

# Mountain Views News

Sierra Madre Arcadia Duarte Monrovia Pasadena Altadena South Pasadena San Marino

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2026

VOLUME 20 NO. 9

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## ASSEMBLYMEMBER HARABEDIAN CALLS FOR FEDERAL DISASTER AID IN RESPONSE TO THE 2025 LA FIRES

Assemblymember John Harabedian (D-Pasadena) presented AJR 27 Federal Disaster Aid: 2025 Los Angeles Fires, calling on the President of the United States to do the right thing and facilitate full aid to the Americans of Los Angeles who were devastated by the Eaton and Palisades fires in January 2025. AJR 27 calls on Congress to act and provide the funds that will support the Americans of L.A. county who have endured unimaginable loss if the President won't act.

"The people of Los Angeles are facing the end of mortgage forbearance and other financial hardships as they work to rebuild what was lost. AJR 27 demands Washington set aside partisan politics to focus on supporting the victims of the Eaton and Palisades fires," said Assemblymember John Harabedian (D-Pasadena).

Disaster recovery is a human issue, partisan politics is currently getting in the way of aiding those in need and that is unacceptable. California's congressional representatives have called for unity and support in LA's plight as Governor Newsom's requests to the federal government fall on deaf ears.

"When disaster strikes, California always stands with those who have lost everything — and we demand our federal government do the same. Assemblymember John Harabedian continues to hold the White House accountable for long-delayed obligations to the people of Los Angeles. This city — resilient, mighty, indispensable to the fabric of our nation — will rebuild. And it will do so with the full support it was always promised," said Speaker Robert Rivas. AJR 27 will now be transmitted to the President and Congress as we await a response.

#####

Assemblymember John Harabedian represents the 41st District composed of the cities of La Cañada Flintridge, Pasadena, Altadena, Sierra Madre, Monrovia, Bradbury, San Dimas, La Verne, Claremont, Upland, Rancho Cucamonga, Oak Hills, Piñon Hills and Phelan

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MOUNT WILSON TRAIL RACE 2026

## MOUNT WILSON TRAIL RACE RETURNS IN 2026

ONLINE REGISTRATION OPENS ON MONDAY, MARCH 2<sup>ND</sup>

After a two year hiatus due to the Eaton Fire, the Mount Wilson Trail Race returns this year and will be held on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026, starting at 7:30 a.m. in Kersting Court, with packet pickup beginning at 6:00 a.m. that day. This will be the full 8.6 miles course from Kersting Court, up the Mount Wilson Trail to Orchard Camp, and back. First run in 1908, the annual Mount Wilson Trail Race is one of the oldest trail races in California. The total elevation gain is over 2,160 feet.

The day's events also includes the Kersting Court Booth Expo, featuring popular community groups and services, as well as specially designed Mount Wilson Trail Race merchandise/swag, Beer Garden, Pizza sales, and free Photo Booth. Additionally, the free Kids' Fun Run will start at 7:45 a.m. from Kersting Court up Baldwin Ave. and back.

This is exciting given that the Mount Wilson Trail was damaged and destroyed in many places following the Eaton Fire in January 2025 and subsequent atmospheric river rains in 2025 and 2026. We are extremely grateful for the work of the Volunteer Trail Maintenance Crew. Without the work of these volunteers, Mount Wilson Trail would have remained impassable and continued to be closed to the public. The reopening of the Mount Wilson Trail within a year of the Eaton Fire is a testament to the tremendous work, effort, and accomplishment of these volunteers and community support.

All labor on Mount Wilson Trail and Bailey Canyon Trail is done by community volunteers, who work continuously to repair and maintain the trails to keep them open and safe for public use. The necessary equipment, materials, supplies and tools used by the volunteers are paid for with tax-deductible community donations to the Fletcher Trail Maintenance Fund, as neither the City of Sierra Madre nor the US Forest Service provides any funds for supplies or labor.

Online registration for this year's Mount Wilson Trail Race (MWTR) opens on Monday, March 2nd, 2026, beginning at 8:00 am, and can be done online only by going to the Mount Wilson Trail Race website at <https://www.mountwilsontrailrace.com> and using the MWTR 2026 registration link. MWTR registration costs are \$80 for adults and \$45 for youth ages 14 - 17. Participants must be at least 14 years of age by race day. All registered runners receive a goodie bag and specially designed race participant t-shirt. As part of the registration process, people will have an opportunity to make a separate tax-deductible donation to the Fletcher Trail Maintenance Fund.

MWTR registration is limited to 350 people. Those interested in participating in this year's Mount Wilson Trail Race are encouraged to register as soon as possible, as registration is expected to sell out. MWTR registration is online only, with no in person MWTR registration allowed.

Registration for the Kids' Fun Run (ages 3 - 13) is FREE. However, parents must register their children ahead online by going to the Mount Wilson Trail Race website at <https://www.mountwilsontrailrace.com> and using the MWTR 2026 registration link. All registered children participating receive a T-shirt and finisher's ribbon. The total distances are 1.0 mile for ages 8 - 13 and .6 miles for ages 3 - 7. Parents may accompany their younger children during the Kids' Fun Run.

For questions regarding Mount Wilson Trail Race 2026, please check the Mount Wilson Trail Race website at <https://www.mountwilsontrailrace.com>. You are also welcome to call the City of Sierra Madre

Community Services Department at (626) 355-5278.

It is not too late to join the FREE Mount Wilson Trail Race Training Program, which is continuing on Saturdays through May 23<sup>rd</sup>. There is no requirement to register for the actual MWTR to participate in the training program. Each Saturday session starts at 7:00 a.m. and each week's session location varies by week. The MWTR Training Program is offered at no charge and no pre-registration is required. Participants are welcome to attend any of the Saturday sessions. Anyone over 14 years of age is welcome to join the program, become a better runner, and get stronger, even if they do not plan to run this year's MWTR.

Led by Coach Simon Cooper, this is a race specific 15-week training program consisting of leg and lung busting fun! There is also lots of group bonding and encouragement along the way. For more information and the specific 15-week training program schedule, go to the Mount Wilson Trail Race website: <https://www.mountwilsontrailrace.com>. You can download the training program PDF for your personal use or to share with other interested parties.

Please join us in donating to the "Fletcher Trail Maintenance Fund," to support our dedicated Trail Maintenance Crew volunteers by providing the necessary equipment, materials, supplies and tools needed for the continued work on the Mount Wilson Trail. Significant work still needs to be done and the recent rains have caused additional damage to the Mount Wilson Trail and Bailey Canyon Trail, even sections of the Mount Wilson Trail that had previously been fixed.

To repair and replace the trails, they must be reinforced and redesigned, which require a additional equipment, materials, supplies, & tools. While the Trail Maintenance Crew volunteers are working regularly on Mount Wilson Trail, the repair work is expected to be ongoing. Work on Bailey Canyon Trail has begun and will continue later in 2026. Mount Wilson Trail work is the priority now. Unfortunately, Bailey Canyon Trail continues to be closed to the public, as extensive work still needs to be done and it is located inside the US Forest Service's Eaton Fire Closed Trails Zone.

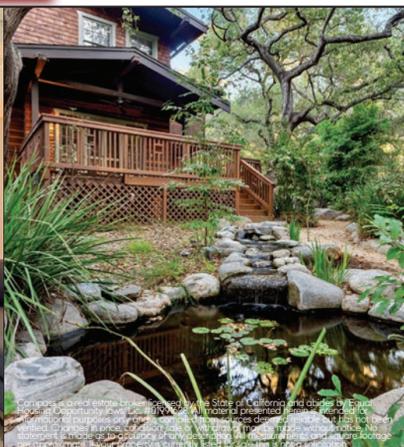
Your donation of any amount is greatly appreciated and makes a real difference to this historic trail, running event, and our community! Thank you very much for your support in the protection of this important and valuable community resource. Your donation allows work on the Mount Wilson Trail to continue to ensure that the Mount Wilson Trail remains open and safe for public use for years to come.

Making a tax-deductible donation to the "Fletcher Trail Maintenance Fund" can be done by using the PayPal QR code below or by sending a check payable to the "Fletcher Fund c/o SMCF." The mailing address is P.O. Box 716, Sierra Madre, CA 91025. All donors to the "Fletcher Trail Maintenance Fund" will receive a written tax-deductible acknowledgement letter. To donate by PayPal, please scan the QR Code below:



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## Weather Wise



6-Day Forecast Sierra Madre, Ca.

Sun	Ptly Cldy	Hi	60s	Lows	50s
Mon	Rain	Hi	50s	Lows	40s
Tues	Rain	Hi	50s	Lows	40s
Wed	Ptly Cldy	Hi	60s	Lows	50s
Thur	Ptly Cldy	Hi	70s	Lows	50s
Fri	Sunny	Hi	70s	Lows	50s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service



## SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 10, 2026 5:30 pm

THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS!

As part of the City of Sierra Madre's COVID-19 transparency efforts and The Brown Act provides the public with an opportunity to make public comments at any public meeting. Public comment may also be made by e-mail to [PublicComment@CityofSierraMadre.com](mailto:PublicComment@CityofSierraMadre.com) by 3:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting.

Emails will be acknowledged at the Council meeting and filed into public record. The public may also comment in person at the meeting.

The meetings will be streamed live on Foothills Media website at [foothillsmedia.org/sierramadre](http://foothillsmedia.org/sierramadre) and broadcast on Government Access Channel 3 (Spectrum)..

### 1630 AM EMERGENCY RADIO & Free on-air publicity for local events

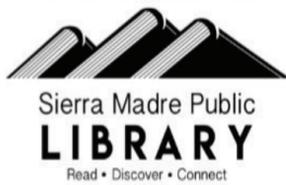
Sierra Madre's EMERGENCY radio station is now accepting scripts for Public Service Announcements (PSAs) about community events. PSAs will be broadcast on the air at no charge. The station operates 24/7 and can be heard at 1630 on the AM dial.

Any local non-profit or non-commercial organization can have their event information broadcast to the public on Sierra Madre Community Information Radio. The station covers the city of Sierra Madre, plus surrounding areas of Pasadena, Arcadia, and Monrovia.

Your event must:

- Benefit a non-commercial or non-profit entity
- Be open to the public
- Be of general interest to local citizens

Just write a Public Service Announcement that describes your event and e-mail it to [radio@cityofsierramadre.com](mailto:radio@cityofsierramadre.com).



### Sierra Madre Public Library

Saturday, February 28

Last day to return books via outdoor bookdrop

February 2—May 31, 2026

Library is closed for relocation

June 6, 2026

Grand Re-opening at 440 W Sierra Madre Blvd

In the Meantime

Kanopy

Try our free on-demand streaming video platform, showcasing more than 30,000 titles, including award winning documentaries and acclaimed films, rare and hard to find titles, classic films, and includes collections from The Great Courses, Kino Lorber, and PBS.

Read, Discover, Connect  
@ Sierra Madre Public Library  
350 W Sierra Madre Blvd.  
(626) 355-7186

## WALKING SIERRA MADRE: The Social Side by Deanne Davis

Tomorrow is March 1<sup>st</sup>. Unbelievable! February flew by in about a minute and a half. Of course, we spent a couple of weeks of it watching the Olympics. The figure skating singles and duos were beyond amazing and I enjoyed every minute of that. This past week has had its interesting moments. My mother's birthday was February 23<sup>rd</sup>. She would have been 106. She would not have liked anything about that at all. Also, this past week, I came across a fascinating article in my newspaper: Scientists unearth fossils of new dinosaur species!! "At a remote and barren Sahara Desert site in Niger, scientists have unearthed fossils of a new species of Spinosaurus, among the biggest of the meat-eating dinosaurs, notable for its large blade-shaped head crest and jaws bearing interlocking teeth for snaring slippery fish. A "hell heron," as one of the researchers put it, considering it was about 40 feet long and weighed 5-7 tons. Spinosaurus mirabilis." (Thanks to Will Dunham, Reuters News) That's the picture today. Why, you ask, are you telling us this? I can see it coming now, the next Jurassic Park movie. This would be #7! Except I'm seeing an online blurb... "The highly anticipated Jurassic World: Rebirth is set to hit theaters this July."

