

THE RED, WHITE & BLUE OF SIERRA MADRE



Sierra Madre's July Fourth Parade was much more than floats, dressed up cars and marching. It is the one time of year when residents become one big, happy family. All photos by Debra LeMatre except MWO staff - center - by Susan Henderson; White Cadillac by Dick Bertrand and Curb Appeal - lower center - by Susan Henderson.

You're In Good Hands Sierra Madre Paramedic Program In Full Swing

By Susan Henderson

It has been a little over 30 days since the tone was sounded. All across Los Angeles County the signal that notifies firefighters and paramedics whenever there is an incident or important announcement, proclaimed the fact that Sierra Madre now had a fully functioning, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, Paramedic Program. This city was the very last department in Los Angeles County to start a such a program.

In an early morning chat with Paramedic Coordinator Greg Christmas and Fire Marshall Rich Snyder, both agreed that the program has been a great success. Since it began there have been at least 45 incidents that paramedics were able to provide expanded services.

Benefit to Residents:
Prior to the paramedic program, calls to 911 were responded to by qualified EMT's. However, EMT's may only administer oxygen and transport patients. All of our

Sierra Madre Volunteer Fire Department are also EMT's. Now there are two certified paramedics on duty at all times to answer calls. Paramedics are allowed to perform life saving/sustaining measures that EMT's cannot. For instance, Paramedics can administer cardiac drugs, start IV's, advance airways, and stabilize patients beyond the scope of an EMT. Paramedics can also transport patients directly to special catherization labs that minimize the amount of damage to a patient's heart (cont. Page 12)



Greg Christmas, Paramedic Program Coordinator beside SMFD Rescue 41



The Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce
Invites You to a Very Special Evening Mixer
Hosted by
The Sierra Madre Historical Preservation Society
Thursday Evening, July 12th from 5:30 to 7:30 pm
At the
The Women's Club Historic Club House "Essex House"
550 West Sierra Madre Boulevard
(at corner of Huntington & Sierra Madre Blvd.)
Come and enjoy an evening with a group that has a past.
Special favors hors d'oeuvres will be served along with drinks and door prizes.
Members: \$10.00 Non-Members: \$15.00
A favor of a RSVP would be appreciated to Beverly at 626-355-6111.

INSIDE THIS WEEK

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Weather Wise

5-Day Forecast for Sierra Madre, Ca.
Longitude W118.0, Latitude N34.2



Friday:	Sunny	Hi 90s	Lows 60s
Saturday:	Sunny	Hi 90s	Lows 60s
Sunday:	Sunny	Hi 90s	Lows 60s
Monday:	Sunny	Hi 90s	Lows 60s
Tuesday:	Sunny	Hi 90s	Lows 60s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service



City of Sierra Madre July Events

- 6 - City Hall Closed - All Day
- 7 - Kids Safety Camp Begins - 9:00 am - Memorial Park
- 8 - Concert in the Park: The Folk Collection - 6:00 pm - Memorial Park
- 9 - Swim Lessons Session Three Begins
- 9 - Fire Safe Council - 7:00 pm - Council Chambers
- 10 - Summer Fun in the Park: Heat the Ray - 9:30 am - Memorial Park
- 10 - Regular City Council Meeting - 6:30 pm - Council Chambers
- 11 - Community Arts Commission - 6:30 pm - Council Chambers
- 12 - Senior Community Commission - 3:00 pm - Council Chambers
- 14 - Midsummer Night's Dream
- 15 - Concert in the Park: Cynthia and the Sweet Potatoes - 6:00 pm - Memorial Park
- 16 - Community Services Commission - 6:30 pm - Council Chambers
- 17 - Summer Fun in the Park: Folk Dancing - 9:30 am - Memorial Park
- 18 - Tree Advisory Commission - 7:00 pm - Council Chambers
- 19 - Planning Commission - 7:00 pm - Council Chambers
- 20 - Community Submissions for the Fall Wisteria Vine Due
- 20 - City Hall Closed - All Day
- 21 - Quaker Bookfair Excursion - 9:30 pm
- 21 - Midsummer Night's Dream - 6:00 pm - Memorial Park
- 22 - Concert in the Park: Jumpin' Jaz Band - 6:00 pm - Memorial Park
- 23 - Swim Lessons Session Four Begins
- 24 - Summer Fun in the Park: Eaton Canyon
- 24 - City Council Meeting - 6:30 pm - Council Chambers
- 25 - Library Board of Trustees - 7:00 pm - Council Chambers
- 28 - Kids Safety Camp & Healthy Family Fun Bailey Canyon Hike - 9:00 am - Bailey Canyon
- 27 - Petalitions Submission Due for the Fall City Hall Art Show
- 28 - Midsummer Night's Dream - 6:00 pm - Memorial Park
- 28 - Community Arts Commission Trip to Getty Villa - 10:30 am
- 29 - Concert in the Park: Pecos Brothers Band - 6:00 pm - Memorial Park
- 31 - Summer Fun in the Park: Arborzooz - 9:00 am - Memorial Park

For more information on these and other City programs, call 355-7129 or visit www.cityofsierramadre.com.

Roy Roams' 91024

Bad Pen Day: In last week's story on the City Council meeting last week, *John Crawford's* name appeared as John Carter. Omitted from the picture on the Roess Family was the name of daughter *Mary Ann Bryant* of Solvang.

Roess Family Clarification: David L. Roess, operated *Roess Market* in Sierra Madre from 1938-1984. *Grandfather Frederick L. C. Roess* purchased the home at 83 W. Highland home in 1912 and it remained in the family until 2005. It is currently for sale. Members of *David L. Roess* family lived at 82 Victoria Lane from 1949-1953 and at 125 Lowell Avenue from 1953 until 2003.

And Another Thing: Let's set the record straight. *Michelle Zack*, author and producer of *"Eaton's Water"* was erroneously named as starring in the film. She and MWD Director *Tim Birch* played *Alice* and *Ben Eaton* respectively, before student audiences.

Budget Crisis Solution: Sierra Madre needs revenue. Here's how to get 5 million dollars in 5 hours! It's easy. We have five city council members. They are all college graduates, some have multiple degrees. Sooo...let's sign each one up for the show, *"Are You Smarter Than A Fifth Grader?"* The prize is \$1 million dollars. All of the answers were things learned between first and fifth grade. Easy Money! Budget problems resolved! And....we could even probably all agree to increase their stipends. *Note of caution:* If you go on the show and loose, we will elect the fifth graders to replace you!

Sierra Madre Super Star - No - not you, it is *Verna Chilton* who passed away in 2005. For years Ms. Chilton performed with and supported the playhouse for many years. The *Sierra Madre Playhouse* unveiled a star for Verna Chilton at the opening of *Director Bob Hackman's PUTTING IT TOGETHER*. Verna's legacy is now a permanent part of the Playhouse. A star for a star - a fitting tribute. You can further honor her memory by going to see *Putting It Together* which will be performed at the Playhouse from June 22-August 4th.

A Big Shout Out: To the *Mt. Wilson Observer's* new friend *John from Utah* who so generously sported us around the 4th of July parade in his 1961 Vintage Cadillac. Making new friends is always a pleasure. See ya' next year John!

Question: By the way, did anyone tell *Willard Scott* that we are 100 Years Old? I used to look forward to the day when he would announce my birthday on the *Today Show* until I learned how to count. However, Sierra Madre deserves a shout out!

Anniversary Party for Adams' Pack Station

July 14, 2007
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.



Something to Do for Everyone:

- Live Music & Open Mic
- Gumbo Cooking Contest
- Food Booths: Hot Dogs, Hot Links, Carnitas/Chicken Tacos, Fajitas
- Misc Booths: Historical Info, Local artists' wares, Local hiking groups/companies
- Roping Contest
- Kids: Be a Packer Photo Op, Coloring, Sack Race

www.adamspackstation.com
Adams' Pack Station is located at Chantry Flat in the Angeles Forest above Arcadia. Take the 210 Fwy to Santa Anita Blvd North. Drive 3 miles up to the parking lot.

FREE COMPUTER CLASSES

The Sierra Madre Public Library offers free computer classes year round to the public. If you're contemplating buying your first PC, classes are available in Basic Computer I & II, to help take the anxiety out of learning essential computer functions. Basic Internet I & II will teach you the ins-and-outs of email, and how to navigate smoothly through cyberspace. Beginning, Intermediate and Advanced levels of Word are also offered, as well as classes in Excel and Desktop Publishing.

Registration forms are available at the Library's Circulation Desk. A \$20.00 deposit per class is required when you register, which is refunded upon attendance.

The Sierra Madre Public Library is located at 440 West Sierra Madre Boulevard in Sierra Madre.

For further information, please visit the web site at www.sierramadre.lib.ca.us or call (626) 355-7186



SAVE THE DATE Tuesday July 10

The Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club will present a fascinating program about falconry. Steve McNall, President and CEO of the Pasadena Humane Society, is an experienced falconer and will present the program. He will bring a falcon, talk about training the birds, and even do a few demonstrations of their capabilities. Mr. McNall has also trained owls.

The Kiwanis Club meets at noon at the Masonic Temple at 33 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. in Sierra Madre.

The public is invited; lunch is \$8 per person. Reservations are required; please contact Paul Neiby at 355-1291.



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
Time for Ice Cream
(626) 355-1596

Lucky Baldwin's

21 Kersting Court
(626) 355-1140

Mary's Market

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

Summer 2007 Concerts in the Park Series

This summer the Community and Personnel Services is offering "Spectacular Summer Sounds" a series of concerts in Memorial Park. These events, every Sunday night starting July 8th, are great for families, couples and friends! Due to high popularity last summer, the concert series are back, with a variety of music ranging from folk to rock and roll to jazz. Bring your blankets and lawn chairs as seating is on the green. Spectators are encouraged to support local organizations who will be providing refreshments. Alcohol is prohibited.

Concerts are Sunday nights from 6:00pm- 8:00pm from July 8- August 26, 2007 at 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Thank to all of the sponsors and the Woman's Club of Sierra Madre for sponsoring this event. The concert schedule is as follows:

July 8: The Folk Collection
Friends of the Sierra Madre Library

July 15: Cynthia and the Sweet Potatoes
Sierra Madre Volunteer Firefighters Association

July 22: Jumpin' Joz Band *
Community Services

July 29: Pecos Brother Band
Kiwanis Club

August 5: Ken O'Malley & the Twilight Lords
Civic Club

August 12: Pasadena Crown City Chorus
Centennial Committee

August 19: Elvis and the Heroes of Rock Rotary Club

August 26: Fairytale & Fantasy III
Southern California Lyric Theater

*This concert series is sponsored by the Los Angeles County Arts Commission and the Recording Industries' Music Performance Fund through the assistance of the Professional Musicians Union Local 47.
For more information, please contact the Community & Personnel Services Department at 626-355-5278

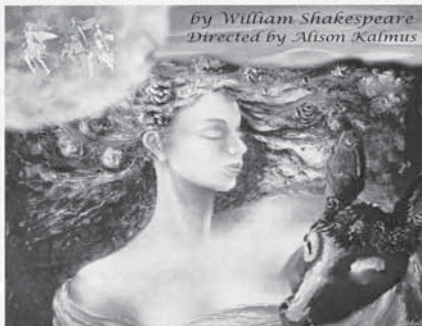
Got News?
Call 626-355-2737

Southern California Lyric Theater
with the City of Sierra Madre presents the Inaugural Shakespeare in the Park

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Shakespeare's Classic Comedy Updated to 1958
with Doo Wop music by the SCLT Troubadours

by William Shakespeare
Directed by Alison Kalmus



Memorial Park Bandshell

222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd, Sierra Madre
Saturdays July 14, 21, 28, and Aug 4 at 7pm
Seating on the green. Bring blankets, lawn chairs and a picnic dinner.

