee jerk reaction. I am not concerned that management should provide refreshments, beer or otherwise, to a bunch of millionaires. My concern is that this appears to be another area in which personal responsibility is being replaced with corporate political correctness.

This young man's death is a

tragedy which possibly could have been avoided had he taken certain measures. First, he should not have consumed the drinks knowing he was driving; second, he should not have been on the telephone while driving, and third but certainly not least, he should not have been driving so fast.

There seems to be an assumption that had he been sober, the other factors would not have mattered. They all mattered.

Beer has long been associated with baseball. Whether beer is provided by the teams or not is, at least by my way of thinking, the wrong emphasis.

We, ball players and the rest of us, should examine our actions and if they are about to put ourselves or someone else in danger then our responsibility is to refrain from that action. I don't need my employer to tell me not to do an act. Personal responsibility should be every adult's password. However, somewhere along the way individual responsibility has been replaced with political correctness and that solution will never work.

ED CLARE ELECTRICAL

IN SIERRA MADRE

PERSONALIZED AND QUALITY SERVICE SINCE 1974

626 355-4424