"March bustles in on windy feet and sweeps my doorstep and my street." Susan Reiner

"Our life is March weather, savage and serene in one hour." Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Springtime is the land awakening. The March winds are the morning yawn." Lewis Grizzard

"That's the trouble with March - the warmth never lasts. There's that narrow stretch when it parades as spring, just enough for you to thaw if you're sitting in the sun, but then it's gone." V. E. Schwab

"Daffodils, that come before the swallow dars, and take the winds of March with beauty." William Shakespeare

You might not know this, but the flower of March is the daffodil. I love daffodils and when those green spears start poking out of the ground, it's a signal to rejoice. The daffodil symbolizes affection, new beginnings, optimism and sympathy. If

you were born in March, you are outgoing and affectionate, you are creative and have a good sense of humor. You are a peace-lover and strive to resolve conflicts. You are a caring and loving person. You are kind and compassionate.

Our daughter, Patti, and her daughter, Nicole, were both born on March 1st and they both truly embody all these wonderful qualities. They are splendid people. Happy Birthday girls!!

My granddaughter, Nicole, mentioned above here, informed me that March is Dolphin Awareness Month. Dolphins are described as the smartest marine animal and they have a long history of being friendly with human beings. It is unclear when March became the month that focused on dolphin awareness, but for at least 20 years, the world has celebrated Dolphin Awareness Month in an effort to conserve dolphins globally.

With several species of dolphin having been declared endangered, it has never been more important to dedicate a month to the protection of these marine mammals. The earliest fossil records of dolphins have been dated back to the early Miocene Epoch period, ranging from 16.4 to 23.8 million years ago. Wow! They might have been around about the same time as that Spinosaurus mirabilis.

One of the neatest things I've ever seen is dolphins leaping out of the water at the beach or alongside a boat. I've been whale watching and never saw a single hint of a whale, but dolphins show up with their friendly faces and enchant everyone who sees them. Nicole has been an Orca whale trainer at Sea World, saw dolphins on a daily basis and has frequently put them through their paces.

Other things to look forward to in March: The Sierra Madre Wistaria Festival! This is a highlight in our town as the world



famous Wistaria Vine is beyond awesome. All sorts of information is available in the Mountain Views News about shuttles and what all else will be going on but, bottom line here, if you haven't been, go! If you've been before, go again!

A few thoughts on friendship to close this week, which goes along so nicely with our word of the year: Kind. In a world where you can be anything you want to be, be Kind.

This is a quote from Muhammad Ali: "Friendship is the hardest thing in the world to explain. It's not something you learn in school. But if you haven't learned the meaning of friendship, you really haven't learned anything."

Aristotle viewed friendship among the highest virtues. It is an essential element in a full virtuous and worthwhile life. Friends are the family you choose. True friendship resists time, distance and silence. This March, let's let our friends know how much we value and love them, which might mean having to make an actual phone call...you know, when you talk instead of text!

My book page: Amazon.com: Deanne Davis

Lent is starting, which means Easter is on its way and "The Crown" a story about what could have happened to The Crown of Thorns that pierced Jesus' brow,

is now an actual book, in addition to a Kindle book. It's on my Amazon page.

"The Crown" will enrich your Easter experience.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR WISTARIA VINE

The Sierra Madre Civic Club is looking for docents to greet our neighbors and visitors in viewing our amazing Wistaria Vine. The Wistaria Festival is Saturday, March 28, 2026, 9 AM to 5 PM. Volunteers would spend two hours hosting visitors and providing interesting information about the vine. All informational materials will be provided.

If you, a family member or friend would be interested in volunteering please contact Barbara Rounkle at 262 -224-7594 or [brounkle@gmail.com](mailto:brounkle@gmail.com)



# WISTARIA FESTIVAL

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Saturday | March 28, 2026

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Free Festival Admission / Arts & Crafts Marketplace  
Live Music & Car Show / Food Trucks & Local Eats

Wistaria Vine Viewing on Private Property - Advanced  
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[www.sierramadrechamber.com](http://www.sierramadrechamber.com)



# Pasadena Altadena

News From Your Community For Your Community

## City Annual Egg Bowl & Bunny Brunch



The City of Pasadena Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department and Rose Bowl Stadium proudly announced this week the return of the annual Egg Bowl — a free, spring-inspired community event on Saturday, April 4 from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Rose Bowl Stadium.

The Egg Bowl will feature egg hunts for children up to 12 years old beginning at 11:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m., and 1:00 p.m. Limited tickets for the free egg hunts are available at

CityOfPasadena.net/Reserve. Registration for Pasadena residents begins Monday, March 9, at 12:00 p.m. online, and for non-residents on Monday, March 23, at 12:00 p.m. Every-BUNNY counts, so please be sure to register all members in your group. Each person must have a ticket to enter the event.

The Bunny Brunch is making its egg-citing return to the annual Egg Bowl this spring. Join us inside the Terry Donahue Pavilion at Rose Bowl Stadium, where guests can choose from two fun-filled ticket packages for this can't-miss celebration. Enjoy a delicious breakfast, snap a photo with the Bunny, and take part in an exclusive VIP egg hunt right on the stadium field — a truly unforgettable experience for the whole family. Bunny Brunch doors open at 8:30 a.m., with the VIP Egg Hunt beginning promptly at 10:00 a.m. These limited spots fill quickly, so be sure to secure your tickets in advance here. Bunny Brunch ticket sales are coordinated by Rose Bowl Stadium.

After the egg hunt, families can enjoy a spring festival featuring free family-friendly activities, games, arts and crafts, inflatable attractions, food for purchase, and more.

Free rides to and from the Egg Bowl will be offered on Pasadena Transit Route 51 buses throughout the day. Route 51 runs every 22 minutes between 7:30 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., with additional service added between 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., operating every 11 minutes. The route travels between Old Pasadena and the Memorial Park A Line Station along Fair Oaks Avenue to the Rose Bowl Stadium. The stadium is approximately a five-minute walk from the nearest Pasadena Transit bus stop. View the route map and schedule at PasadenaTransit.net. Free parking is available in Lot E. For frequently asked questions, please view the FAQ page.



## City Announces Next PPHD Health Officer

Pasadena Director of Public Health Manuel Carmona announced Thursday that he has selected Dr. Parveen Kaur to be the next Health Officer at the Pasadena Public Health Department (PPHD). Kaur has served as Acting Health Officer since 2023 and will continue to provide medical direction to clinical programs, issue public health policy and guidance, and coordinate with regional, statewide, and federal officials to protect public health.

Kaur is an Infectious Disease Specialist with more than 25 years of medical experience, including leadership roles with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. She has served as the Pasadena Tuberculosis Controller and physician at the

PPHD Tuberculosis Clinic since 2021.

“Dr. Kaur continues to demonstrate exceptional public health expertise and leadership skills,” said Manuel Carmona, Director of Public Health. “Her experience and dedication to our community have made a meaningful impact and remain critical to protecting public safety and advancing public health in Pasadena.”

As Acting Health Officer, Kaur developed public health guidance and policy during the Eaton Fire recovery and has led efforts to reduce the risk of both ongoing and emerging infectious diseases.

“I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve as the Health Officer,” Kaur said. “I

am honored to be part of such a committed and mission-driven team focused on promoting and protecting the health and well-being of the Pasadena community.”

For more information visit: [cityofpasadena.net](http://cityofpasadena.net).

## St. Patrick's Day with Irish Ukulele Music

Erin Go Bragh! Everyone can be Irish with a special St. Patrick's Day performance of Celtic ukulele music from the Holiday Ukulele Orchestra on site at the Pasadena Senior Center on Saturday, March 14 at 1:30 p.m.

Featuring a program of festive Irish tunes, the Holiday Ukulele Orchestra — comprised of players from Pasadena, Glendale, Burbank and surrounding areas — encourages attendees to wear green, sing along with the music, enjoy the limeade and celebrate all things Irish.

The event is free for Pasadena Senior Center members and only \$5 for non-members, and reservations are suggested. To register or for more information, visit [pasadenaseniorecenter.org](http://pasadenaseniorecenter.org), then click on Activities and Events, then Special Events.

For several years, the Holiday Ukulele Orchestra has visited various communities of older adults to perform classic songs that audiences grew up with and enjoyed.

The Pasadena Senior Center's mission is to improve the lives of older adults through caring service with opportunities for social interaction, fitness programs, basic support and needs services, education, volunteerism and community activism.

As a donor-supported nonprofit, the center operates without any local, state or federal funding and provides more services to older adults than any other organization in the San Gabriel Valley. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon. To learn more visit: [pasadenaseniorecenter.org](http://pasadenaseniorecenter.org) or call 626-795-4331.

## Alec Baldwin to Narrate Lincoln Portrait for Pasadena Symphony Season Finale

Music Director Brett Mitchell and the Pasadena Symphony announced that Emmy- and Golden Globe-winning actor Alec Baldwin will narrate Aaron Copland's Lincoln Portrait for the 2025-26 season finale concert, America@250 on May 30. Known for his versatility, commanding presence and ability to move seamlessly between comedy and drama, Baldwin will bring a distinctive voice to Copland's ode to Abraham Lincoln, following in the footsteps of the esteemed thespians who have come before him in this role including Henry Fonda, James Earl Jones, Katharine Hepburn, Vincent Price, and Copland himself to name a few.

A longtime champion of Classical Music, Baldwin has performed Lincoln Portrait with the Philadelphia Orchestra and is a board member and the Radio Host of The New York Philharmonic

This celebration of America@250 highlights American composition throughout the last century, opening with John Williams' Liberty Fanfare, written to commemorate the centennial of the Statute of Liberty and closing with Copland's popular Appalachian Spring Suite. Also on the program, Gershwin's vibrant Jazz-infused Concerto in F will feature Grammy-nominated pianist Terrence Wilson. Wilson replaces pianist Joyce Yang, who was previously scheduled to perform Jonathan Leshnoff's Rhapsody on America, but is recovering from a temporary injury.

“I can't imagine a better way to wrap up our season and celebrate America's 250th birthday than with these two extraordinary



artists performing these two iconic works, and I couldn't be more excited to share the stage with them both.” – Brett Mitchell, Music Director

The Pasadena Symphony provides a vibrant experience for the music lover, the social butterfly or a date night out. Arrive early for the pre-concert discussion Insights with KUSC host Brian Lauritzen and Music Director Brett Mitchell. Nearby Old Town Pasadena provides a host of revered dining options or enjoy a bite or a glass along Ambassador Auditorium's veranda, which offers two full-service beverage centers serving fine wines, spirits and coffee, plus snacks, charcuterie and dessert before the concert and during intermission.

America@250 takes place at Ambassador Auditorium, 131 South St. John Ave, Pasadena, CA on Saturday, May 30 with matinee and evening performances at 2pm and 8pm. Single tickets start at \$65 and may be purchased online at: [pasadenasympphony-pops.org](http://pasadenasympphony-pops.org) or by calling (626) 793-7172.