Admission Free

For more information, please visit our website at www.socal-lyrictheater.org

The Wild West

With Kyle McClure

Little Swing Set in the Foothills

Did you ever read *Little House on the Prairie*? It's a classic. Written by Laura Ingalls Wilder, illustrated by Garth Williams, it is an autobiographical account of the Ingalls family move from Wisconsin to Kansas in the late 1800s. First published in 1935, it was made into a popular TV show not long after that. It provided the raw material required to make Michael Landon a household name before he tragically succumbed to brain cancer and was memorialized in a moving *Boys II Men* music video.

This is exactly the book I want to have with me if I am ever stranded on the Kansas prairie in 1870 with nothing more than a covered wagon, a bulldog, a breech loading rifle, 2 panes of glass wrapped in cloth, a barrel of molasses, a bag of corn meal, a team of oxen, and a wife and two daughters. Disguised as a book about a loving family working together to overcome obstacles, it is really a how-to guide on crossing the Missouri River, choosing the best homestead site, and constructing a log cabin with a "good oak door, solid and strong" (this involves lots of hewing and pegging and whittling).

As you read this book you come to pretty much hate Pa Ingalls. And it's not because he illegally settles his family on Native American land (which he does) or because he snorts cocaine and gambles away the nest egg (which he doesn't). You hate him because he is better than you. At everything. He always knows just exactly what to do and just exactly how to do it. The foundation he lays is perfectly level and square. His dog obeys him immediately. His roof doesn't leak. He whistles when he is afraid. He never cheats or gets cheated. He hangs all of his clothes from one peg on the wall.

Show off. So you made all of your furniture, Pa. Big wup. So did I. I shop at IKEA. Who cares if I used the hex wrench that came in the box instead of pegs and leather straps?

But what does Pa Ingalls have to do with

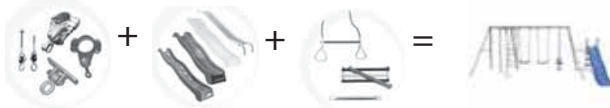
anything, oh weekly columnist in one of my eight small town newspapers? You may be about to ask. Well, certain recent events in my life have got me thinking a lot about construction and tool use and what it means to be a man. Plus, I'm insecure.

Last week, delivered directly to my backyard by two men wearing those black Velcro back braces that don't actually do anything for your back, were two large and heavy boxes filled with pre-cut, pre-drilled, pre-stained pieces of lumber, 42 baggies filled with all manner of nut, bolt, screw and washer, and a Tolstoy-sized owner's manual and instruction booklet for the Durango Wooden Playcenter - 2007 (Model IAP016-07). It's a swing set.

There's a fort and a slide and two ladders. There are monkey bars and three different kinds of swings... at least according to the bucolic, festive scene featuring a sturdy-looking swing set on the outside of the box. The structure that I have achieved varies somewhat from the one photographed.

I just spent 12 hours in my backyard wielding a tape measure, cordless drill, level, and rubber mallet (optional). I swear to you that I attached the Fort Rails (R) to the Uprights (C) and that they were even with the previously placed Floor Joists (G)... But then I suppose it is possible that I mistakenly used The Middle Floor Brace (T) or the Tarp Cross Brace (E). None of the pieces of wood are actually labeled with the numbers used to designate them. This may be why I have assembled a structure that my daughter has begun using to launch river rocks at the neighbors' houses. I have built a trebuchet. And, I am still not quite sure where the wavy slide is supposed to go. I think I am going to nail it to the pepper tree.

So, fine, Pa Ingalls, you win. You are more of a man than I. You built a cabin on the prairie and I can't even assemble a swing set in my backyard. But don't you start talking smack, or I'll let loose this boulder at your head.



Church of The Ascension's Gift To The Centennial Celebration



On June 24, 2007, the Episcopal Church of The Ascension (pictured above) offered as a "gift to the city": Composers of 1907. Below is a recap of this remarkable event from Sierra Madre Pat Ostrye, former Mayor of Monrovia.

Steinway Piano Company loaned the church Steinway Concert Grand No. 599 "from the Hollywood Bowl", says Rev. Canon Michael A. Bamberger. The church is the oldest church in Sierra Madre built in 1886 and is the city's oldest public building.

"Although I am relatively new to Sierra Madre and not familiar with the cultural and social goings-on in the town, I had occasion recently to attend Composers of 1907, presented in Celebration of the Sierra Madre Centennial, held at the Episcopal Church of the Ascension.

Rev. Canon Michael A. Bamberger, rector of the Ascension, welcomed the capacity crowd of music enthusiasts who had already enjoyed an interlude of stirring patriotic numbers played by the USC Brass Quintet as the assemblage were settling in for the ensuing hour or so of entertainment.

I believe it is safe to say that many of us were not familiar with all of the numbers or the composers listed. Consequently, it was gratifying to have the

descriptions and backgrounds of both music and composers, plus the verses, as well as biographies of all of the performing artists featured in the very detailed program.

The opening number, "Quartet No. 4 in E Minor" was played by the Avanti String Quartet, a renowned group of young women who have performed in concert venues from Carnegie Hall to Disneyland and from Beijing to Canada. The composer, George Chadwick once said, "I do not ask you to make popular music classical; I ask you to make classical music popular". So he does and you could literally hear a pin drop. Not even one cough!

There were four Songs of Travel, sung by Christopher Isaak, baritone, with Catherine Miller at the Steinway, followed by Five Mystical Songs, also sung by Isaak, accompanied by the very celebrated Dr. James Hopkins, Professor Emeritus at USC Thornton School of Music and with credits too numerous to list. After 24 years as organist at United Methodist Church in Pasadena, he retired in 2003 and is enjoying his many published compositions. For both of these songs, the remarkable Festival Choir of the Ascension Church, directed by Deborah Huffman, provided the back-up music.

Two more accomplished musicians were Michelle Beauchesne, cellist who has been playing her cello since age five, all around the world, There was also Mary Au, outstanding pianist from Hong Kong, sharing her musical fabric worldwide also.

And so it went, but the piece de resistance was the final crashing presentation of five Sousa marches by the aforementioned Brass Quintet, ending with the Stars and Stripes Forever. As a Navy veteran from WWII, having done much marching in those days, I thoroughly enjoyed that finale and, of course, the reception that followed."

-Pat Ostrye



America's Queen of Opera, Beverly Sills, Belle Miriam Silverman, affectionately called Bubbles, passed away on July 2nd from lung cancer. Ms. Sills never smoked although her father passed away from lung cancer at the very beginning of her career. A Presidential Freedom Medal of Honor winner in 1980, she also received the Kennedy Center Honor for her service to the Arts. Beverly began singing at the age of 7 and rose to the top without the traditional benefit of voice training in Europe. After retiring, she served as the head of the New York City Opera, the Lincoln Center of New York, and the chairman of the Metropolitan Opera.

Beverly was the mother of a daughter who was deaf and a son who faced mental challenges. She served as the Chairperson for both the March of Dimes Foundation and the Mother's March On Birth Defects.

For insight into her musical legacy, listen to the CD collection entitled, "The Very Best of Beverly Sills". —Susan Henderson

Coffee with Joffe

Oh, What A Party!



Well, our little town sure knows how to throw a party. Based on the crowds at Memorial Park and on the parade route July 3rd and 4th I'd say everyone in Sierra Madre plus their children, grandchildren, and friends-of-the-family came out to celebrate our nation's birthday. It was a pleasure and a privilege to serve as your Mayor during the 2007 July 4th festivities. And many thanks to our Sierra Madre Police Officers and Fire Department who kept their cool during the sizzling heat over the holiday.

Heartfelt thanks also to the July 4th Committee ably headed by Hank Landsberg, with a lot of help from his friends. The July 4th celebration is yet another example of the spirit of volunteerism in Sierra Madre. Like so many other activities in town, the entire shindig is paid for by your donations and organized by a volunteer committee. Were it not for volunteer spirit, time and money, we would not have a fire department or Bailey Canyon Nature Center or preserved open space or the Veterans' Wall or the Wistaria Festival or the Dog Park or the Creative Arts Center or most of the other things that make Sierra Madre unique and wonderful.

But we can do so much more, especially for our city government. If you have a gripe about the city government, don't just complain, get involved and fix it! We always need people to serve on Commissions and Committees and, yes, run for City Council. The Tree Commission still has several vacancies and positions always open up on other Commissions and Boards as well. If you don't get appointed on your first try, please keep trying. You will feel good knowing you are part of the solution. Volunteers don't need to represent a "party line." Debate is healthy as long as we do it with respect and our eye on the shared vision. As I have said many times, we need to learn how to fight fair and makeup when the fight is over.

Over the next few months my goal will be to help the City find solutions (note the plural) for our long term fiscal imbalance. There is still time to volunteer for the Ad Hoc Committee or one of the subcommittees. It will take all of our ideas to find the creative solutions that keep our town going another hundred years. In the meantime Happy Birthday America and Happy Birthday Sierra Madre!

Mayor Joffe welcomes your comments and questions. She can be reached at cjoffe@ci.sierra-madre.ca.us or 626 646-3458. She is always happy to meet for a cup of coffee.

"Disturbing the Peace" at Church of the Good Shepherd

No, that doesn't mean we will be planning demonstrations or getting arrested, but it does mean we will be looking at ways that peace has often been won. Both inner peace and global peace often come through periods where there has been a lack of peace, and people are motivated to change. How can we respond to the issues of our hearts, and to the world around us, even as we work toward creating personal and global peace? The community is invited to learn more at a luncheon to be held at Church of the Good Shepherd, United Methodist, 400 W. Duarte Road (corner of Holly) in Arcadia on Saturday, July 21, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Leading the discussion on "Disturbing the Peace" will be the Rev. Diane Rehfield who is a licensed Marriage, Family, and Child Counselor, a wife and mother of three daughters, and an ordained deacon in the United Methodist Church. Currently she is appointed as a chaplain to Bixby Knolls Towers retirement community in Long Beach. Diane is an engaging speaker who has led many talks and retreats on this topic, as well as a variety of other subjects. She has a passion for sharing the Bible with others and has done so for all ages.

Tickets are on sale at the church office, 626-447-2181, during the week or after church on Sundays. The cost is \$8 per person and includes a light buffet lunch of homemade finger sandwiches and desserts, fresh fruit, and beverages hosted by the church's United Methodist Women. Tickets must be purchased in advance as they will not be sold the day of the event.

In addition, both men and women will enjoy the used book sale which will be available to peruse before and after the luncheon. A wide variety of books will be on hand with the proceeds from this sale going to FINCA (the Foundation for International Community Assistance). FINCA makes small business loans to women in impoverished countries. Village Banks are set up by FINCA, and through them, the women both receive their loans and repay them. Thus the money keeps on giving, through new loans. Their philosophy is: "a hand up, not a hand out."