## Poetry Heals at the Altadena Eaton Fire Collaboratory

Pasadena Light Bringer Project and the San Gabriel Valley Phoenix Poets staff, together, announced Friday that Three poetry workshops will come to the Eaton Fire Collaboratory in Altadena starting today and continuing on March 21 and April 25.

The literary event is free the welcoming anyone directly or indirectly impacted by the Eaton Fire. The workshops will run from from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m..

Each workshop will be led by one of the San Gabriel Valley's foremost figures in poetry. Today's workshop will be led by Teresa Mei Chuc (Altadena Poet Laureate 2018-2020), the March 21 workshop will be led by Linda Ravenswood (Los Angeles Press), and the final workshop will be led by Carla Sameth (Altadena Poet Laureate 2022-2024).

These workshops are part of

the ongoing mission of the San Gabriel Valley Phoenix Poets, which champions and celebrates the authentic self-expression of individuals and groups impacted by last year's Eaton Fire. Their program harnesses poetry and community to remember, honor, mourn, express, and explore the possibilities of recovery. SGV Phoenix Poets approach this collective journey through the lens of a Phoenix, the immortal bird in Greek mythology who rises from the ashes.

Inaugural Poet Laureate of Glendale, Raffi Wartanian, founded the project with the impact of trauma in mind. As the grandson and great-grandson of Armenian Genocide survivors, the son of parents displaced by the Lebanese Civil War, and the brother of a US army veteran, he had seen this impact before.

For more information visit: [sgvphoenixpoets.org](http://sgvphoenixpoets.org).

## Pasadena One City One Story

Director of Libraries and Information Services, Tim McDonald, announced Thursday that the 2026 One City, One Story program begins this month, promoting civic discourse, curiosity, and public engagement on contemporary issues. Throughout the month of March, the library will offer events designed to encourage discovery, critical thinking, and meaningful community engagement around issues raised in this year's selected novel. This year, the library's community selection committee chose Laila Lalami's The Dream Hotel. The dystopian novel's themes include corporate concentration of political power, threats to intellectual freedom, and the potential impact of surveillance on human rights. Community members are invited to attend a conversation with the author on Saturday, March 21 at 2 p.m. at Pasadena Presbyterian Church, 585 E. Colorado Boulevard.

With ethical use of technology being one of the novel's themes, this year's One City, One Story programming invites the community to learn about and reflect on Artificial Intelligence (“AI”). Generative AI tools are changing the landscape of research, education, and communication. Libraries can and should meet this moment as leaders in adopting innovative tools and addressing their challenges to support the community during a time of great change. Having a dialogue with the community about AI and its impact is crucial.

Pasadena Public Library

Commissioner and USC Librarian, Bridgid Fennel is an expert in the field of AI education. Fennel will be leading a presentation for the community, Introduction to Generative AI, on Saturday, March 7 at 2 p.m. at Linda Vista Branch Library, 1281 Bryant Street. Library staff is framing this event as a conversation with the community, whether attendees are frequent AI users, have questions, or want to get started. Fennel's presentation invites a broader conversation about libraries in the digital age. It will include hands-on practice with creating effective prompts, and a discussion of ethical, safety, and environmental concerns.

Another featured program will be Dreams, Data, and Destiny: How AI and Emerging Science Will Shape Our Future Lives on Thursday, March 12 at 6 p.m. at the Huntington Medical Research Institutes (“HMRI”), 686 S Fair Oaks Avenue. The discussion will be anchored by Dr. Rashid Alavi, the J.G. Boswell Fellow at HMRI and Caltech, and will explore timely questions about science, medicine, and society through conversation rather than technical lectures, making it accessible to a general audience. This one-hour program will be followed by Q&A and a reception.

All One City, One Story programs are free and open to the public. Lalami's novel is available for check-out in book, large type, eBook, and eAudiobook formats at all Pasadena Public Libraries. Learn more at: [CityofPasadena.Libguides.com/onecityonestory](http://CityofPasadena.Libguides.com/onecityonestory).

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## A MESSAGE FROM PUSD SUPERINTENDENT ELIZABETH BLANCO

Protecting Student Achievement and Ensuring Safe, Stable Schools  
February 27, 2026

The Board of Education's approval of preliminary layoff notices last night is a deeply difficult step for our Board and our district. These decisions affect valued colleagues who have dedicated themselves to serving our students and schools. We recognize the uncertainty and hardship this brings, and we hold each employee in our hearts during this time.

Our shared focus remains on students and their learning. Every decision is guided by our responsibility to ensure that students continue to experience classrooms that uplift them academically and personally. We remain committed to programs and opportunities that define PUSD and prepare our graduates to be college and career-ready, multilingual, critical thinkers, and strong communicators who feel confident in any path they choose.

Under state law, preliminary notices to reduce positions (called "reduction-in-force" notices) must be issued by mid-March. Included on the list approved by the Board are positions identified through last Fall's extensive Superintendent's Budget Advisory Committee (SBAC) process, along with other simultaneous workstreams such as staffing/vacancies and grant maximization. The notices are preliminary and part of a broader multifaceted process that continues through June 30, 2026, in alignment with our collective bargaining agreements. We understand how this impacts our staff, and we will walk beside them as we follow the statutory guidelines.

As we implement the adopted Fiscal Stabilization Plan, PUSD is on a stable fiscal path approved by the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE). Contrary to some claims, there is no "found" money. Suggesting otherwise creates false hope and does not reflect our financial reality.

The reductions are significant and affect every school and department in our district. We are living within our fiscal reality, as difficult as it is, to protect student learning, the district's long-term ability to serve future generations, and local control.

This is a painful moment. And our commitment to students is unshaken. We will continue to support each other and ensure that every student has access to the meaningful academic experiences they deserve.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Blanco, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

# SCHOOL DIRECTORY

**Alverno Heights Academy**  
200 N. Michillinda Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024  
(626) 355-3463  
Head of School: Joanne Harabedian  
E-mail address: jharabedian@alvernoheights.org

Principal: Aimee Dyrek  
holyangelsarcadia.net

**Arcadia Christian School**  
1900 S. Santa Anita Avenue  
Arcadia, CA 91006  
Preschool - TK - 8th Grade  
626-574-8229/626-574-0805  
Email: inquiry@acsliions.com  
Principal: Cindy Harmon  
website: www.acsliions.com

**High Point Academy**  
1720 Kinneloa Canyon Road  
Pasadena, Ca. 91107  
Head of School: Gary Stern 626-798-8989  
website: www.highpointacademy.org

**La Salle College Preparatory**  
3880 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Pasadena, Ca.  
(626) 351-8951 website: www.lasallehs.org  
Principal Ernest Siy

**Arcadia High School**  
180 Campus Drive Arcadia, CA 91007  
Phone: (626) 821-8370, Principal: Brent Forsee  
bforsee@ausd.net

**Monrovia High School**  
325 East Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016  
(626) 471-2800 Principal Darvin Jackson  
Email: schools@monrovia.k12.ca.us

**Odyssey Charter School**  
725 W. Altadena Dr. Altadena, Ca. 91001  
(626) 229-0993 Head of School: Lauren O'Neill  
website: www.odysseycharterschool.org

**Arroyo Pacific Academy**  
41 W. Santa Clara St. Arcadia, Ca,  
(626) 294-0661 Principal: Phil Clarke  
E-mail address: pclarke@arroyopacific.org

**Pasadena High School**  
2925 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Pasadena, Ca.  
(626) 396-5880 Principal: Dr. Eric Barba  
website: http://phs.pusd.us

**Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary School**  
Ms. Rose Navarro, Principal  
2660 East Orange Grove Blvd.  
Pasadena, Ca 91107  
626-793-2089  
https://school.abvmpasadena.org/

**St. Rita Catholic School**  
322 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024  
Principal: Jon McMaster (626) 355-6114  
mcmaster@st-ritaschool.org  
Website: www.st-ritaschool.org

**Barnhart School**  
240 W. Colorado Blvd Arcadia, Ca. 91007  
(626) 446-5588  
Head of School: Tonya Beilstein  
Kindergarten - 8th grade  
website: www.barnhartschool.org

**Sierra Madre Elementary School**  
141 W. Highland Ave, Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024  
(626) 355-1428  
Principal: Dr. Jodi Marchesso  
E-mail address: marchesso.jodi@pusd.us

**Bethany Christian School**  
93 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024  
(626) 355-3527  
Preschool-TK-8th Grade  
Principal: Jonathan Hawes  
website: www.bcsliions.org

**Sierra Madre Middle School**  
160 N. Canon Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024  
(626) 836-2947 Principal: Garrett Newsom  
E-mail address: newsom.garrett@pusd.us

**Clairbourn School**  
8400 Huntington Drive  
San Gabriel, CA 91775  
Phone: 626-286-3108 ext. 172  
FAX: 626-286-1528  
Marianne Ryan  
administration@clairbourn.org  
E-mail: jhawes@clairbourn.org

**Walden School**  
74 S San Gabriel Blvd  
Pasadena, CA 91107 (626) 792-6166  
www.waldenschool.net

**Foothill Oaks Academy**  
822 E. Bradbourne Ave., Duarte, CA 91010  
(626) 301-9809  
Principal: Nancy Lopez  
www.foothilloaksacademy.org  
office@foothilloaksacademy.org

**Weizmann Day School**  
1434 N. Altadena Dr. Pasadena, Ca. 91107  
(626) 797-0204  
Lisa Feldman: Head of School

**Frostig School**  
971 N. Altadena Drive Pasadena, CA 91107  
(626) 791-1255  
Head of School: Jenny Janetzke  
Email: jenny@frostig.org

**Wilson Middle School**  
300 S. Madre St. Pasadena, Ca. 91107  
(626) 449-7390 Principal: Ruth Esseln  
E-mail address: resseln@pusd.us

**The Gooden School**  
192 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024  
(626) 355-2410  
Head of School, Jo-Anne Woolner  
website: www.goodenschool.org

**Pasadena Unified School District**  
351 S. Hudson Ave., Pasadena, Ca. 91109  
(626) 396-3600 Website: www.pusd@pusd.us

**Holy Angels School**  
PK-8th Grade  
360 Campus Drive  
Arcadia, CA 91007  
626-447-6312  
office@holyangelsarcadia.org

**Arcadia Unified School District**  
234 Campus Dr., Arcadia, Ca. 91007  
(626) 821-8300 Website: www.ausd.net

**Monrovia Unified School District**  
325 E. Huntington Dr., Monrovia, Ca. 91016  
(626) 471-2000  
Website: www.monroviashools.net

**Duarte Unified School District**  
1620 Huntington Dr., Duarte, Ca. 91010  
(626)599-5000  
Website: www.duarte.k12.ca.us



We're going to a sugarhouse... ...to have pancakes with maple syrup. Kids: color stuff in!

# Newspaper Fun!

www.readingclubfun.com Annimills LLC © 2026 V9

## Maple-Sugaring Time

When winter is ending and snow is disappearing; when spring is coming, before buds are appearing; When the temperatures rise to warm the day; when later they fall to freeze the night; When the sap starts to flow from the maple trees; when farmers tap the trees to collect it in buckets; When the sap is poured into tanks on sleds; when a horse team pulls it to the sugarhouse; When the sugarhouse is opened and roaring fires are built; when the sap is boiled, skimmed filtered and canned; When the first syrup is poured sweet and warm over pancakes... It's maple-sugaring time!

Large farms today may use plastic tubing to deliver the sap from the trees directly to the sugarhouse.

Oh, look at the sap dripping into the bucket.

No, go away!

Is the syrup up here?

maple sugar!

Now! (Farmers traditional)

Read the clues to fill in the puzzle with how a farm may do its maple sugaring.

- \_\_\_\_\_ are built in groves for storing equipment and boiling sap
- teams of \_\_\_\_\_ are harnessed to pull sleds to gather the sap
- holes drilled in trees, spouts placed, tin \_\_\_\_\_ catch sap
- sap gathered into a \_\_\_\_\_ on horse-drawn sled, pulled to camp
- sap boiled in shallow, rectangular stainless \_\_\_\_\_ pans
- a roaring \_\_\_\_\_ fire is kept going in firebox under pans
- sap filtered, temperature checked, amount of sugar in sap measured, \_\_\_\_\_ carrying dirt skimmed off the top
- sap flows through pans as it thickens, temperature checked, filtered, \_\_\_\_\_ A or B and canned
- \_\_\_\_\_ used on pancakes, in beans, or meats
- family uses, sells on farms, trucks deliver around the \_\_\_\_\_

wood, graded, steel, buckets, foam, country, tank, syrup, horses, sugarhouses, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15

## SINGERS & SONGWRITERS

### ACROSS

1. Comprehend
6. It has no staying power?
9. Auditioner's hope
13. Prevention measure?
14. Ill temper
15. Poetic although
16. Brooke or John Jacob, of New York
17. Downhill equipment
18. Beau
19. \*"What Was I Made For?" singer
21. \*"Fast Car" singer
23. Part of URL
24. Peephole glance
25. Morning drops
28. 1920s art style
30. Reduce, as in standing
35. Big Bang's original matter
37. Lad's counterpart
39. Connection
40. Milton Bradley's game
41. Tea from certain region of India
43. Some bent pipes
44. Rose oil
46. Zeus' wife
47. Remove from a manuscript
48. What bird did, homewise
50. Hyperbolic sine
52. "\_\_\_ and the City"
53. Prejudice
55. "Wow!"
57. \*"Song Sung Blue" singer
61. \*"I Just Called to Say I Love You" singer
64. Barrel racing meet
65. \_\_\_ Maria
67. Shockingly graphic
69. Not upright
70. Bathtub libation
71. Food contaminant
72. W on a light bulb
73. Consume
74. Ayes

### DOWN

1. Former Portuguese colony in India
2. Deceptive maneuver
3. Naysayer's favorite prefix
4. Upbraid
5. 1/3rd of a hockey game
6. Phish homophone
7. One of Indiana's quests
8. Prepare for winter takeoff
9. Alka-Seltzer sound
10. Nucleus plus electrons
11. Actress Perlman
12. Tattered's partner
15. Rouse
20. Inscribed pillar
22. He had
24. Own
25. \*"Hurricane" singer
26. Like March Madness' eight
27. Hair extensions
29. \*"Folsom Prison Blues" singer
31. \*"Walk on the Wild Side" singer
32. Wheel shafts
33. Tutu fabric
34. English county
36. Source of protein
38. Delhi wrap
42. Popular lassi fruit
45. Restart computer
49. Clamor
51. \*"The Boys of Summer" singer
54. "Bad news travels fast", e.g.
56. Draw a conclusion
57. Pull out a pistol
58. Letter before kappa
59. Type of mine passage
60. Cheesy sandwich
61. Hit the road
62. Cupid's counterpart
63. Rub the wrong way
66. Road, in Rome
68. Bad-mouth, slangily

## SINGERS & SONGWRITERS

### CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13					14			15				
16					17			18				
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				53		54		55		56		
57	58	59	60				61				62	63
64						65	66			67		68
69						70				71		
72						73				74		



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**Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.**

### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

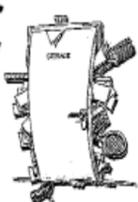
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4	9	7	8	5	1	3	2	6
5	1	6	3	7	2	4	8	9
8	2	3	9	4	6	5	7	1
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## AND THE AWARD GOES TO....



Peter A. Dills  
<https://podlink/1116885432>

There was a time — maybe I imagined it — when awards were handed out because someone actually won something. A handshake. A plaque. Maybe a rubber chicken dinner. Today? Awards arrive in your inbox with a rate card attached. Congratulations! You've just been named Best Sushi, Best Burger, Best Patio, Best Lighting, Best Use of Edison Bulbs. All you need now is a credit card and a decent headshot.

Relax. This isn't a crime. It's commerce. The annual "Best Of" issue is often the most profitable issue of the year. Newspapers need revenue. Websites need revenue. Everyone needs revenue. And what better way to generate it than by telling two dozen businesses they're "the best" — then offering them a handsome advertising package to celebrate the honor?

You see that banner flapping in the breeze: "Best Japanese Restaurant in Pasadena!" Maybe it is. Maybe it isn't. Maybe it's the restaurant that purchased the deluxe promotional package that includes the logo, the window decal, and the social media badge. The award might be free. The publicity isn't.

Even stars on the Hollywood Walk of Fame require a hefty sponsorship fee. That terrazzo star doesn't appear because someone hummed a tune in 1974. There's an application. There's a committee. And yes — there's a check. Again, not illegal. Just business.

Full disclosure? A few years back I won Best Personality in Pasadena. That's right. Best Personality. I'd love to tell you it was a spontaneous outpouring of civic admiration. Truth is, I paid about \$200 for the congratulatory ad. Did it make me more charming? Debatable. Did it make the publication happy? Absolutely.

Here's what the decal doesn't say:  
 How many people voted?  
 How many categories were invented?  
 How many winners declined to advertise?

Awards today are part trophy, part invoice.

Now let me balance the scales. My father used to say, once the paint is dry on a new restaurant and there are still long lines out the door, it's probably onto something. No decal required. No banner needed. Just demand.

And social media? Yes, it's cluttered. But if you look closely, there are breadcrumbs. A photo here. A comment there. A quiet buzz about a pizza worth driving for. Or in my case, whispers about the best martini in town. The information is out there — if you do your research.

So what's my point?

I'm not exposing a scandal. I'm exposing the hustle. Awards can be deserved. They can be influenced. They can be monetized. Usually they're a little of all three.

So the next time you see "Best of 2026" plastered across a window, appreciate the marketing effort. Then go inside and decide for yourself.

Because no plaque, no sticker, and no sponsored badge can rescue a dry chicken breast. And that's the only award that really matters. Just my Opinion

thechefknows@yahoo.com



### INGREDIENTS

- For the Chicken:
- 1 whole chicken (4-5 lbs)
  - 2 tbsp olive oil
  - 1 tsp salt
  - 1/2 tsp black pepper

- For the Flavor Base:
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
  - 2 lemons
  - 1 tbsp fresh rosemary, chopped
  - 1 tsp dried thyme

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat your oven to 425°F and position the rack in the middle.
2. Pat the chicken completely dry with paper towels inside and out.
3. Rub the olive oil evenly over the entire surface of the chicken.
4. Season the chicken inside and out with salt and pepper.
5. Combine minced garlic, rosemary, and thyme in a small bowl.
6. Cut one lemon in half and squeeze the juice over the chicken.
7. Rub the garlic-herb mixture evenly under the chicken skin and inside the cavity.
8. Place the squeezed lemon halves and remaining whole lemon inside the chicken cavity.
9. Truss the chicken legs together with kitchen twine for even cooking.
10. Place the chicken breast-side up in a roasting pan fitted with a rack.
11. Roast at 425°F for 15 minutes to crisp the skin.
12. Reduce oven temperature to 375°F and continue roasting for 60-75 minutes.
13. Check for doneness when the internal temperature reaches 165°F in the thickest part of the thigh.
14. Remove from oven and let rest for 15 minutes before carving.

Ultra-crispy skin gives way to incredibly moist, garlic-infused meat with bright lemon notes. Serve it carved over creamy polenta or shred the leftovers for next-day tacos—this chicken transforms any meal into something special.

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## THE IMPORTANCE OF HEALTH CHECKS FOR THE AGING POPULATION

As we grow older, regular health checks become one of the most important tools for maintaining independence and quality of life. Aging naturally brings physical changes, and many conditions—such as high blood pressure, diabetes, heart disease, and certain cancers—can develop quietly without noticeable symptoms. Routine medical visits allow these issues to be detected early, when treatment is often simpler and more effective.

Preventive screenings play a key role. Blood pressure and cholesterol checks help reduce the risk of heart attack and stroke. Blood sugar testing can identify diabetes before serious complications arise. Screenings for cancers such as colon, breast, or prostate cancer can lead to earlier intervention and better outcomes. Vaccinations, including flu and pneumonia shots, are also especially important for older adults whose immune systems may be weaker.

Health checks are not just about physical conditions. Memory evaluations can help identify early signs of cognitive decline, allowing families to plan and seek support. Hearing and vision exams improve safety, reducing the risk of falls and accidents. Medication reviews are equally critical, as many seniors take multiple prescriptions that may interact or cause side effects.

Beyond medical testing, regular appointments provide an opportunity to discuss nutrition, exercise, sleep, and emotional well-being. Loneliness and depression are common among older adults and can significantly impact overall health. A trusted healthcare provider can help connect individuals with community resources and support systems.

In short, consistent health monitoring empowers seniors to stay proactive rather than reactive. By identifying concerns early, adjusting treatments when needed, and reinforcing healthy habits, routine health checks help older adults live longer, safer, and more fulfilling lives.



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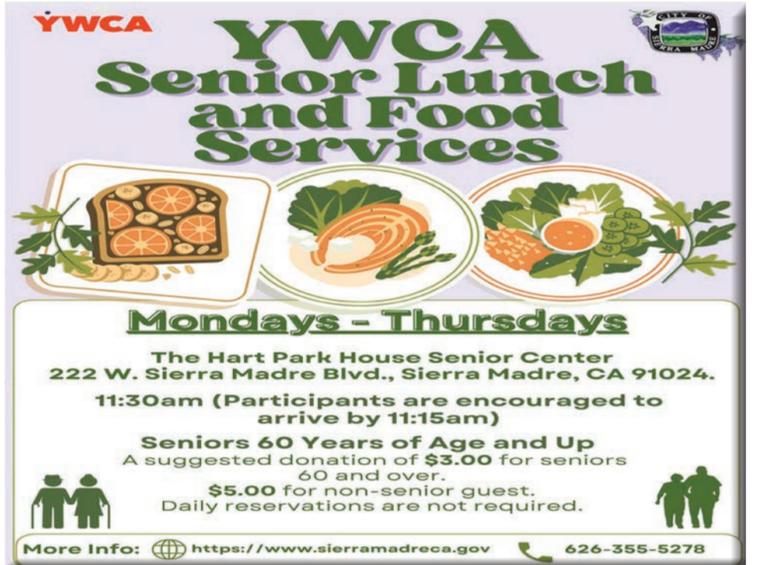
## SENIOR HAPPENINGS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! ...MARCH BIRTHDAYS\*



Tracy Verhoeven, Beatrice DaRe, Catherine Adde, Hilda Pittman, Anne-Marie Stockdale, Susan Henderson, Allie Attay, Ursula El-Tawansy, Gladys Moser, Sylvia Lorhan, Ana Ptanski, Winifred Swanson, Janet Gillespie, Marian DeMars, Vickie Vernon, Mary Beth Knox, Sharon Lefler.

\* To add your name to this distinguished list, please call the paper at 626.355.2737. YEAR of birth not required



**YWCA**  
**Senior Lunch and Food Services**

**Mondays - Thursdays**

The Hart Park House Senior Center  
222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA 91024.  
11:30am (Participants are encouraged to arrive by 11:15am)

Seniors 60 Years of Age and Up  
A suggested donation of \$3.00 for seniors 60 and over.  
\$5.00 for non-senior guest.  
Daily reservations are not required.