Contact: Linda Doran, 626-447-2181 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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ARMED RESPONSE



Fire Safe Council TIP OF THE WEEK

From Caroline Brown

Alert! Alert! Alert!

YOU can help protect our community from disastrous wildfire. Please attend the next Fire Safe Council meeting, July 9, at 7 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers. We will be organizing volunteers to help the Fire Marshall on Red Flag Fire Patrols.

Bailey Canyon gates are closed when Red Flag Fire Alerts are called due to high temperatures, low fuel moisture and expected high winds in the canyon passes and foothills. Chantry Flat Road gate was closed on the 4th of July for the protection of our foothill community.

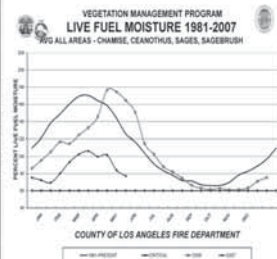
By June of this year the fuel moisture in the brush of our Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone hit the low marks usually expected in September or October.

Contact us at: 355-0741, 355-7135 or 355-9350, or: smfiresafecouncil@hotmail.com

2007 BRUSH FIRE SEASON IS HERE!

Due to the driest winter on record, the condition of the brush in and around the foothills of Sierra Madre is expected to hit critical levels 2 months earlier than normal. Now is the time to start clearing the brush from around your home.

Brush Inspections start May 1st



Defensible Space

In order to protect your home during a wildfire, we need 100 feet of clearance between your home and the hazardous brush. Aggressively trim and thin the vegetation from around your home but do not completely remove the vegetation to mineral soil.

Trim you win, strip you slip!



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- Replace umbrella cords and fabric cover
- We also sell new furniture below retail

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Miracoli Furniture Restoration
www.miracolifurniturewelding.com

SIERRA MADRE POLICE BLOTTER

During the week of Sunday, June 24th, to Saturday June 30th, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 252 calls for service.

Monday, June 25th:

12:04 AM - DUI arrest, 100 block East Sierra Madre Blvd. Officers stopped a vehicle for a minor equipment violation. During the investigation the driver was found to be driving under the influence of alcohol and in possession of narcotics. The driver was arrested and transported to the Pasadena Jail for remand.
11:18 PM - Traffic stop, Green Hill and Hastings Ranch Rd. An officer stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation. During the investigation the driver was found in possession of drug paraphernalia (Meth pipe) and driving on a suspended driver's license. The driver was arrested and transported to the Sierra Madre Police for booking.

Tuesday, June 26th:

2:28 AM - DUI arrest, 400 block East Colorado Blvd, Arcadia. An officer stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation. During the investigation the driver was found to be driving under the influence of alcohol. The driver was arrested and transported to the Pasadena Jail.
12:47 PM - Vandalism/Graffiti, South Canon Ave and Orange Grove Ave. A city employee reported graffiti, white marking pen letters "SMS" on a Neighborhood Watch sign and stop sign. No estimate for repair was available.

Wednesday, June 27th:

8:00 AM - Vandalism, 170 West Sierra Madre Blvd. A resident reported the passenger side window of his car smashed. The car was parked to the rear of the Congregational Church Tuesday, 6/26 between 6:55 PM and 8:35 PM.

Thursday, June 28th:

6:50 AM - Auto burglary, 600 block Gatewood Lane. A resident reported the passenger side window of his car smashed and his wife's Hawaiian style purse and ladies brown wallet stolen. The resident said he heard his car alarm Wednesday, 6/28 at around 1:22 AM, but the loss was not discovered until 6:30 AM. The loss was estimated at \$225.00.

Friday, June 29th:

7:56 AM - Vandalism, 160 North Canon Ave, Upper campus Sierra Madre School. A teacher reported a school musical instrument destroyed. The violin was left outside a classroom between 2:30 PM Saturday, 6/2 and 9:00 AM Sunday 6/3. The violin was valued at \$500.00.
10:04 AM - Grand Theft, 300 block Mariposa Ave. A resident reported a firearm stolen from his van parked to the rear of his property. The firearm: Beretta 32 Cal Tom Cat was taken between 2:00 PM and 6:00 PM, 6/17. The firearm was valued at \$437.00.

Saturday, June 30th:

7:29 PM - DUI arrest, 300 block Carter Ave. Officers stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation. During the investigation the driver was found to be driving under the influence of alcohol and in possession of narcotics. The driver was arrested and transported to the Pasadena Jail for remand.



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Sierra Madre City Flag Sales

The Community Arts Commission has Sierra Madre flags available for sale. The flags are nylon 2ft by 3ft, color flags with grommets or pole sleeves. They are appropriate for indoor or outdoor use. Flags are \$40 and can be ordered by pre-sale only. You order a flag at the Community Arts Commission 4th of July booth, at the Sunday evening Concerts in the Park (both at Memorial Park), or at the Community and Personnel Service Department, 611 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.

The deadline to order flags is August 27, 2007. Flags will be mailed in the middle of October. Show your Sierra Madre pride and order your flag now!

For further questions call the Community and Personnel Services Department at (626) 355-5278

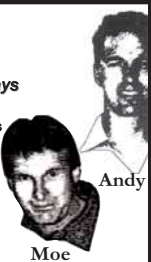
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The Mt. Wilson Observer



PASADENA

Mayor Urges Residents To Conserve Water

Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard is asking local residents to join him in important water conservation efforts.

"By pledging to reduce water use by 10 percent, Pasadenans can save an average of about 20 gallons daily," said Bogaard. "This may seem like an enormous commitment but considering that simply fixing a leaky faucet can save 15 to 20 gallons per day, reducing water use may be easier than you think."

This is the driest year since Pasadena began keeping records in 1878. Average rainfall in Pasadena is nearly 15 inches per year, but the 2006-2007 rainfall total was only a trace over three inches.

The drought extends throughout California and the western U.S. It has led to the lowest Sierra Nevada snow pack level in nearly 20 years and the Colorado River system is experiencing one of the lowest levels in centuries.

"These are two important water sources for Metropolitan Water District, which provides water to Pasadena that is added to our own local, natural resources," said Shan Kwan, director of water resources for Pasadena Water and Power.

There is no call for water rationing during this current drought thanks to the wisdom of California water agencies during the last severe drought period between the late 1980s and early 1990s. During that period, special storage areas were constructed throughout the state to store water during wet years so there could be extra water during dry years.

Dry years historically come in pairs, so water use must be reduced this year to ensure a sufficient water supply in storage for next year, assuming it will be just as dry.

Non Profit Arts Money: Big Impact On Pasadena

Story and Photos By Dean Lee



Making Music: Boston Court (above) and Pasadena Conservancy of Music have been relatively unknown outside Pasadena although they bring the city over \$180 million annually. The two partnered during the city's Art Night Pasadena last year playing live music during a live stage performance, something neither had done before. It was an instant success.

The average visitor to Pasadena leaves behind an average of \$24 spent on various non profit art attractions according to a new nationwide study released last month by Americans for the Arts. Its findings make the city the most profitable in the nation for its size. Pasadena generates \$180.09 million annually. The study, done in 2005, also showed that, \$138.33 was spent on salaries, supplies and other expenses. Event-related spending by art lovers totaled \$41.76 million which typically combines cultural activities with other revenues such as meals, shopping, parking or lodging the report reads. It only looked at people traveling from outside LA County.

"It's good public policy to invest in the arts," said Randy Cohen vice president of policy and research for Americans for the Arts. "You're investing in an industry that provides both cultural and economic benefits. You're not only improving the quality for life, a better place to live, there is an economic incentive to make it work."

The spending also results in \$16.22 million nationally in local and state tax revenues he said.

Cohen said the \$24 did not include the cost of admissions into events something that varies too much. He also said the arts industry provided a seven to one return made by those government treasuries when compared to the amount received in federal, state and local government support. Pasadena grants \$107,000 annually to non profit arts according to Rochelle Branch, the city's Cultural Affairs Interim Executive Director. (cont. pg. 8)

Arts & Architecture

By Virginia Olive Hoge



I walked out of All Saint's church one night a little while ago, into a vision of such astonishing beauty; it literally took my breath away. I walked out onto the long-hidden behind scaffolds, finally revealed, majestic Pasadena City Hall building - shockingly beautiful in the moonlight. Orion was perched (I am going to draw this one day, I swear...) so perfectly, as though it were embracing the central dome, the one that points up to the stars.

We have one of the most beautiful buildings in the world, right here, in downtown Pasadena. Our city hall building is simply breathtaking, and something we can all feel very, very proud of. It is elevating to live with architecture like that! It lifts the spirit (heck, it makes them soar!) and significantly helps make Pasadena a Great city.

We all need to bow down and kiss the long-vanished grass that lay beneath the feet of the visionary civic center planner, George Ellery Hale. His good sense, aesthetic eye and convincing ways gave us this masterpiece we are gratefully left with today and for the life of our city.

Hale moved here from Chicago and had just left the World's fair (a stunning exhibition of this golden-age of architecture from the late 1800's). He had chosen Pasadena as the home of his greatest project, the Mount Wilson Observatory, a research compound which ultimately held 5 telescopes, 2 stellar and 3 solar. But Hale had ambitions for Pasadena as well and the city hall building had to match in aesthetic grandeur, the accomplishments and dreams of his work in Astronomy. Hale always believed the design of something had to equal its grandeur. He actually had the rare ability to pull this off, and we are left with the results.

Hale was fond of domes, every building he was involved with had an observatory dome on it. When he planned his own retirement retreat, he designed the Hale Solar Lab, with it's own dome (of course) and solar telescope. On the drawings for the never-built art school project, designed to rival the Arts Institute in Chicago (its always the Arts that get cut...), there is a dome on that too. I imagine the city hall building's dome as just another, fancier, observatory dome (though perhaps it is missing and needs to acquire, a telescope for the atrium and a spectroscope* for the basement). Each dome ready to connect us with the heavens, and with the underlying purpose of, as Allan Sandage writes in his book on the history of Mount Wilson "collecting data on a problem on transcendental significance".



*an instrument designed by Hale that breaks a beam of sunlight into a large spectrum from which scientists can determine the elements of the sun.

Pasadena City Council Adopts Operating Budget North Lake Specific Plan Approved

By Dean Lee

At its last meeting, the Pasadena City Council adopted next year's \$562 million operating budget, which included a \$200,000 allocation to protect open space. They also unanimously adopted, the long awaited plans for North Lake that now permits fast food restaurants to keep their drive thru windows, but not without an ultimatum.

All this came at a time when residents had been particularly sensitive, not only to preserving open space, but limiting growth in many parts of the city.

"The North Lake Specific Plan, divided into three segments, includes modifications to density for residential and mixed-use projects. It limits some areas to 30 feet in height and a density of 12 units per acre. In an area some call fast food ally, between Orange Grove Boulevard and Mountain Street, the council made clear they did not want "super-sized" fast food places - restricting the square footage of the restaurants to match surrounding business.

The restaurants have been a sore point with local residents for years some going so far as to ask the city to block adjacent side streets to prevent traffic in the area.

Councilmember Victor Gordo also asked that any rebuilding of the fast foods mandate require setbacks of the new building facing Lake Ave with parking in the back and exits only in the front of the building be allowed. According to several residents, this would force many of the existing eateries to close their drive thru windows.

Drive thru windows in the area have been out of compliance for years, making it impossible for them to rebuild the city said. The Council amended the plan to make all drive thru windows conform to the zoning standards but limited the rebuild to any existing square footage.

"If they decide to rebuild larger under that, then yes they would lose the drive though," said Planning and Development Director Richard Bruckner. He also said that if the owners wanted to change the type of business to retail or anything other than fast food they could build larger facilities. The area was zoned 10 years ago to encourage growth he said.

Currently any business with a drive thru that is not occupied for at least one year loses their right to have one, which is the situation now with the vacant Taco Bell. The council said they did not anticipate the building going bare for long and did not want it to

expand. Gordo also said McDonald's had been turned down in the past for rebuilding. "Having listened to them before, I know the situation is going to come again," he said.

Many residents came out to preserve the Bungalow Heaven area near North Lake. They were concerned about possible encroachment of business into their properties along Mentor Avenue. The area is a collection of over 800 homes built from the 1900s through the 1930s.

Other parts of North Lake, near Washington Boulevard, were also rezoned limiting size but allowing mixed use. The height limit is now 30 feet.

Central Park Master Plan was adopted without much discussion although the area has been the subject of much debate. There has been a push to clean up the park located across the street from the De Mar Gold Line Station after MTA put in the Archstone, transit oriented apartment complex. The park has been a haven for drug use. Many blame the homeless shelter, Union Station, which is down the street, for the park's large homeless population.

Union Station is currently expanding its facility's adding 40 beds after winning a long battle with the city.

According to the city, the \$3.2 million plan supports the goals for Central Park that include establishing a strong and coherent image, maintaining and enhancing the historic character, providing for safety and security, improving the level of maintenance and cleanliness, enhancing opportunities for children's use, providing passive recreational experiences, sustaining the current level of active reaction and retain accessibility features for all users.

The council also approved the 2008 recommended operating budget submitted in May that includes an increase in the number of participants in the city's summer youth employment program; expansion of the abandoned item pickup program; additional funding for the Open Space and Conservation Element of the General Plan, and an increase in library services including longer hours at La Pintoresca Branch Library's Technology Learning Center and the Hastings Branch Library.

After the new budget has been published, it will be available for viewing at Pasadena Central Library and all branches, and the City Clerk's Office in room S228 at Pasadena City Hall. It will also be posted at www.cityofpasadena.net/finance city staff said.



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THE MT. WILSON OBSERVER

OPINION

Around The Town With Sir Eric Maundry



"The way to get on in the world is to be neither more or less wise, neither better or worse than your neighbors." - Wm. Hazlitt

Since the revelations of last week regarding *Jim "Cumquat" Snider's* efforts to establish Sierra Madre's very first "adult site" have gained some traction in the local debate and media. Perhaps we should revisit this story a bit and flesh out - so to speak - some of the more telling reactions we have observed in these last few days. First and foremost is the reaction of Mr. Cumquat himself. After a typical outburst of vile and abusive invective on his site directed at the 3 individuals who brought this matter up at our most recent City Council meeting, Jim has since backtracked a bit and is now attempting to convince anyone lifeless or drunk enough to listen that his porn site wasn't going to be ALL that bad, maybe only XX instead of XXX. One wonders how Jim can still reach his computer keyboard with his nose having grown so long. To better highlight this, here are some select moments from the e-mail transcript showing the (45 year-old Snider's) attempts to cajole a young girl into having sex on camera so that he could display it on the internet for profit:

Selma Ritter: "So what you are asking here is that I appear nude on your web site? Would I be having sex on it, too?"

Jim Snider: "Yes, we're looking for women who will pose nude for a new website that we're starting. Our policy is to treat women who pose on our site with the utmost respect. If you feel comfortable acting in short sex scenes, that would be preferable. If not, then solo nude shots of you would work fine for the site's content."

Selma Ritter: "Will I be paid for sex acting? You know this makes me feel nervous."

Jim Snider: "Yes. We don't have a big production budget, but you WILL be paid. All we can offer is \$100 per film. As our site gains advertisers, the budget will increase, and your fees will increase as well. We will take care of our talent."

Other considerations here aside, (the aged Mr. Snider) is offering young women a miserable \$100 to perform sex acts with him on his new porn site? Talk about a cheap date ... This material was presented to the *City Council* on June 26, and I must say that the reaction I observed there did puzzle me a bit. While *Mayor Joffe* did suggest that our city attorney *Sandra Levin* review the *Adult Business Ordinances* and see if they are up to the challenge, that was really about it. No other member of our City Council felt it was incumbent upon them to offer any comment on this matter. You'd have sworn you were looking at a roadside display of vintage cigar store statuary. Where was the outrage? Couldn't we at least have gotten a (Boy Howdy)? Are *Jim Snider's* celebrated personal connections with several key city officials so strong that even this couldn't shake them? When pressed on the matter *Mayor Joffe* did remark, "Certainly I think pornographic material has no place in our community, but we must deal with it within the boundaries of the law." Well, there you go. When the going

gets tough the congenitally murky get legal. Poor Enid. Get her beyond bromides about the City Centennial or quaint frilly hats and she really is at a bit of a loss ... As is usually the case at our droll City Council conclaves, the most incisive and useful comment came from (Faye Angus). "The council would be well-advised to make a statement against the proliferation of such businesses in Sierra Madre." Indeed they would. And we are still waiting. After the meeting, Faye discussed with a group of people the criminal activity known as *cyber-stalking*. Given that those now being personally attacked by *The Cumquat* have also been subjected to *Mr. Snider's* bitter hatred over and over again in the past, this might be the most legally expedient way to go in dealing with his porn issues. Of course, that will have to be something done privately. It seems apparent to me that our city government is about as interested in protecting its tax-paying citizenry from cyber-stalking as it is in shielding young women from big spending Jim Snider's \$100 sex movie offers ... I receive interesting e-mails often, and I truly enjoy the give and take. But then there are those occasional little missives that make me despair for the survival of the human race. The following is a case in point: "My question for you is this, how does censorship -sic- come into play? If I don't like an art exhibit being displayed at a museum, I don't go. I don't picket out in front of the museum. That's not to say I want a porn movies -sic- being shot in my neighbors -sic- back yard, because it wouldn't be in production for long. However, do we have a right to tell people how to live their -sic- lives? Well dear, I suspect that if people were somehow prevented from telling others how to live their lives, most of them would be at a terrible loss for something to talk about ...

If you're interested in playing a round of 'stump the chump' with Sir Eric, feel free to write. As always I am happily camped out at *eric.maundry@yahoo.com* ... Cheers!



Jim Snider Self-Portrait



Independence Day - July 4, 2007 By Hail Hamilton

As a kid growing up in Pasadena at the dawn of the Space Age, in the height of the Cold War with the threat thermal nuclear annihilation hanging over our heads, the Fourth of July had a special meaning. It was not only Independence Day with all the patriotic parades, barbecues and pie eating contests. The Fourth of July was America's birthday and we gave thanks for living in a free country, since so much of world at the time was ruled by dictators of one sort or another or under the iron fist of communism. Our parents took pride making us understand the meaning of those indelible words inked so many years ago on the Fourth of July in Philadelphia at Independence Hall: "...We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness..."

These were radical words, authored by Thomas Jefferson, announcing the birth of the "United State of America" and justifying its independence with these words: "That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and institute new Government..." On July 4, 1776, 56 men met secretly in the Assembly Room of the Pennsylvania Provincial State House—now called Independence Hall—and signed the Declaration of Independence. We can only imagine the thoughts going through their minds. Signing the Declaration was like signing their death

warrant. The Founding Fathers all knew the penalty if they failed in their endeavor for independence—they would all be hung as traitors to the Crown of England. No wonder the Declaration of Independence ends with the solemn promise: "... And for the support of this Declaration, with firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor."

So on this Fourth of July take a moment to reflect upon our 231 year history as a free nation. Take a moment to give thanks to the Founding Fathers who gave birth to our nation. America is still a work in progress with much left to be done to fully realize the ideals set forth so eloquently in the Declaration of Independence. But the hard work was done by the brave revolutionaries who, against all odds, won our independence and gave us this free nation. So take a moment this Independence Day and ask yourself what have you done lately to help realize the ideals of the Declaration? What have you done for America?

I remember as a kid watching President Kennedy Address on January 20, 1961. I remember his youth, his vigor and his idealism as he spoke on that cold day. I remember his clarion call to all the world: "Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe, in order to assure the survival and success of liberty."

Most of all, I remember the patriotic challenge President Kennedy set for our generation: "AND SO MY FELLOW AMERICANS: ASK NOT WHAT YOUR COUNTRY CAN DO FOR YOU—ASK WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR COUNTRY."



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The Mountain Clymer

By Kim Clymer Kelley

The Bear and the Naked

Traditionally, the role Adams' Pack Station plays to the Big Santa Anita Canyon (as the sign on the "loading dock" proudly proclaims), is that of "Canyon Trucking and Trash Company." In addition to transporting goods into the cabins, once a week we cleaned the campgrounds and hauled out all of the trash from the numerous USFS issued trash cans in the canyon. The cabin owners also left trash for pickup in their outhouses so that "The Bear" would not tear the walls off their cabins in search of that delicious empty Spaghetti-O can that called to him from within. "The Bear" was more than likely one of many bears who was just passing through or who called the canyon home, but we always, for some reason, referred to them as though they were one omnipresent and menacing bear who we blamed for all canyon mischief. During our first few weeks of operating the station, we hauled out a tremendous amount of trash. Since the dumpsters at the fire station were full, we had to store all of the trash bags we had collected in the cinderblock bin attached to the "loading dock" (the three sided building where we stored equipment and goods to be packed into the canyon). Ignorant of the determination and the destructive powers of "The Bear", we felt that the cement walls and steel lid of the bin would sufficiently protect the trash from the coyotes and the bears we had been warned about. For the first two nights, the trash remained untouched, however that bit of luck was short lived. We awoke on the third morning to a surprise. "The Bear" had peeled back the metal lid of the bin as though it was opening a sardine can, and the small wooden door on the front of the bin had been completely destroyed. The thirty or so large bags of trash were strewn all over the parking lot, hillside and nearby picnic grove. Our day was spent cleaning up the incredibly huge and totally disgusting mess. Determined not to have a repeat of the incident or to be outsmarted by our devious neighbor, Xoxa (whose name, Xoxa Hunut (ho ha who newt) means "Running Bear" in the ancient Gabriolino Indian language...a name he sometimes took way too much to heart) came up with a plan to catch "The Bear" red-handed. He pulled his '71 primered Ford truck up to the trash bin and loaded all of the bags into the bed. Then, after backing his truck over to the house, he rigged the back of the truck with a bear alarm system. Proudly he dragged me out to the parking lot show me his brilliant plan. The truck was parked right up against the front of the house with the rear facing the stone wall at the bottom of the hill that ran along the side of the house. Across the back of the truck full of trash he had strung a chain from side to side. From the chain he had hung a collection of barn tools and other metal objects gathered from around the station...trash can lids, rakes, dollies, pickaxes, shovels and hoes. "What on Earth is all of that stuff for?" I asked. "It's so I know when the bear is after the trash," he explained. "When he tries to get into the truck, he'll either scare himself off with the noise he makes, or I'll hear it and run out and scare him away myself." There was probably a better way to tackle the problem, I thought, but he seemed quite pleased with his strategy, so I congratulated him on his brilliance, and headed in to finish preparing dinner. That night, as usual, we retired to our mattress on the living room floor within easy reach of the bear alarm system and, unbeknownst to me, with a gun tucked under the mattress. Sometime in the middle of the night, I was again awakened by Xoxa leaving the house. This time there was no effort to be quiet about it. He leaped from the bed, grabbed the gun and the flashlight he had readied by his side, and scrambled quickly out the door. "He's out there!!!" he announced excitedly. Having been sound asleep, it took me a few seconds to regain my senses enough to make sense of what was going on. Excited by the possibility of seeing my