More Info: <https://www.sierramadreca.gov> 626-355-5278

## TOP SENIOR SCAMS AND HOW TO AVOID THEM

Dear Savvy Senior,

My adult kids keep warning me about scams, but it's hard to know which calls and messages are dangerous. What scams are most commonly aimed at seniors right now? --Almost 80



Dear Almost,

Your kids' concerns are well founded. Financial fraud is a massive – and rapidly growing – problem for older Americans. In 2024 alone, scams cost older adults an estimated \$81.5 billion, according to the Federal Trade Commission. That staggering figure includes both reported losses and the many crimes that likely go unreported.

While many scams today target people of all ages, older adults are often singled out or suffer the greatest financial harm. From urgent phone calls and alarming emails to online romance schemes and bogus investment opportunities, scammers use high-pressure tactics, fear and emotional manipulation to convince seniors to hand over money or sensitive personal information.

Knowing the most common scams is the first line of defense. Here's a list of scams seniors should watch for:

**Imposter and government scams:** Fraudsters pretend to be from Social Security, Medicare, the IRS, the police, banks, or utility companies. They claim there's a problem requiring immediate payment or personal information and may threaten arrest or loss of benefits.

**Tech support scams:** Calls, emails, or pop-ups warn your computer has a virus. The scammer offers to "fix" it but instead steals money, personal data, or access to your device.

**Grandparent or family emergency scams:** Callers pose as a relative—often a grandchild—in distress and urgently request money. Some even use AI to mimic a loved one's voice.

**Investment and cryptocurrency scams:** Offers for "too good to be true" investments, including crypto- or high-yield retirement schemes, often promise big returns but lead to large financial losses.

**Romance scams:** Scammers build fake online relationships on social media, dating sites and other interactive platforms, then invent emergencies or investment opportunities to get money. Seniors have lost millions to these schemes.

**Medicare scams:** Calls or texts claim to be from Medicare, asking you to verify your number, offering special plans, or warning of fraud. Medicare will not contact you this way.

**Sweepstakes and lottery scams:** You're told you've

won a prize but must pay fees or taxes first. Real lotteries never require payment.

**Charity scams:** Scammers call or email, asking for donations to fake charities, often after disasters. Always verify before giving.

**Phishing and online fraud:** Emails, texts, and pop-ups that look like they're from banks, Amazon, or PayPal try to steal passwords, account numbers, or trick you into clicking harmful links.

**Employment scams:** Seniors seeking part-time work or ways to supplement their retirement should watch out for fake job offers on LinkedIn, indeed, and other online job sites. Scammers may promise easy income or work-from-home opportunities but ask for upfront fees, personal information, or involve illegal tasks like package reshipping. Always verify employers and never pay to apply.

### How to Protect Yourself

Awareness and caution are your best defenses. Slow down when a call, email or text pressures you to act immediately. That sense of urgency is a red flag. Hang up, don't click suspicious links, and verify any request by calling the organization directly using a number you look up yourself, or by checking with a trusted family member.

Never send money using gift cards, wire transfers or cryptocurrency. Legitimate organizations will not ask for payment this way. Stay informed through trusted resources like the AARP Fraud Watch Network ([aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork](http://aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork)), the National Cybersecurity Center ([nationalcybersecuritycenter.org](http://nationalcybersecuritycenter.org)) and the Federal Trade Commission ([consumer.ftc.gov](http://consumer.ftc.gov)).

Protect your accounts by setting up bank alerts, regularly checking your credit reports, and using strong, unique passwords. Some seniors also find it helpful to have a trusted family member or financial ally review unusual account activity. Report suspicious calls, messages or offers at [reportfraud.ftc.gov](http://reportfraud.ftc.gov).

Being informed, cautious, and deliberate can greatly reduce your risk of fraud – giving you and your family peace of mind.

Send your questions or comments to [questions@savvysenior.org](mailto:questions@savvysenior.org), or to Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070.

## OUT TO PASTOR

A Weekly Religion Column by Rev. James Snyder

### HOCUS-POCUS, MY SANITY HAS DISAPPEARED

For over 70 years, I believed sanity was a very important part of a person's identity. Being sane enables one to be successful in life. Who doesn't want to be successful?

I've made it my business to focus on my sanity and make sure it's working just fine. Of course, I'm not sure how to build my sanity.

Actually, it wasn't until I met and married The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage that I understood what sanity was all about. All my sanity brought me to that wonderful place in my life. If anybody has more sanity than The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage, I have yet to meet them.

For over 50 years, she has been the most sane aspect of my life. Without her, I don't know where I would be today. At least I wouldn't recognize where I'm at.

It wasn't until I hit my 70s that I realized my sanity had disappeared. I have no idea where it went, and believe me, I have searched for it for a long time. I even watched a Three Stooges movie and still did not find it. Where else would it be?

All of this came together this past week.

I was working on a project that needed to be finished by the end of the month. Sometimes those projects stress me out. But finishing a project is a wonderful experience. I enjoy it very much.

Then my phone rang, interrupting my moment at the time. Sometimes I don't turn my phone on until the end of the day, but I had it on this morning.

When I answered it, I was rather surprised. According to the person on the other end of the phone, I had made a marvelous victory. According to the person on the phone, I had won over \$5 million plus a brand-new Mercedes. I can't tell you how happy I was.

I couldn't thank the person on the phone enough for this marvelous win. I didn't know if I had regained my sanity or if I had dropped to a lower level of sanity.

Do you know what I could do with that kind of money? Neither do I. When he told me about my winnings, I laughed hysterically and couldn't thank him enough over the phone.

"When can I expect my winnings?" I asked the guy on the phone. "We can send it to you today," he said very happily. "Just give us your address and it'll be on its way."

Then I had an unusual sane moment. Thinking about it, I asked, "How much is this going to cost me?" "Oh, my lucky friend. All you have to do is pay a \$1500 processing fee and the package will be yours."

Sanity started knocking on my door, and I began thinking, "It'll only cost me \$1500 to get \$5 million. That shouldn't be too much to ask for."

Sanity began whispering in my ear, suggesting a question. So, I responded to the person on the phone and said, "That sounds great. Just deduct that \$1500 from my \$5 million winnings, and we got a plan."

If you think about it, that makes a lot of sense. He gets his fee, and I get my winnings. What's wrong with that?

From the other end of the phone, I heard, "That's not possible. I've already wrapped your cash money in a box and I am not able to unwrap it and take money out. You will have to send me the \$1500 through some gift card that you can get at the store."

Yeah, right, a gift card. I may have lost a lot of sanity along the way, but I have now experienced a revival of my sanity.

It seems feasible to send him the money so I can receive my reward.

I continued my phone conversation and asked an important question: "Sir, how do I know I can trust you to send me the money?"

He chuckled on the phone and then said most bravely, "You can trust me with anything. I'm not here to scam anybody I'm just here to get you your winnings to you as fast as possible. Believe me, you can trust me. Everybody trusts me."

He then sent me photographs of other people who had won millions of dollars. As if I'm going to believe that.

Responding to those pictures, I said, "How can you prove to me that those are real people with winnings and not some AI production?"

"Oh my friend," he said most enthusiastically, "you can trust me I would never lie to someone like you."

If this wasn't a scam, I've never heard of one. I responded by saying, "When you send me my winnings, I will pay you the processing fee plus a \$500 tip. How does that sound?" The only sound I heard was "click," and he was no more. I love it when my sanity shows up with a smile every once in a while.

As I was thinking about this, a verse of scripture came to mind. "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind" (2 Timothy 1:7). True sanity comes from God. He gives me everything I need to be all He wants me to be. He is the only one I can truly trust, and that's my daily discipline.

Dr. James L. Snyder lives in Ocala, FL with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. Telephone 1-352-216-3025, e-mail [jamesnyder51@gmail.com](mailto:jamesnyder51@gmail.com), website [www.jamesnyderministries.com](http://www.jamesnyderministries.com).



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## March Events Around Town!

Brought to you by Sue Cook

**One Time Events**

**March 7**  
**Barks and Brews at the Arboretum** - Bring your pups and tour the garden, meet adoptable dogs, enjoy delicious bites & beers. 11-4

**March 13**  
**ArtNight Pasadena** - Join in the city's dynamic arts and cultural open house showcasing visual arts, literary arts, dance, music, and theater. 6 - 10 pm

**March 14**  
**Family Workshop: Accordion Bookmaking at The Huntington** - Make an accordion-style artist book with drawings & poetry. 10 - 12 and 1 - 3pm

**March 15**  
**California Young Artist Symphony at The Huntington** - Young musicians perform Sibelius & Mendelssohn in Rothenberg Hall. 6 pm

**March 21**  
**Dvořák New World Symphony at Ambassador Auditorium** - The Pasadena Symphony performs works by Dvořák, Bernstein, & Contreras. 2 & 8 pm

**March 21**  
**Flower Arranging: Spring Flower Basket at The Huntington** - Celebrate spring by creating a bright flower basket. Adults only 10 - 12 pm "Bring A Buddy" - 1 - 3 pm

**March 21**  
**Pasadena Folk Music Society Presents Lúnasa** - Lúnasa, "the hottest Irish band on the planet" at Westminster Presbyterian Church. 7:30

**March 28**  
**Chinese Floral Arts: Expressionist Style** Learn the foundations of traditional Chinese floral arts as you create an arrangement. 10 - 12 pm

**March 28**  
**Family Night Hike: The Luck O' The Garden at the Arboretum** - Enchanting night hike explores plants and animals associated with luck. 5:30 - 7 pm Adult Night Hike: 7:30 - 9 pm

**March 28**  
**Wistaria Festival in Sierra Madre** - Celebrate the Sierra Madre's record-holding Wistaria Vine w/tours, craft fair, food vendors, and auto show. 9 am - 5 pm

**March 29**  
**Art of the Garden** - Creative Arts Group Sierra Madre presents a tour of five stunning gardens.

**Ongoing Events**

**February 11 - March 15**  
**Amadeus at Pasadena Playhouse** - Divine music, unforgettable drama in this show about the rivalry between composers Salieri and Mozart.

**March 12, 13, 14**  
**Miss Saigon at Arcadia Performing Arts Center** - A love story set against the backdrop of the Vietnam War performed by Arcadia Stage.

**Beginning March 13**  
**Butterfly Season at Kidspace Children's Museum** - Highlights include bug safaris, flutter-by-play, create a creature, and caterpillar adoptions.

**March 13 - 27**  
**America's Got Talent at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium** - Witness a new season of jaw-dropping talent and unforgettable moments.