first bear in these mountains. I jumped up, grabbed the blanket and wrapped it around me, and headed out the door. I ran down the porch steps and around to the far side of the truck. There, I saw a sight that will be with me forever. Xoxa was standing next to the rear portion of the truck. In one hand he held his gun and in the other the flashlight...he had both aimed at the dark, wooded hillside behind the truck. Buck-naked, and with his long dark hair hanging in a ponytail down his tattooed back he was jumping up and down, waving his arms, gun, and flashlight frantically, and growling loudly. About 20 feet away on the hillside, illuminated by the flashlight was "The Bear". Probably over 300 pounds and cinnamon in color, he was sitting on his haunches peering around the thin trunk of a young pine. The look on his face was priceless...he was squinting from the bright flashlight beam that flickered across his face, and he was staring, mesmerized and perplexed by the crazy man in front of him who was still hopping around naked, growling, waving, and seemingly threatening to pistol-whip or shoot the poor thing. "The Bear" sat for a moment sizing up the situation as Xoxa continued dealing with the visitor in terms he was sure a bear would understand...talking to him "bear to bear" (or maybe more accurately, "bear to bare"). After a few moments of this, "The Bear" decided that he had seen quite enough. I swear I saw him roll his eyes and shake his head in disbelief as he stood and nonchalantly sauntered off into the woods. "I guess he got the message!!!" Xoxa proudly proclaimed, "I don't think he will be back again tonight." "I would think not," I agreed, trying desperately to contain my laughter. "That was probably the scariest thing that bear ever saw. I don't think I would ever come back if I were him." I am actually pretty sure that the bear went off to tell everyone in the neighborhood exactly what had happened and they all probably had a really good laugh over it. We returned to bed and slept through to morning without further interruption. Upon waking, Xoxa went out to check on the trash collection and to gloat over his victory over his brother bear. He was less than pleased with what he found. More than half of the bags were torn open and thrown all over the parking lot, the porch and the hillside where the bear had last been seen. Those bags that remained in the truck had also been ransacked. There was not a single one left untouched. We spent the better part of that day cleaning up the mess for the second time. But this time we were lucky enough that we were able to haul it over there to the dumpsters that were a bit more "bear proof" than anything that we could come up with. That bear was the first of many trash pickers we had to deal with...the coyotes and the ravens proved to be a quite some trash menaces too. Usually we made sure that things were a bit more well-secured from then on, and future messes were a somewhat more manageable. There were a few times, however, when cabin owners forgot about the unwritten rules of the canyon and left open food in their cabins or trash in their outhouses, only to find a wall torn to shreds and their homes demolished. Clearly, many lessons learned in the mountains were going to have to be learned the hard way.

Fledgling Sierra Madre Book Club Invites New Members

Monday, July 16 at 7 p.m., Karen Maezen Miller, local Sierra Madre author of *Momma Zen*, *Walking the Crooked Path of Motherhood* will attend this new book club for women. The book is brief, perfect for a busy summer, with lots to discuss on spirituality and balance in life, etc., for mothers and non-mothers of all ages. Check out Miller's website, MammaZen.com. The book is available locally, as well as at Amazon.com. New members are welcome.

Call Chris Bertrand for more information at 626-355-1621

The Honeymoon Is Over

By Rich Johnson



I guess it had to happen. Someone has sent this columnist a critical email.

Okay, I won't mention who it came from and will only belabor you with the salient points. Here is what she said: "First off, where on earth are you hanging out that you're writing such drivel!!! You didn't used to be like that!!!" What an interesting word. What does it really mean? I looked it up and there are two definitions. 1. saliva flowing from the mouth, or mucus from the nose; And 2. childish, silly, or meaningless talk or thinking; nonsense; twaddle. I quickly ruled out the first definition. After all it's not the cold and flu season. The emailer must think my column is childish, silly, and meaningless. Yeah, okay, I can live with that. But the part that caused me real anguish was when she told me it didn't used to be like that. Now that hurts. I've worked hard to insure my column is childish, silly, and meaningless. It's what I strive for. Needless to say I was despondent. I found myself drowning my sorrows at the Delirium Pub in Kersting Court. One Perrier with a twist after another. They finally cut me off after twelve rounds. I guess I was using the bathroom too

much. Perrier is like beer. You don't buy it. You just rent it. Anyway I was moaning and groaning when an angelic pony-tailed bartender of mercy hovered over me and calmed my spirit. "Forget that dingleberry", Joanna said as she poured me a thirteenth Perrier. Dingleberry? What's a dingleberry? My friend Gale Rapallo and Joanna looked at me with incredulity, "You don't know? Look it up." So I did. "An incompetent, stupid, or foolish person" is one definition. The other definition is "a small clot of dung..." (good taste precludes me from finishing that definition). And then a burst of alliteration hit me. I was onto something (or maybe on something). It didn't matter. I was about to make lemonade out of the lemons I'd been handed. Like a phoenix a name for my column was rising out of the ashes of my pain.

"Drivel and Dingleberrys." That says it all. Or maybe Dick's Department of Drivel and Dingleberrys." (After all, my name is Rich). This is too good to be true. I better copyright it quick before that clod at www.thesierramadrecumquat.com steals it. It actually fits his site better than my column.

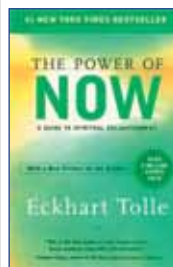
And thank you again Joanna. You are brilliant. I'm actually gonna save up and buy you a real beer someday in your honor. Just don't tell Lisa or Lucy. You can tell Sunny and Chris.

The Book Report

with Jeff Brown

The Power of Now: A Guide to Spiritual Enlightenment

By Eckhart Tolle



A student asks, What is enlightenment? Eckhart answers. "A beggar has been sitting by the side of a road for over thirty years. One day a stranger walked by. Spare some change? mumbled the beggar, mechanically holding out his old baseball cap. I have nothing to give you, said the stranger. Then he asked. What are you sitting on? Nothing replied the beggar. Just an old box. I have been sitting on it as long as I can remember. Ever looked inside? Asked the stranger. The beggar managed to pry open the lid. With astonishment, disbelief and elation, he saw that the box was filled with gold. I (Eckhart) am that stranger who has nothing to give you and who is telling you to look inside. Not inside any box, as in the parable, but somewhere even closer: inside yourself. But I am not a beggar, I can hear you say. Those who have not found their true wealth, which is the radiant joy of Being and the deep, unshakable peace that comes with it, are beggars, even if they have great material wealth. They are looking outside for scraps for pleasure or fulfillment, for

validation, security, or love, while they have a treasure within that not only includes all those things but is infinitely greater than anything the world can offer. The word enlightenment conjures up the idea of some super-human accomplishment, and the ego likes to keep it that way, but it is simply your natural state of felt oneness with being. It is finding your true nature beyond name and form. The inability to feel this gives rise to the illusion of separation from yourself and the world around you. You then perceive yourself as an isolated fragment. Fear arises and conflict within and without becomes the norm. Being is the eternal ever-present one life beyond the myriad forms of life that are subject to birth and death. However Being is not only beyond but also deep within every form as its invisible and indestructible essence. This means that it is accessible to you now as your own deepest self, your true nature. When you are present, when your attention is fully and intensely in the now, Being can be felt. To regain awareness of being and to abide in that state of feeling realization is enlightenment!" Eckhart Tolle had his deep understanding and spiritual transformation at age 30 and is now one of the greatest spiritual teachers on the planet lecturing all over the world and helping people everywhere wake up to their true nature. The Power of Now is easy to read, a bestseller, an Oprah favorite, a work of deep importance for our culture and one of the most important books so far this century. Enjoy!!! His web address is <http://www.eckharttolle.com/home.php> For any comments or book recommendations please email me at jab33jab@yahoo.com

Scene One, Take One- DVD Reviews with Jeff Brown

Never Again (2001) a film by Eric Schaeffer is a very funny movie. It tells the story of a single middle aged man, Jeffrey Tambor, and woman, Jill Clayburgh, who find each other, have good chemistry and sex, and then begin to wrestle with issues as they search warily for that deeper meaning. They have both been hurt in relationships, are both 54, and neither wants to risk falling in love again, hence the title. And they are both dealing with the normal human issues regarding intimacy, midlife relationship crisis, mortality, loneliness, and the desire for love. It's a romantic farce with complications, a mix of drama and comedy. It includes other characters as well and some Jazz. It has a New York atmosphere. The film's outrageous comedy is great, and the touching moments are very realistic. It's definitely R rated with some very risqué language. The film was recommended by my mother and her friends. While many movies are geared toward the younger crowd, this one is for 40+ generation. Not only is the acting, script and the directing great, its plot is not one usually seen in other love stories! It is also a very moving film with some very memorable moments. This film deals with real life issues underneath the humor, and is well written from both a male and female perspective. Plus, it isn't afraid to show the sexual side of humanity beyond 50. The movie makes you believe that getting older doesn't include the loss of desire and sexuality! The dialogue is great, the gags are unforgettable! Clayburgh is outstanding as usual. All in all it is a very funny and heartfelt romantic comedy, not for everyone of course because of its sometimes adult language and situations. Enjoy!! Any recommendations of favorite movies or productions you'd like to share with readers please email me at jab33jab@yahoo.com

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

KIDS IN THE COURTYARD A MONTH OF FUN FOR KIDS

Thursdays in July at 11:00 a.m. Free!!!!

One Colorado and the Armory Center for the Arts are ready to celebrate the summer with the acclaimed children's series Kids in the Courtyard, which consists of participatory, live performances followed by art workshops led by the Armory Center for the Arts every Thursday in July. All performances and activities take place under the big umbrellas in the One Colorado Courtyard, and are free and open to the public. Children of all ages are welcome. Free baby stroller parking is provided.

Each week children will be treated to great entertainment including juggling, magic, music and comedy. Following each performance, children are invited to create their own artwork, supervised by expert instructors from the Armory Center for the Arts. Workshops begin at approximately 11:30 a.m. and are inspired by the theme of that day's performance, with a new program each week. Art projects run until approximately 12:30 p.m. Each child can take home their artistic creations!

JULY 5 - Michael "Tuba" Heatheron Things get into a delightful mess when Tuba discovers what's inside his suitcase. Kids will be delighted by the things he finds. What does he find? Juggling? Magic? Live music? Come see for yourself. You'll find him hilarious!



JULY 12 - Drumtime - What happens when you mix kids with drums and percussion?... The magic happens when Drumtime Drum Circle, a hands-on, total-audience participation rhythm-based event, leads everyone in an expressive drum circle.



JULY 19 - Suzanne Haring aka the Soozie Show! "Bubble Trouble!" Physical comedy, slapstick & magic combine in a high energy show based around a slightly inept adult having trouble with bubbles. Kids are empowered as they help solve "problems" that arise.



JULY 26 - Hope Street Youth Circus The fast-paced Hope Street Youth Circus show features talented kids who juggle, ride the unicycle, stillwalk and tumble. You'll be fascinated and inspired when you see all the amazing things that kids can do.

The One Colorado Courtyard is located on Colorado Blvd. between Fair Oaks Avenue and DeLacey Avenue. Convenient parking is located in the adjacent multi-level structure at Fair Oaks and Union. Call 626.564.1066 for further information.

The Armory Center for the Arts is a Pasadena-based community arts center that offers innovative approaches to creating, exploring, and presenting the visual and performing arts to students of all ages. In addition to providing an outlet for contemporary art exhibitions and performances, the Armory offers studio art classes and a variety of educational outreach programs to schools and the community.

For more information about the Armory Center for the Arts, visit www.armoryarts.org

PASADENA ARTS (cont. from pg. 5)

"What a pleasure it is to see in black and white how valuable arts and culture are to the economic vitality of this city," Branch said in a written statement. "Our job will be to make those impressive figures relevant to our community and to harness their strength in creative ways to ensure continued growth, development and prosperity for all of Pasadena."

Some were not so quick to embrace the numbers, critical saying they were inflated being self reported by 35 art organizations throughout the city although Cohen said other city's also self reported. "We used the most credible statically available methods," He said assuring that the data was collected fairly.

At the meeting, a number of questions went unanswered including the amount of money people spend in Pasadena who do not go to art events. "What about people who just come here to eat?" One person said. "They also park and shop."

Old Town Pasadena is renowned "world class food" and someone else asked if there was a possibility those dining in the city would go to an art gallery or exhibit after eating and not the other way around.

Neither the Rose Bowl nor the Rose Parade, the "800 pound gorillas in the room," were never mentioned when it came to tourism dollars in Pasadena. Cohen only said the numbers they look at dealt with non profits and the arts even though a number of the organizations benefit directly from the parade and stadium.

Music was another draw to the Rose Bowl, besides football and golf, with

the Pasadena Pops and Symphony playing a number of times a year. Both were on the list that contributed to the study although, once again, the Rose Bowl Stadium was not.

According to The Tournament of Roses 1.5 million people come for the parade over a three day period, most staying in Hotels. The city's large hotel industry was built around the parade. The city's convention center, with a number of art auctions, was also not included.

The report did claim there has been a 54 percent increase in all attendees going to arts venues in Pasadena over the last five years and those outside the city spend 63 percent more than locals. The reports cited such major events as the launch of Levitt Pavilion that had 50 free concerts in Memorial Park and the growth of Art Night. The sudden popularity of Kidsspace, the Museum of California Art and other has also contributed to the increase Cohen said.

Over 1,000 newly employed people have been directly affected with a 37 percent increase in arts related employment now supporting 3,956 full-time jobs he said.

Access to the arts for the broader community also increased, in audiences, from 1.1 million to 1.7 million people. Cohen said all the statistics were only a guild and meaningful if use properly. He also said it would be interesting to know how online arts have contributed to local arts. "I have a feeling more people now like to go to lesser known venues." He said also saying arts and technology was of particular interest having lived a number of years in the Silicon Valley.

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

Sierra Madre's 2nd Annual Kid's Public Safety Academy

Have you ever wonder is my child safe? Does your child know what to do in an emergency? Is your child safe? Really Safe? Thanks to the generous sponsorship of the Sierra Madre Community Foundation a free program for kids and their parents is happening this summer throughout Sierra Madre.

The City of Sierra Madre KIDS Safety Academy, an eight week program for KIDS ages 5 to 11 and their parents to learn about safety in the following areas playgrounds, internet, bikes and skateboards, mountain animals, hiking, water, as well as recycling and so much more. Presentations will be made by the Sierra Madre Police Department, Community & Personnel Services Department, Department of Public Works, Sierra Madre Search & Rescue, and Sierra Madre Volunteer Fire Department.

Parents and children will meet at different locations throughout the City on seven consecutive Saturdays, beginning July 7 - August 25, 2007 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Registration for the program is now being accepted for this amazing program with the Community & Personnel Services Department. Space limited to 30 kids and their parents and remember it's FREE. Please call 355.5278 to register - TODAY or come by and see us at 611 East Sierra Madre Blvd. A week before the program begins all confirmed participants will be mailed-out the class schedule with locations.



Sierra Madre Honors... Recognition Nomination Form

Due to City Hall Monday, July 30, 2007 at 4:00 pm

This is an exciting event and the City's opportunity to recognize and honor the true treasures of Sierra Madre, its volunteers, City Commissioners and employees. **Sierra Madre Honors...** a Recognition and Appreciation Dinner will recognize all out-going City Commissioners as well as extraordinary community members, organizations and employees. Please take a moment to review the awards listed below and nominate any person you feel is eligible for such an honor. Selection of the awardees will be made from nominations submitted to the Mayor's Ad-Hoc Committee comprised of past recipients, employees and volunteers. **Applications are due no later than July 30th.**

George Maurer (Lifetime Service) Award - Presented to a person/entity that most strongly represents a commitment to serving and volunteering, which is the true spirit of is Sierra Madre.

Nominee: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Explanation: _____

Wistaria Award - in recognition of City/Community partnership, presented to a local business whose major contributions to the City/Community of Sierra Madre have demonstrated a true partnership which assists in and provides services, programs or enhances the general welfare of the community as a whole.

Nominee: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Explanation: _____

Police Chief's Special Award - presented by the Sierra Madre Chief of Police to an individual who has demonstrated outstanding dedication to duty (employee) or service (community) in resolving a community law enforcement related issue.

Nominee: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Explanation: _____

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Happy Hour



The Happy Hour comes to us from all of you hard working employees out there that just couldn't wait to get off work and get a drink before dinner. Happy Hours have changed over the years with stricter driving laws. Happy Hour has evolved from buy-one get-one-drink to discounted drinks with deep discounts for the food. In the 1920's it was a Navy Slang for a period of entertainment. Happy Hour caught on big when in 1959 The Saturday Evening Post article described the word "happy" to mean slightly drunk. Happy Hour has been an after work ritual since then. I have rounded up a few of the better spots in the area, and listed them in no particular order. Always busy for Happy Hour is **McCormick and Schmick's** 111 N. Los Robles in Pasadena; awarded by

some on-line users as 'The Best-of-the-Best' Happy Hour in Town. Prices range from \$1.95 to \$4.95. There is always a beer and wine of the day, usually around the \$3.00 mark. Appetizers include Buffalo Wings, Oysters, Mussels and a \$1.95 Cheeseburger that is a meal itself. (626) 405-0064

The oldest restaurant in Pasadena is **Mijares** located at 145 Palmetto. Mijares offers reduced drinks specials plus complimentary Wings and Enchiladas and Chips. (626) 792-2763.

Islands! Yes **Islands!** located on East Foothill Blvd. They offer an assortment of 1/2 price appetizers and \$1.00 off beer and selected spirits. Happy Hour goes from 4 PM to 7 PM. (626) 351-6543

Celebrity owned **Madre's Restaurant** resides at The Old Chronicle spot on 897 Granite just off S. Lake. Madre's Happy Hour is from 5 PM to 7 PM Tuesday thru Sunday. The bar offers Appetizers and Cocktails at half price. Try the J-LO Martini it is a star!!! (626) 744-0900

Il Fornaio offers complimentary food between 3 PM to 6 PM Mon thru Friday. Selections include pizza, pasta and sandwiches and drinks are at a special price; located in Miller's Alley off the corner of Fair Oaks and Colorado. (626) 683-9797

Did I miss any of your favorites? email me at

thechefknows@yahoo.com

Speaking of Madre's, watch *The Chef Knows this Sunday Night at 8 PM in KJLA. We visit Madre's Restaurant*



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Looking Up

With Bob Eklund

Latest News From The Stars



Photo by Jean Boenish

out-of-date today. But then again, some of his lecture subjects have a familiar ring to them—as when he reports that Edwin Hubble at Mount Wilson Observatory believes the Universe is expanding, or that Albert Michelson has measured the diameter of a star for the first time—also at Mount Wilson. Many other things, though, that astronomers study routinely today were barely imagined in my grandfather's time. I wonder what he would have thought, in 1937, of the following "late-breaking" news items, which were recently e-mailed to me by the American Astronomical Society:

JUNE 16, 2007: CASSINI SHOWS TWO MORE ACTIVE MOONS AROUND SATURN—Saturn's moons Tethys and Dione are flinging great streams of particles into space, according to data from the Cassini mission to Saturn. The discovery suggests the possibility of some sort of geological activity, perhaps even volcanic, on these icy worlds. The particles were traced to the two moons because of the dramatic movement of electrically charged gas, known as plasma, in the magnetic environs of Saturn. Saturn rotates in just 10 hours and 46 minutes. This sweeps the magnetic field and the trapped plasma through space. Like a child on a fast-spinning merry-go-round, the trapped gas feels a force trying to throw it outwards, away from the center of rotation.

JUNE 27, 2007: JAPANESE ASTRONOMERS DISCOVER THE ELEMENT THORIUM IN ANEXTRAGALACTIC STAR—Astronomers from the National Astronomical Observatory of Japan and Osaka Kyoiku University in Japan have detected the element thorium in a red giant star called COS82, which lies in the Ursa Minor dwarf galaxy. Their discovery marks the first abundance-determination of the element thorium in a star beyond the Milky Way and follows the detection of thorium in more than ten stars within the Milky Way. The derived thorium abundance indicates that the explosive synthesis of heavy elements occurs in similar type environments in both the Milky Way and the Ursa Minor dwarf galaxy, a satellite of the Milky Way. Thorium (Th), along with uranium (U), belongs to the actinide group of chemical elements—the heaviest elements in nature. Actinides are created in supernova explosions.

JUNE 27, 2007: NEUTRON STARS JOIN THE BLACK HOLE JET SET—NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory has revealed an X-ray jet blasting away from a neutron star in a binary system. This discovery may help astronomers understand how neutron stars as well as black holes can generate powerful beams of relativistic particles. The jet was found in Circinus X-1, a system where a neutron star is in orbit around a star several times the mass of the Sun, about 20,000 light years from Earth. A neutron star is an extremely dense remnant of an exploded star consisting of tightly packed neutrons. Many jets have been found originating near black holes, but the Circinus X-1 jet is the first extended X-ray jet associated with a neutron star in a binary system. This detection shows that the unusual properties of black holes—such as presence of an event horizon and the lack of an actual surface—may not be required to form powerful jets. "Gravity appears to be the key to creating these jets, not some trick of the event horizon," said Sebastian Heinz of the University of Wisconsin at Madison, who led the study.