**March 13, 14, 15**  
**Hollywood at the Arboretum Walking Tour** See locations and hear stories about filming at the Arboretum. Mar 13 & 14 @ 10 am, Mar 15 @ 1 pm

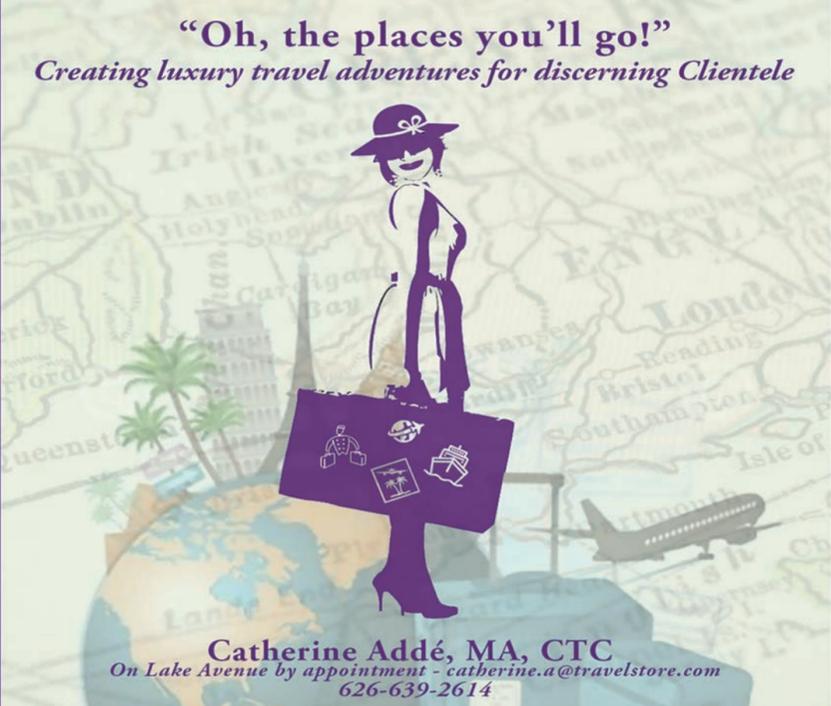
**March 14, 17**  
**Pasadena St. Patrick's Day Bar Crawls 2026** Event includes holiday drink specials, food deals, and more. Mar 14 @ 1 - 8 pm, Mar 17 @ 5 - 9 pm

**March 19, 20, 21**  
**Spring Bloom Arrangement at Descanso Gardens** - Make a beautiful floral arrangement. Mar 19 & 20 @ 10 - 12 pm, Mar 21 @ 9 - 11 am

**March 21, 22**  
**San Gabriel Lantern Festival** - San Gabriel Mission District presents this festival featuring lantern displays, performances, foods and more.

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# SIERRA MADRE

SIERRA MADRE

ARCADIA

PASADENA

ALTADENA

MONROVIA

Mountain Views-News Saturday, February 28, 2026

## BATTER UP: Sierra Madre Little League season starts March 1, 2026!



<https://tshq.bluesombrero.com/sierramadrell>  
Support Our Youth!

### NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Special Municipal Election shall be held on June 2, 2026, to place a measure, the "City of Sierra Madre No-Tax Increase GANN Measure to override the GANN Limit on the ballot:

"City of Sierra Madre No-Tax Increase Gann Measure. Shall the measure adjusting the City of Sierra Madre's appropriations limit to allow increased budgeting of City revenues for general governmental purposes, including protecting safe clean water, maintaining brush clearing and wildfire prevention, firefighter/paramedic staffing levels, 911 emergency response, repairing potholes, streets, and sidewalk, upgrading storm drains to protect local groundwater supplies; maintaining natural disaster preparedness for four years (this measure does not increase taxes or impose any new taxes), be adopted?"

Yes

No

Ballot Question. The following ballot question shall be submitted to the voters: March 13, 2026 - Last day to submit arguments for or against measure. Arguments may not exceed 300 words in length. (E. C. §§ 9162, 9163, 9315, 9316, 9501 and 9502)

March 23, 2026 5:00 p.m. Last day for authors of arguments for and against any measure to submit rebuttals. Rebuttals may not exceed 250 words in length. (E. C. §§ 9167, 9317, and 9504)

Posted February 27, 2026

By:

Laura Aguilar  
City Clerk  
Elections Official

## 3 WAYS FAMILIES CAN GET MORE BANG FOR THEIR BUCK IN 2026



(StatePoint) Looking to stretch your dollar further in 2026? Here's how your family can get more bang for your buck on the items and services you use most:

### Find a Value-Packed Phone Plan

If it's been awhile since you've looked at phone plan options, you may not realize that upgrading your plan doesn't have to be complicated or mean spending more. Check out enhanced plans like T-Mobile's newly unveiled Better Value, a family plan that gives new and long-term customers, including small businesses, such benefits as the largest, fastest, most advanced 5G network, unlimited data abroad, satellite connectivity and built-in extras like streaming services, without the premium price tag. Designed to deliver real savings families can feel right away, the plan starts at \$140 a month for three lines with AutoPay, and can amount to savings of over \$1,000 compared to similar plans.

Plus, it's a good choice if you're looking to map out your long-term budget. The plan comes with a five-year price guarantee on talk, text and data, so your family can count on the price you sign up for in the months and years ahead.

Additional benefits include exclusive hotel and rental car perks, exclusive ticket access and premium experiences at thousands of concerts and festivals nationwide, free DashPass by DoorDash, weekly perks through T-Mobile Tuesdays and more.

This limited-time plan is available to new customers with three or more phone lines who are switching at least two of those lines to T-Mobile, as well as existing customers of five or more years who have three phone lines. For more information, visit [www.t-mobile.com](http://www.t-mobile.com).

### Bundle and Save

If you're working with more than one insurance provider, you may be over-paying – and wasting time. Not only does streamlining coverage under one carrier provide clerical convenience, an analysis by NerdWallet finds that bundling your auto and home insurance can offer savings of up to 40%. Additional discounts are available for all kinds of reasons – from having a good driving record to making specific home updates, so ask your agent what's available to you. The best part is that you can use the savings on other household necessities, or to expand your coverage and gain additional peace of mind.

### Shop Smart

With the cost of two basic essentials – groceries and gas – on the rise, you may be looking for ways to stretch your dollar on the items you can't live without. One way to do that is by always using a rewards credit card at the supermarket and at the pump for cash back on every purchase. Additionally, apps like GasBuddy can help you locate the lowest gas prices near you, and apps like Ibotta let you submit receipts of your grocery purchases in order to earn cash back.

When it comes to monthly bills, a few smart strategies and tweaks to your routine means that your family can live large without your wallet taking a hit.

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DRE #: 01730614

### MARCH 2026 NEWSLETTER

Whether you own a home or are looking to buy or sell, here are the latest Good to Know® articles for when you're ready to take the next step in finding your forever home.



#### How to Keep Your Remodel on Budget

Home remodeling notoriously costs more than homeowners initially budget for—for many reasons:

- Products and services may cost more than expected.
  - Supply chain interruptions, new tariffs may cause additional expenses.
  - Demolition may reveal problems like mold, out-of-code wiring or damaged sub-floor.
  - The cheapest contractor may underbid to get the job then bill higher invoices later.
- Some costs are beyond your control, so build an extra 25% into your budget before work begins. Other ways to manage your budget are to:
- Check the condition of the most expensive systems, like HVAC, electrical and plumbing.
  - Concentrate on living rooms, kitchens, and bathrooms.
  - Choose updates with the best ROI: floors, countertops, cabinets, appliances and fixtures.
  - Bundle upgrades (e.g. insulation plus windows).
  - Keep your existing floor plan.
  - Choose classic, durable materials, like hardwoods and stone.

Stick to the above advice and your home will look great—and so will



#### Ditch This Dated Home Décor

Why does your décor matter to today's homebuyers? Décor strongly determines the ambiance, era, and overall attractiveness of your home. Lifestyle aphorisms, wall-to-wall carpet, dust ruffles on couches and beds, heavy drapes, and other "outdated" décor make it hard for buyers imagine themselves living there:

**Matching furniture sets.** The look today is more curated and blended, with furniture and accessories collected from different parts of the world and from different periods.

**Out-of-touch opulence.** E.g., displays of silver, tea services or other relics of a servant-centric past; mirrored tables; fake fur throws and pillows.

**Too much of one element.** E.g. paneled rooms, bordered wallpaper, boring neutral paint color throughout the house. A mix of color, fabrications, textures, and patterns is far more interesting.

**Themed décor.** E.g. moose images and buffalo plaid, starfish pillows and canoe paddles.

**Lounge chairs and massage chairs.** These guilty pleasures are best left to informal areas.

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For questions email: [cityclerk@sierramadreca.gov](mailto:cityclerk@sierramadreca.gov)



Scan Me!





**CHRISTOPHER Nyerges**

Nyerges is the author of "Foraging California," and "Testing Your Outdoor Survival Skills" (both of which have sections on mushrooms). For info on his many books and classes, he can be reached at Box 41834, Eagle Rock, CA, or [www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance.com](http://www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance.com)

**SOME POISONOUS PLANTS**

[Nyerges is an ethnobotanist who has taught field trips since 1974. He has written several foraging books, including "Guide to Wild Foods." He can be reached at [www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance.com](http://www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance.com).]

The diverse chemistry of the natural world makes many plants good to eat, but others not so good to eat. Some can get you very sick and kill you if you eat them. This is why you should never eat any wild plant until you have positively identified it as an edible species. Here is a selection of some of the common poisonous plants that may grow near you. Most are found in the wild, and some are found in your backyard. And there are many, many others besides these listed here.



Poison hemlock is common along our local streams. It looks like an Italian parsley, and the stalk is covered in purple blotches. Deadly if eaten

**POISON HEMLOCK (Conium maculatum)**  
This European native is now pretty common in North America, and just a little bit can kill you! This is the plant that Socrates-fame. This plant is in the parsley/carrot family, and so it has an appearance of an edible plant. Whether cooked in soup, or added to salad, the result is vomiting, diarrhea, paralysis, weak pulse, and convulsions. Death can occur as quickly as an hour after eating this ferny-looking plant.



**CASTOR BEAN (Ricinus communis)**

This is a tropical plant that is found all over the South and western states. It used to be planted for its oil for both commercial and industrial uses, and now is very common in the wild. The seeds are attractive and sometimes used in jewelry, and when someone chews on the seed, it only takes a dozen or less to

cause death. This is the source of the poison ricin, which is most concentrated in the seed. Ingestion of the seed causes cramps, diarrhea, vomiting, and convulsions. Death can result in 24 to 48 hours if enough seeds were consumed.

**TREE TOBACCO (Nicotiana glauca)**

This plant is a native to South America, and can now be found in the southern, southwestern, and western states. In the young stages, it has been confused for either collard greens or pokeweed, cooked and eaten. The result is vomiting, diarrhea, irregular pulse, shaking, muscle convulsions, and general weakness – nothing pleasant. Death can occur though death appears to be rare.

**JIMSONWEED (Datura wrightii and D. stramonium)**

Jimsonweed is regarded as sacred herb among native peoples of the west, having been used for centuries in ceremonies.

Jimsonweed makes the news all too frequently because some high school boys wanted a cheap way to get high. They either smoke it, or drink it, or eat it, either the leaves or the flowers, but the result is always the same. It results in incoherency, delirium, temporary blindness, dry mouth, vomiting, and nausea. Death is rare. Such teens who are foolish enough to do this nearly all end up hospitalized for awhile. One recently reported "It was the worst experience of my life."

**OLEANDER (Nerium oleander)**

The common oleander shrub is another plant which is widespread and periodically causes death. The plant requires little maintenance and produces pretty pink and white flowers. Thus, it is commonly planted along highways, around parks, and in picnic areas. Poisonings have occurred with oleander when campers used the slender branches for roasting hot dogs or marshmallows. The oils from the oleander enter the hot dog with the possible result being severe sickness and even death. A single leaf is said to be sufficient to kill an adult.

**ANGEL OF DEATH MUSHROOM (Amanita ocreata)**

Ah, mushrooms! First, don't eat any wild mushrooms until you have studied mycology actively for at least two years. Yes, there are many good edible wild mushrooms, and you want to be able to positively recognize them, and don't eat a poisonous one by mistake. This mushroom, Angel of Death, is one of the deadly Amanitas. It is distinguished by having white gills (and white spores), a stout white stem, a ring on the stem, and a membranous cup around the base of the stem. If you consume this, death is slow, painful, and sure, even if you get medical attention. Death can take about a week after ingestion.