JUNE 28, 2007: HUBBLE CATCHES JUPITER CHANGING ITS STRIPES—Massive Jupiter is undergoing dramatic atmospheric changes that have never been seen before. The changes were detected this spring by the keen "eye" of NASA's Hubble Space Telescope. Jupiter's turbulent clouds are always changing as they encounter atmospheric disturbances while sweeping around the planet at hundreds of miles per hour. But these Hubble images reveal a rapid transformation in the shape and color of Jupiter's clouds near the planet's equator. The planet is wrapped in bands of yellows, browns, and whites. These bands are produced by the atmosphere flowing in different directions at various latitudes. Lighter-hued areas where the atmosphere rises are called zones. Darker regions where the atmosphere falls are called belts. When these opposing flows interact, storms and turbulence appear. Between March 25 and June 5, Hubble's Wide Field and

Planetary Camera 2 captured entire bands of clouds changing color. The planet's cloud features have rapidly altered in shape and size.

AFTER ALL THIS, DOES ANYONE FEEL A BIT OVERWHELMED WITH "TECH KNOWLEDGE"? If so, you're not the first. More than a century ago, poet Walt Whitman attended an astronomy lecture, and described his reaction:

*When I heard the learn'd astronomer,
When the proofs, the figures, were ranged in
columns before me,
When I sitting heard the astronomer lecture
with much applause in the lecture-room,
How soon unaccountable I became tired and
sick,
Till rising and gliding off I wander'd off by
myself,
In the mystical moist night-air, and from time
to time,
Look'd up in perfect silence at the stars.*

No doubt we could all do with a few minutes under the real night sky now and then. In these early-July evenings, there's a good view of bright planet Jupiter rising in the southeast. The reddish star near it is Antares, the red heart of Scorpio the Scorpion. Then look to the west, and you'll see the dazzlingly bright planet Venus. To the right of Venus, dimmer but still easily visible, is the planet Saturn. To the upper left of Venus is another denizen of the stellar jungle, the star Regulus in the constellation Leo the Lion.

Tomorrow night, you might also want to take special note of two other stars, Vega and Altair, which are featured in the Japanese star festival, Tanabata. This takes place on Saturday, July 7—the 7th day of the 7th month of the year. On that night, according to the Tanabata legend, the two stars Vega and Altair (representing two lovers), eternally separated from each other by the Milky Way, are in some magical way able to meet. Traditionally, the Japanese people would celebrate Tanabata by putting little bamboo trees in their gardens and hanging papers on these trees with wishes written on them, in the hope that their wishes might come true. To find Vega, face east-northeast in the early evening and look up about half-way to the zenith. Vega is the brightest object in that part of the sky. Altair is low in the east. To see the Milky Way, which runs directly between the two stars, you need a darker sky than we have in the Los Angeles basin.

You might want to take the children to a Tanabata Star Festival this weekend:

• **HUNTINGTON LIBRARY**, 1:30–3:00 p.m. Saturday, July 7, in the Japanese Garden. A program of songs and storytelling features children from the Kodomo No Le preschool in San Gabriel. Children are invited to write their wishes on strips of colored paper and tie them to bamboo, where the wind can carry them to the sky. Questions? Call the Huntington at (626) 405-2100.

• **RANCHO LOS ALAMITOS HISTORIC RANCH & GARDENS**, Long Beach, 5:30–9:30 p.m. Saturday, July 7. Program includes a Japanese dinner under the stars with koto harp and shakuhachi music. Requires a pre-paid reservation (\$20 per person). Call (562) 431-3541 to make reservations. Free parking in CSULB Lot 11 on Palo Verde Ave., with shuttle to event.

• **CAL STATE UNIVERSITY LONG BEACH**, in the Earl Burns Miller Japanese Garden, Sunday, July 8, noon–4:00 p.m. This traditional Tanabata festival is free. Members of the Southern California Haiku Study Group will help you compose a haiku poem to write on a paper streamer. Free parking in CSULB Lot 16 on Earl Warren Dr. (across from garden). For info call (562) 431-3541.

AND FOR NEXT WEEKEND, HOW ABOUT AN EVENING WITH A LOCAL STAR IN SOUTH PASADENA? The Pasadena-based Planetary Society invites you to join renowned author Ray Bradbury and the Planetary Society for a magical, intimate evening at the Fremont Centre Theatre in South Pasadena. On Friday, July 13, you will have the opportunity to attend a special Planetary Society benefit—a private reception with Ray Bradbury and performance of his play "Green Town." The play is comprised of a series of three stories set in a small town similar to the one where Ray spent his own boyhood in Illinois. He draws upon the myths of a now all-but-vanished small-town America, where children played and discovered life without television or computers or video games. But, in true Bradbury fashion, everyday life is a springboard for magic.

This event begins at 8:00 p.m. next Friday, July 13, at the Fremont Centre Theatre, 1000 Fremont Ave., South Pasadena. The price, \$100 per person, includes both the play performance and the Ray Bradbury reception. Proceeds go to help support Planetary Society programs. For tickets, call Linda Wong at the Planetary Society, (626) 793-5100.

Apple's iPhone is Launched - Smashing Success?

Penalty For Good Credit?

By Dean Lee

For all of the Journalists who were not on "Apple's Magic List," we were able to see the new iPhone for the first time last Friday. Ironically, for better or worse we all now know why.

The most shocking thing about the new device had nothing to do with its options (or lack of), looks, speed or stunning new user interface (and yes that's "Oooo," as you hold it in your hands). The sleek flush black screen is worthy of ultramodern futuristic art.

What really got us was an about face on threats of having to switch to a two year mandatory AT&T contract adding over \$1,400 to an already pricey base cost of \$499 and \$599 respectively depending on storage in the gadget.

What should have been a sticky point for most buyers turns out to be the iPhone's greatest asset, those with dreadful credit got an option to go month to month or prepaid saving the nearly \$1,500 for the lifetime of the contract.

The alternate prepaid plans started at \$40 month giving 250 minutes compared with \$59 for the 450 minute National plan. All other features were exactly the same

including, unlimited data (e-mail/web), unlimited mobile to mobile and 200 text messages.

On launch a number of AT&T sales people refused comment or confirm the prepaid option, only saying, all activations were being done online through Apple iTunes. That said, one sales representative at the AT&T store in Old Town did later say those with bad credit were being given an option others did not see.

Some customers with laptops activated the phones standing on Colorado Boulevard that Friday night.

"I'm not saying to deliberately put in false credit or bad credit to get that option," an employee said asking that his name not be used. "This is not in our hands. Everything is being done through Apple. If you ask me, I think they [Apple] are getting something more out of doing it this way?"

The "terms and conditions" of the two year contract also added a \$175 early termination fee. A nail in the coffin for those with excellent credit. Thousands are now buying and selling iPhones "contract free" on popular web sites such as eBay and Craig's list. Although the phone's Sim chip is made by AT&T and cannot be removed.

A number of people said they were buying two phones, one for themselves, and another to sell on the internet. The limit was two. Many customers also said they switched to AT&T before getting in line.

"We were just chillin' and thought maybe we should post a thing saying that for \$200 we would buy someone a phone," said Daniel Arug standing third in line at the Pasadena Apple Store hours before the launch. "Someone called us this morning and said they would bring us the two hundred bucks."

A few stood in lines only to pry them open, breaking it, and posting the results online minutes after having it. Inside the large Li-Ion Polymer battery is non replaceable, just as the iPods, something that plagued Apple in the past. It also uses a Samsung CPU, not Intel, as well as Samsung memory. The large touch screen

is manufactured by a German company Balda. It is said to be glass and not to scratch.

The Camera is a "point and click" 2.0 mega pixels with no other features. Apple said it syncs with Apple iPhoto and Adobe Photo Elements for Windows.

The Google maps feature is stunning but also seemed slightly dangerous obviously designed around driving with directions and traffic alerts built in. Step by step instructions spell out exactly when to make turns. The phone also needs two hands to operate and has no voice commands to dial. Next year state law will make it illegal to use any cell phone while driving including the iPhone.

The new law signed last year by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger goes into effect July 1, 2008.

The iPhone also does not play games, a surprise to some, considering it somewhat resembles Sony's PSP. Apple CEO Steve Jobs said only Web 2.0, such as Google's applications, would be made available and only through their Safari browser. Firmware upgrades to the operating system would be made available but



A proud new owner from Monrovia. Did he get a good deal? - Photo By Dean Lee

only though the company. Jobs said some online games could be played.

It was rumored the iPhone would make calls over the internet through Voice over IP (internet protocol), eliminating a need for any cell phone provider. It supports Quad-band GSM (850, 900, 1800, 1900 MHz), 802.11b/g WiFi, EDGE, and Bluetooth 2.0 + EDR. Apple employees said the company did not speculate on the future of its products not confirming a VoIP option.

Although, T-Mobile launched a new campaign "Hotspot at Home" June 28, the day before the iPhone went on sale, giving unlimited domestic calling over Wi-Fi anywhere. T-Mobile technicians said Monday they suspect the iPhone was VoIP compatible but also said it was too early to tell if Apple was not talking.

They said the only two true Wifi phones, that can be used at hotspots, currently available are the Samsung t409 and the Nokia 6086. Both are being sold exclusive through them. VoIP phones do not use minutes in Wifi areas saving the average user 41 percent of available minutes, said Julie Robertson on behalf of T-Mobile USA. She added that Wifi cell phones were the future and would soon be commonplace. The most notable feature was the ability to set up hotspots at home where most cell phone minutes are used she said.

Earlier this year, the city of Pasadena entered into an exclusive contract with EarthLink placing wireless receivers throughout the city by 2008. The citywide Wifi will be \$21.95 per month. A pilot program should be up next month in parts of Old Town according to City Manager Cynthia Kurtz. Apple said the iPhone should



One of a Kind:

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

Story and Photos By Chris Bertrand

Wrigley Mansion:

Landmark Home of Pasadena's Tournament of Roses



The formal dining room.

My first headline, which was catchier, deemed the Wrigley Mansion, the "House that Gum Built." Catchy but not quite accurate, though, so alas, another had to be chosen. Built for real estate and dry goods tycoon, George Stimson from 1906-1914, the Wrigleys, of Doublemint and Juicyfruit gum fame, added this 22 room 18,500 square foot manse to their collection of five residences across the country in 1914. At a cost of \$170,000, this home was one of the more modest on this section of "Millionaire's Row." The nickname for the area stuck, still used today, though many of the large parcels along this boulevard now house upscale condominiums.

I vividly remember the mansion as a highlight of my first foray into this area, under the tutelage of a local real estate agent in late 2005, as viewing stands were already under construction for the New Year's event. Those who don't live here just have no idea of the scale of the operation of the parade, when they casually turn on the television New Year's morning.

Solidly constructed of poured concrete and steel, this Italian Renaissance-style

home from the street, were destroyed in a 1930's windstorm. A highlight remaining today is a rare Moreton Fig, which given favorable climate conditions can grow to become of the largest specimens in the world. Sierra Madre also has a specimen at the Mater Dolorosa Monastery, and Lahaina, Hawaii is home to the biggest American Moreton. Another unusual tree, Mela Leuca Linariifolia, known as "Snow in Summer" was planted near the garage in 1973 to honor Vietnam War casualties including Pasadena resident, James Johansen.