No, this is NOT a complete list of all the poisonous plants of North America. Don't eat any wild plant for food unless you've positively identified it!

**Katnip News!**



**MEET SUNNY RAY – A GENTLE SOUL IN NEED OF SOME LUCK**

Sunny Ray is a sweet, young, and gorgeous boy, age almost 2 years, fully vetted, neutered, and healthy. Sunny is a quiet, gentle soul who will let you pet him, but he's a little unsure how to show affection. He's been residing at our partner boarding facility where he has a cage with an open door, but he prefers to stay in his cage. Although he receives lots of attention and affection, he really needs



a calm, patient home—or a loving foster, to continue to blossom. We think he would be fine with another young cat or kitten to play with and help draw him out. Could you be the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow to help this shy sweetheart find his confidence? He's too young to spend the rest of his life not knowing how to love and be loved. Please submit your application to meet him and we'll reply quickly. Go directly to his biopic page at <https://www.lifelineforpets.org/sunny-ray.html>, or use the qr code.

**Pet of the Week**



Six-year-old Boda is a big lovebug just waiting to make a big impression on someone's heart. This handsome guy greets the world with a softness that quickly transforms into the happiest full-body wiggles. He's easy to leash, confident, and while he's definitely strong (one of the strongest pups around!), he's also surprisingly polite.

In the yard, Boda's playful side really shines. He loves to chase toys and then bring them right back and place them gently at your feet like a perfect gentleman. He knows "sit" like a pro, offers an enthusiastic "shake," and even takes breaks by flopping down at your feet with his toy for a quick breather. He loves people and settles easily when it's time for a nice break.

Boda may be a big ol' guy (with a little drool to prove it!), but he's also an easygoing, confident sweetheart who's ready for his forever home. If you're looking for a playful, affectionate best friend with great manners and an even bigger heart, come meet Boda and see why he's such a good boy.

The adoption fee for dogs is \$150. All dog adoptions include spay or neuter, microchip, and age-appropriate vaccines.

Walk-in adoptions are available every day from 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. View photos of adoptable pets at [pasadenahumane.org](http://pasadenahumane.org).

New adopters will receive a complimentary health-and-wellness exam from VCA Animal Hospitals, as well as a goody bag filled with information about how to care for your pet.

Pets may not be available for adoption and cannot be held for potential adopters by phone calls or email.

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**FITNESS FOR LIFE**



Michele Silence, M.A. is a 37-year certified fitness professional who offers semi-private/virtual fitness classes. Contact Michele at michele@kid-fit.com. Visit her Facebook page at: michelesfitness. Visit her Facebook page at: michelesfitness.

**BY A BLINK**

Millions of people watched the Super Bowl this year. And millions more watched the Olympic Games. From our couches, it all looks exciting, dramatic, and sometimes almost easy. The athletes run fast, jump high, throw far, and make it look natural.

What most people don't realize is that many of these events are decided by a fraction of a second. Sometimes the difference between first and second place is less time than it takes to blink your eyes.

In Olympic races, winners are often separated by hundredths of a second. In football, one step, one inch, or one perfectly timed move can change the outcome of a game. These moments feel huge when we watch them, but they are actually very small. And those tiny moments are built on years of work.

Elite athletes don't train for the big moment. They train for the thousands of small moments that come before it. We see the final play, the finish line, the medal ceremony. What we don't see are the early mornings, the long practices, and the boring drills done over and over again. We don't see the missed family events, the sore muscles, injuries or the days when progress feels slow or invisible.

Most elite athletes are not practicing until they "get it right." They are practicing until they can't get it wrong. That's an important difference.

At the highest level, everyone is talented. Everyone is strong. Everyone is fast. The athletes who win are often the ones who improved just one small thing. Maybe their reaction time was a little faster. Maybe their foot placement was a little cleaner. Maybe their conditioning allowed them to stay focused for just one more second. When winning comes down to a fraction of a second, small improvements matter a lot.

Sometimes we forget that second or third place is not losing. In the Olympics, those athletes are still among the best in the world. They trained just as hard, showed the same discipline, and performed at an incredible level. The only difference was a fraction of a second or a tiny mistake. Calling that a loss misses the real story.

It's also worth remembering that these athletes didn't wake up one day and suddenly become great. The Olympic sprinter wasn't always fast. The quarterback wasn't always calm under pressure. The gymnast didn't always land perfectly. They earned those skills through repetition and consistency.

Consistency doesn't look exciting. It looks like showing up even when you don't feel great. It looks like doing the same drill again, even when you're tired of it. It looks like trusting the process when there's no guarantee of winning. That's not just true for elite athletes. It's true for all of us.

Most people aren't training for the Super Bowl or the Olympics. But we are training for our own lives. We're training to stay strong, move well, avoid injury, and keep our independence as we age. Those goals may not come with medals, but they are just as important.

Progress in fitness usually doesn't happen in big leaps. It happens in small steps. One extra walk each week. One more exercise done with better form. One habit repeated often enough that it becomes automatic. Just like elite athletes, everyday people don't need perfection. They need consistency.

Watching elite sports can sometimes make people feel discouraged. It's easy to think, "I'll never be that good." But that's not the point. The point is to appreciate what the human body can do when time, effort, and patience are applied over many years.

When you see an athlete win by a fraction of a second, you're not really watching a single moment. You're watching thousands of hours of work finally come together.

That kind of performance doesn't come from motivation alone. Motivation fades. What lasts is routine. What lasts is showing up. What lasts is doing the work even when no one is watching.

The Super Bowl and the Olympics remind us of something important: greatness is rarely loud or flashy while it's being built. It's quiet. It's repetitive. It's often unnoticed. And then, for just a brief moment, it shows up on the world's biggest stage.

So the next time you watch a game-winning play or an Olympic finish decided by a blink of an eye, take a second to appreciate what you're really seeing. You're seeing discipline. You're seeing patience. You're seeing what happens when small efforts are repeated long enough to make a big difference.

That lesson applies far beyond sports. It applies to fitness, health, and life itself.

Michele Silence, M.A. is a certified fitness professional who offers semi-private/virtual fitness classes. Contact Michele at michele@kid-fit.com. Visit her Facebook page at: michelesfitness

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**UNLOCK YOUR LIFE**

**THE FEAR OF OUTSHINING**



Lori A. Harris

Ever caught yourself holding back your true brilliance? Perhaps you've downplayed your achievements, minimized your talents, or made yourself smaller to avoid making others uncomfortable. Maybe you've even stopped yourself from sharing good news because you didn't want to seem boastful or "too much."

If this resonates, you're in good company. The fear of outshining others is surprisingly common.

This hesitation often has deep roots in our childhood. Remember those well-meaning messages? "Don't brag." "Stay humble." "Don't make others feel bad." These instructions stick with us long into adulthood. But here's what I've learned: Dimming your light doesn't actually benefit anyone.

As Marianne Williamson powerfully reminds us: "As we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give oth-er people permission to do the same." The world doesn't need a watered-down version of you—it needs your full, authentic brilliance.

When that fear of standing out too brightly begins to creep in, try these approaches:

1. Acknowledge It. Simply notice when you're holding back. Ask yourself, "Am I doing this be-cause I'm afraid of outshining someone?" Awareness itself is a powerful tool.
2. Reframe It. Instead of thinking, "My success might make others feel inadequate," try, "My will-ingness to shine might actually inspire others to embrace their own gifts."
3. Lean Into Your Purpose. When your focus shifts to serving, inspiring, and uplifting others, your brilliance becomes a gift to share—not something to diminish.

Remember this truth: Your success doesn't diminish anyone else's potential. There's abundant room for all of us to shine. When you show up fully as yourself, you silently give others permission to do the same.

Here's my invitation for this week: Find one opportunity to step into your greatness without apology. Say yes to that opportunity you've been hesitating about. Speak your truth in that meeting. Share your ac-complishments without minimizing them.

And if you're feeling particularly courageous, send me a note: Where have you been holding back, and what single step will you take to shine more brightly this week?

Cheering you on,  
Coach Lori

Lori A. Harris is an award-winning coach who helps her clients discover a life they love. You can learn more about her at loriharris.com (ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED MARCH, 2025)

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**SOUR GRAPES**

by Tim Jones

Panel 1: A boy sits on the ground, looking sad. A dog sits next to him. The boy says, "AESOP, DO YOU REALIZE THAT YOU'RE MISERABLE, LIKE ALL THE TIME." The dog replies, "SO?"

Panel 2: The boy says, "SOOO, DO YOU THINK THAT YOU COULD AT LEAST TRY TO BE A LITTLE HAPPY ONCE IN A WHILE? IT WON'T HURT." The dog replies, "NAH."

Panel 3: The boy says, "YOU'D RATHER BE MISERABLE?" The dog replies, "IT MAKES ME HAPPY."

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### Mountain Views News Mission Statement

The traditions of community newspapers and the concerns of our readers are this newspaper's top priorities. We support a prosperous community of well-informed citizens. We hold in high regard the values of the exceptional quality of life in our community, including the magnificence of our natural resources. Integrity will be our guide.

## STUART TOLCHIN PUT THE LIGHTS ON WHATEVER HAPPENED TO THAT OLD GANG OF MINE?



Last week my article in the paper was entitled "I WANT TO BE A PART OF A MOVEMENT WITHOUT MOVING VERY MUCH. The movement I described involved simply avoiding watching television. I extolled the virtues of this movement because it did not even require leaving the house or even getting out of bed and, furthermore, could be conducted for long periods of time. In response people questioned me as to how I could expect to do something by doing nothing. My younger sister not raised by grandmother, simply replied, asking if this was supposed to be an example of my humor. Well, it was, and it wasn't. I decided to take myself seriously and stopped watching television almost until yesterday when I inflicted the pain of watching the Presidential State of the Union message upon myself. So, did anything happen resulting from the TV avoidance?

Yes, amazing changes have occurred. Over the next couple of days and decided to try and do a little reading. These days I have trouble reading and focusing and concentrating but I tried anyway. First, I looked at the Brothers Karamazov, one of my favorites, but I couldn't stay with it. Next, I tried a little Shakespeare and just could not focus. Eventually I stumbled upon the Joys of Yiddish by Leo Rosten which I had not previously read. I managed to look at the preface and noticed his statement that a Yiddish man could not ever become a ruler. As you know I consider myself to be a Yiddish man although I have little acquaintance with the actual religion or its practices. My father was born in the Ukraine and my maternal grandmother spent most of her life in Lithuania and Yiddish always remained her most comfortable language.

For those of you who are not familiar with Yiddish, as opposed to Hebrew, they are completely separate languages exhibiting the features of very different cultures. First, Hebrew, is an ancient language pre-dating English and Yiddish. Today it is the language of the nation of Israel which was established in 1948 as a part of a nationalistic patriotic movement emphasizing strength and independence. The long in place Prime Minister of Israel is Benjamin Netanyahu, born in 1949 in Tel Aviv Israel who I assume never spoke Yiddish.

Yiddish is something very different. Rosten, in his preface, describes Yiddish as a language that "never takes its tongue out of its cheek. It is a language that adores irony; sarcasm and Rosten describes its utility as a substitute for weapons valuing knowledge to compensate for earthly rewards always recognizing the injustices of the world. It is emphasized that Yiddish is the only language on earth that has never been spoken by men in power.