Much of the elaborate interior millwork, constructed of now extinct species, could not be reproduced today. The four inch thick Honduran Mahogany door, immensely heavy, was designed to swing effortlessly at the touch of a finger. The living room features intricately matched doors of Circassian Romanian walnut, known for its patterned swirls and curves, plus a hand painted ceiling fresco. Talented artisans, trained in the hard-to-find, old world methods, took more than a month to create the lime wash and secco fresco. The stunning centerpiece of the room, an antique chandelier of Baccarat crystal, came from Argentina.

A custom Tibetan carpet, of silk and wool, required 38 weeks to weave the 100 knot per inch masterpiece. The library offers an example of an ornate molded plaster ceiling, a Stimson signature amenity, eventually referred to locally as a "Stimson ceiling."

The dining room is the only room with Wrigley era furniture. The hard carved Italian dining table, its 12 chairs and two sideboards were originally housed

at the Wrigley's Catalina home. The moist island air was inhospitable to the furniture, and the set was shipped to Pasadena, where it stands today.

Tournament House underwent a three year renovation with the help of Pasadena Chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers. Completed in 2002, the goal was to return the home to its former glory. Upstairs in the original bedroom area of five bedrooms and four baths around a book-filled center hall, trophy and memorabilia displays of Rose Bowl history now line the walls, including a velvet-lined showcase for crowns and tiaras from four or five years gone by.

Today, the home, gardens and executive offices, added in 1960, host special parade events and the yearlong activities of 900+ volunteers and a small, full time staff. I had the privilege of touring the home as a guest of Marla Jakovljevic of Pasadena Wood Floors, during a special Pasadena Chamber of Commerce event last week. Many tournament volunteers and docents were onsite and available to answer my many questions, including this year's Heritage committee chair, John Reitnouer.

Tours of the Tournament House and Wrigley Gardens, located at 391 South Orange Grove Boulevard, are given February through August. Call 626-449-4100 for more information.

Have an interesting home or garden or person that might be of interest to our readers? Contact Chris at C.Bertrand@TheMtWilsonObserver.com



The formal dining room.

mansion stands on four and one half acres dedicated to the Tournament of Roses in 1958, after Mrs. Wrigley passed away. Mrs. Wrigley favored this home in Pasadena over all the others, and apparently took great enjoyment from her front and center parade seats on the porch, perched at the beginning of the parade.

The gardens are appropriately centered around roses, with special sections dedicated to the 75th Bowl Game anniversary and Parade centennial commemorations. The area north of Tournament House, not originally included in the acreage, was purchased by William Wrigley, Jr. in 1915 for \$25,000. Eventually the home there was razed and incorporated into the mansion grounds and incorporated to become the breathtaking Wrigley Gardens. Today, this area boasts the largest rose garden on the property. Below the fountain constructed for the centennial, a time capsule was buried with tournament memorabilia, to be unearthed in 2089. The roses surrounding the fountain, aptly named "Centennial" for the 1989 celebration, were developed by Jackson and Perkins, the world's largest rose producer. Selected as the official rose of the centennial, it received the prestigious All-America Rose award in that year. All in all, 1500 rose varieties flower in the Wrigley gardens.

When Stimson was constructing the house, he engaged an English gardener to assemble an impressive array of trees from around the world. Many of his favorite palms, which had quickly hidden the

BIRD'S EYE VIEW

By Pat Birdsall

"To Kill, or Not to Kill, a Mockingbird..."

As I sit down to write this, he's out there. Out there singing his little heart out just like he's been doing for two solid weeks. Day and night, night and day... "He" is a mockingbird who has been regaling my neighborhood with his never ending repertoire of songs. I understand the singing is usually done when the moon is full by unmated males guarding their territory while trying to attract females. I don't know what our boy is doing wrong, but he is certainly isn't at the top of the avian version of "The Bachelor."

As most of you know, I'm a bird lover. I have been known to make special trips to the store just to buy seed for them, but I must admit that I find the constant and very loud trilling and warbling of this ornithologist's delight rather annoying. There is a very old song that exemplifies the fact that I am probably in the minority. Some of you might remember, "Mockingbird Hill." In part, "Tra la la, tweedle dee dee dee it gives me a thrill to wake up in the morning to the

mockingbirds' trill." Good grief! I guess maybe it's time to turn in my Audubon Society card... I am not worthy.

Another vote in favor of the wee triller - in addition to my own family for heaven's sake comes from the pages of my very favorite book, "To Kill a Mockingbird" (Tempting) Atticus gave Jem and Scout air-rifles for Christmas and cautioned... "You can shoot all the blue jays you want, but you must remember that it is a sin to kill a mockingbird as they do no harm and only provide pleasure with their songs." Atticus, Atticus... please define "harm."

Lastly, history truly loves this little gray and white feathered Enrico Caruso... It is the state bird of five southern states; the subject of a lullaby; the mascot of the University of Tennessee; American Poet Walt Whitman referenced it, and finally, President Thomas Jefferson had a pet mockingbird named Dick... hmmm. Tra la la, tweedle dee dee dee, indeed.

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SPORTS



View From The Couch

By Stanley J. Forrester

THE ATHLETIC WILL

When Serena Williams won the Australian Open, I said it was an improbable victory. At the time Serena was not ranked for the tournament and was rated 89th in the world. Yet when all was said and done she was the victor an impressive feat. However, what happened at Wimbledon on Monday was other worldly. Serena won with her mind by willing her body to continue. And, to assist, there was the matter of the rain delay, that according to Serena was a factor. "Honestly, I was literally saved by the rain."

Before the delay Serena suffered a severe cramp in her left calf muscle. The pain appeared to topple her. The grunting and groaning heard on Center Court was not because of the 100+ per mile per hour serve or the slicing back hand sent down the line just out of her opponent's reach. No, the sounds heard coming from Ms. Williams were pain, pure simple unadulterated pain. She was on the ground unable to do anything. The trainer worked on the leg and the match continued. She was not herself and it appeared that her Wimbledon run was over. Then came the rain delay and when play resumed, Serena went deep within and found something that allowed her to continue and to win.

Do you remember tiny Kerri Stug in the 1996 Olympics held in Atlanta, Georgia? She hobbled up to the vault hardly able to walk or stand. This tiny teenager with the bad ankle vaulted her team to victory and into our collective hearts. Prior to that time the American women had never won the all time gold. Stug had to land on her feet and hold the pose long enough for it to be called a proper landing.

What did this mighty mouse, this tiny child with the valiant heart do? She stuck it oblivious to the pain. Her mind, her will, controlled her body. Later, it was revealed that she had torn ligaments but that night she had the heart of all America.

Lakers fans will always remember Willis Reed in the 1970 Championship Game 7. He came out of the New York Knick's locker room a shell of himself and proceeded to tear out our collective hearts. This man could barely walk, how could he consider himself fit to play? Yet there he was rallying his team to victory. His mind willed his body to perform despite the pain.

I was fortunate to be at Dodger stadium when Kirk Gibson hobbled to the plate in the bottom of ninth inning of game 1 in the 1988 world series against the Oakland As. The Dodgers were considered to be the lesser team and it looked as if the experts were right - we were about to lose. Gibson, who was in the club house watching and tending to his sore ankle got the call to pinch hit. He hit a walk off home run and despite the fact that he could barely walk. As any good hitter will tell you, you need your legs for power when you hit. In order to hit for power the base must be stable and firm. That night when the Dodger's so desperately need him, Gibson's body had been instructed by his mind to stabilize and overcome the pain. He hit a shot that had home run written all over it from the moment it left his bat.

It takes a magnificent athlete to command their will over the frailties of their body. The will to perform is a joy to watch. It is simply amazing.

Tuesday Night Is Family Night At The Sierra Madre Pool Is FREE FREE FREE!!!

Thanks to the generous donation from the Sierra Madre Community Foundation, Tuesday Family Nights are FREE admission.

All Summer long on Tuesdays from 7-9pm families are encouraged to come down to the pool for a splash. Bring your hibachi grill for a bbq on the pool deck along with your rafts, inner tubes and toys. (no personal floatation devices please).

Special Splashin' Movie Nights:

Tuesday July 24, 7-9pm: Happy Feet
Tuesday August 21, 7-9pm: Flushed Away

For more information, please contact the Community & Personnel Services Department at 626-355-5278.



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PARAMEDICS (cont. from pg. 1)

should they be in cardiac arrest. "We get the blood flowing through the heart as quickly as possible in the field, giving the patient a better success at saving heart muscle," said Christmas. The program is equally as important for trauma calls. In the event of an accident, you will now be stabilized by the paramedic and transported to the nearest trauma center, Huntington Memorial. Prior to the program starting, a patient would be transported to the closest hospital, Arcadia Methodist and then to the trauma center. Trauma Centers have surgeons, oncologists and pediatricians on call 24 hours a day.

Technology Improves Response Time

Advances in communications and the capability of our Fire Department/Paramedics, allows Sierra Madre residents to enjoy exceptional response times. When you call 911, you reach the police dispatcher. While you are identifying the nature of the emergency, the dispatcher hits a button signaling the Verdugo Hills Center. Within seconds - 1 or 2, a medically trained dispatcher is also on the line, reading the screen with information on your condition. At the same time, the dispatcher has sent paramedics to your door. Help is actually on the way while you are still supplying information to the dispatcher.

Response times are ranging from 1 minute 30 seconds to 4 minutes, depending on your location. The department's goal is to have firefighters and/or paramedics on their way to your home within 60-90 seconds of receiving your call.

Sierra Madre Subscription Service

Currently, when you call for emergency service, your insurance will typically only pay a portion of the costs. Most plans will pay 80% leaving you to pay the balance out of your pocket. Sierra Madre developed a subscription program for residents that allows you to pay \$60 per year. Subscribers then pay no additional fees. The program pays for the difference between what your insurance covers and the balance due. So, a Sierra Madre Resident who subscribes to the program will not have to pay the 20% not covered by insurance. This program not only saves the residents money, it helps support the paramedic program. Currently, we have approximately 500 people out of 11,000 that participate in the program.

"We Can't Go Back"

Both Snyder and Christmas have concerns about where the next round of funding will come from. The program currently is funded for two years through a grant. The city must find a way to support the program at the end of the initial grant period.

Using Your Cell Phone In An Emergency

If you live in Sierra Madre, program the local police department in your phone as the emergency number. If you dial 911 from a cell phone you will not be connected to the Sierra Madre Police/Fire Departments. Program 626-355-1414 in your phone as the Emergency Number.

Remember, if you are calling for emergency services on behalf of someone in Sierra Madre and you are in Riverside on a cell phone and do not have the local police department programmed in your cell phone, you will be connected via the California Highway Patrol closest to the area you are calling from. You will have wasted precious minutes getting the proper department dispatched.

If you are in Sierra Madre calling 911, you will not be connected to our local department. You will be connected to a call center via the California Highway Patrol.

Be prepared. Store the Sierra Madre Police/Fire Department number in your cell phone.

626-355-1414

If you need emergency services and you are not in Sierra Madre, dial 911.

KNOW WHERE YOU ARE so you can give the dispatcher a good location.

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