Yiddish is the language of the Ashkenazi Jews of Eastern Europe, and its way of thinking has completely influenced my use of English. One rarely understands my meaning by taking me literally. A part of me is to celebrate seeming weaknesses as a sign of acceptance and strength. Other people, generally first- or second-generation Ashkenazi Jews recognize this tradition and value its seeming disconnections. An example of this kind of language usage occurred to me yesterday as my wife and I called and wished Happy Birthday to my old friend from Junior High School Days. I told him I had been thinking about what Jewish culture has meant to me and he agreed explaining that he maintains his heritage by thinking about "lox" although in the city where he lives there are no delis and even if there were he would not want to spend the money to purchase it.

I read last night that the very area where my father my father lived in the Ukraine was eradicated by the Chernobyl explosion on April 26, 1986, which I realize only now was my 42nd birthday. Nevertheless, Ukraina is held together today by its Jewish President, a comedian- I wonder if he speaks Yiddish?

Does anything I have written make much sense to you; it barely makes sense to me. I know that an authentic Yiddish person like me values their heritage which in addition to lox includes the recognition needs for equality, avoidance of war, honesty, and concern for human welfare. It ain't about status or getting rich. Maybe my continued writing and your continued reading indicate that underneath it all there is an understanding that life is something greater than winning, and that true value lies beneath. I wish our President spoke Yiddish.



## HOWARD Hays As I See It

"It's for your favorite president. Get your watches today at GetTrump-Watches.com. These make a great gift." - President Donald Trump in ad promoting his branded line of wristwatches. Really. Check out the website online if you don't believe me.

And speaking of online - I didn't want February to be over and gone without sharing some favorite posts from this past month:

In dealing with immigration, House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-LA) comments, "Imagine if we had to go through the process of getting a judicial warrant." Tennessee Holler then paraphrased; "Imagine if we had to follow the law."

With a map of the United States in red and blue, Shannon Hill posts, "I don't see a single blue state. Just blue cities trying to tell us all how to live." Climate Defiance responds, "More people live in Brooklyn than North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming combined. New York State has 2 senators, those states have 6."

"Dr. Oz suggests Americans should retire later to help pay down the national debt". Michael Linden posts, "I have a much better idea: Maybe rich people could pay back a fraction of the trillions in tax cuts they've been given over the past 20 years."

White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt says, "The president believes in the United States Constitution, however..." MaineWong responds, "I'm sorry..." "however?"

Posted question: "Why are all history teachers left-wing, what's the explanation?" Posted answer; "because they studied history."

Trump suggests, "It is time to turn the page on the Epstein scandal". New York Governor Kathy Hochul responds, "Won't matter. His name is on the next page too."

At a congressional hearing, asked why no Epstein clients had been indicted, Attorney General Pam Bondi responded, "The Dow is over 50 thousand right now, the Nasdaq is smashing records, that's what we should be talking about." Tommy Vietor posts, "The stock market is up so we don't have to prosecute pedophiles is one of the worst political messages I have ever heard."

Laura Loomer complains about the Bad Bunny halftime show, "Not a single white person or English translation at the Super Bowl. This isn't White enough for me." Meisha responds, "If the Halftime show wasn't 'White enough' for you, go read the Epstein files, it's all in English and full of white people."

Referring to the American figure skater holding a Pride flag, Jack Jokinen posts, "My 6 year old just asked why Amber Glenn has this flag sometimes. I explained she's queer and what that means, then we both just moved on. Much easier than Fox makes it seem."

Bambi posts, "Yes the UK has free health care but you might die before a doctor bothers to figure out what is actually wrong

with you". The response; "In the US you get to pay large sums of money for the same experience".

On the arrest of the former Prince Andrew, Julian Sanchez posts, "So SCOTUS, with its fabricated-out-of-thin-air immunity doctrine, has actually made American presidents less accountable than LITERAL royalty".

Yale Law School professor Scott Shapiro notes, "UK: Prince Andrew arrested, South Korea: Former President Yoon sentenced for life, Brazil: Former President Bolsonaro serving a 27-year sentence, USA: President Trump demands \$10 billion payout from taxpayers".

Trump spoke of visiting a factory in Georgia where the owner, according to the president, said, "Sir, I want to kiss you so badly" and I said "No thank you." Melanie D'Arrigo posts, "Oh, so now he understands consent?"

There are those "meme" posts - pic of a celebrity showing a blank expression with an added caption. One from Hassan Mafi, "Americans realizing they can go to prison for criticizing ICE but every pedophile in the Epstein files is still free". Another from Bark, "Realizing American citizens paid \$175 billion in illegal tariffs and it's being refunded to companies instead of back to us."

Trump threatened "consequences" should Netflix not fire its board member, former U.N. Ambassador and Obama advisor Susan Rice. Senator Adam Schiff (D-CA) posted in response; "A president does not dictate what speech is allowed. A president does not dictate who a company can hire or fire or have sit on their board. A president does not dictate when a merger pleases him and when it does not. Only a dictator does. And we will not allow one in the United States. Not now. Not ever."

Gotta add four more:  
From Rep. Ted Lieu (D-CA) to "Dear @DHSgov: Alysa Liu, gold medalist, daughter of refugee, and Heritage Asian American. Did I get this right?"

From Geoff Wilt: "Alysa Liu is amazing. She was like 'I'm not on a diet, I stay up late, skating isn't the most important thing for me my friends are' and then did the most beautiful skating routine I've ever seen. The hero we need right now."

From portraitsofthejerseystore: "Alysa Liu did more for America's image in one night than Trump has done in his 5 years total in office."

And finally, from alysonwonderland: "Between Bad Bunny's halftime show and Alysa Liu's joyful gold-medal skate... it's almost like we're getting a glimpse into a better timeline, and I just wanna grab it and hold on tight."

## RICH JOHNSON PROVERBS and REVERB



The word "proverb" is coincidentally from the Latin word "proverbium". The word essentially means a truth based on common sense or experience. A common attribute of a proverb is its brevity which means shortness.

The indisputable king of proverbs is King Solomon. You will find him and his work in book we call the Bible. It's one of the books in the Bible. Old Testament. About halfway through. The book is coincidentally and conveniently referred to as "The Book of Proverbs". Remember that for the test which might be at the end of this column.

Here are some memorable proverbs (not from the Biblical Book of Proverbs):

One from an early concert of mine: "I clapped because it's finished, not because I liked it."

A fool and his money are soon parted. The rest of us just have to wait longer.

Experience...is what you get when you didn't get what you wanted.

The only thing worse than being talked about is not being talked about.

Oscar Wilde

A successful man is one who makes more money than his wife can spend.

A successful woman is one who can find such a man. Lana Turner (Sexist humor from the 1940's)

If I had to live my life again, I'd make the same mistakes, only sooner.

Tallulah Bankhead

When my kids become wild and unruly, I use a nice, safe playpen. When they're finished, I climb out. Erma Bombeck

My only regret in life is that I am not someone else. Woody Allen

Life isn't about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself.

Light travels faster than sound. That is why some people appear bright until they speak.

In retirement, I look for days off from my days off.

There are two classes of travel - first class and with children. Robert Benchley

Cats are smarter than dogs. Try getting 8 cats to pull a sled through snow.

Always forgive your enemies; nothing annoys them so much. Oscar Wilde

Before borrowing money from a friend, decide which you need most.

Addison H. Hallcock

Any fool can criticize, condemn and complain...and most do. Dale Carnegie

It's so much easier to suggest solutions when you don't know too much about the problem. Malcolm Forbes

A bore is the kind of man who, when you ask him how he is, he tells you. Channing Pollock.

Two things are infinite: the universe and human stupidity; and I'm not sure about the universe. Albert Einstein

And two of my favorites:

People who think they know everything are a great annoyance to those of us who do. Isaac Asimov

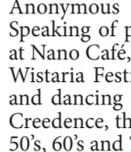
"Some cause happiness wherever they go; others whenever they go."

Anonymous

Speaking of proverb...errr reverb...my band, JJ Jukebox is performing at Nano Café, Saturday night, March 28<sup>th</sup>. It is the perfect way to end the Wistaria Festival. The concert begins at 6:30. Come for dinner, drinks and dancing to the music of The Moody Blues, The Doobie Brothers, Creedence, the Beatles, and a bunch of one or two hit wonders from the 50's, 60's and 70's.

Call in your reservations after 5:00pm Wednesdays through Saturdays. (626) 325-3334. Nano Café is in Sierra Madre at 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. (Corner of Sierra Madre Blvd and Lima.

Have a splendiferous week.



## DICK POLMAN

### TRUMP'S TARIFFS RIPPED YOU OFF. DON'T EXPECT YOUR MONEY BACK.

It's nice the U.S. Supreme Court decided the other day to take Donald Trump to the woodshed and school him on the Constitution.

Two cheers to the high court for finally (albeit belatedly) doing something reining in Trump a tad. John Roberts' majority opinion - employing strict constructionism, a traditional conservative tenet - pointed out Trump's wanton global tariffs were illegal because (1) the 1977 "emergency" law he has used as a fig leaf never once mentions the word tariff, and (2) a tariff is a tax, and Congress alone has the power to tax - as stipulated in Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.

Indeed, the Founding Fathers "gave Congress alone 'access to the pockets of the people.'"

Trump appointee Neil Gorsuch, in a concurring opinion, even tried to hose down the intemperate toddler: "Yes, it can be tempting to bypass Congress when some pressing problem arises. But the deliberative nature of the legislative process was the whole point of its design. Through that process, the Nation can tap the combined wisdom of the people's elected representatives, not just that of one faction or man, and hopefully some day anyone "disappointed by today's result will appreciate the legislative process for the bulwark of liberty it is."

Nice argument - with a big hitch. The MAGA Congress has long been loath to indulge its "deliberative nature" as a co-equal branch of government. Until recently, it uttered barely a peep as Trump careened around the world slapping hefty tariffs on foreign goods, punishing whatever countries displeased him for whatever whimsical reason. Those tariffs were passed on to American consumers in the form of higher prices - as de facto taxes.

And, big surprise, we won't be getting that tax money back.

The 2024 candidate who promised to defeat inflation has instead exacerbated it. The candidate who told voters this planned tariffs were "not going to be a cost to you" was either cognitively clueless or intentionally lying. According to a new report by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, 90 percent of the 2025 tariffs' "economic burden" fell on U.S. firms and us consumers. Especially those of us who buy things like home furnishings, furniture, bedding, coffee, toys, and flatware. Some prominent Democrats, on our behalf, are publicly demanding Trump

send us refunds. That's a worthy message, assuming Democrats can sustain it, because it would remind midterm voters about Trump's perfidy. But vocal Democrats like J. B. Pritzker and Elizabeth Warren know darn well we'll be aced out. Hundreds of importers may get refunds - many of them, including Costco, Toyota, J. Crew and Crocs, started suing for refunds before the high court even ruled - but there's broad agreement among economic experts that little or none of that money, reportedly totaling \$175 billion, will trickle down to us little people.

Has Trump said a word about consumer refunds? As if. In his mind (or what remains of it) that would make him look weak and be tantamount to admitting failure. His brand is to never give an inch, even though 64 percent of Americans dislike his handling of tariffs.

His only play is to double down. He's trying to circumvent the high court by imposing 15 percent tariffs via a different provision - namely, a section of a 1974 law that requires tariffs to expire in 150 days. He can let them lapse, then restart the clock - unless the courts tell him to knock it off. That would happen only after new lawsuits slog through the judicial system.

Meanwhile, totally in character, he smeared the high court majority, including his appointees, as "fools and lapdogs," as "very unpatriotic," as tools of foreign interests. Never before has a president spewed such vile demagoguery, denouncing the judges as traitors. But in this benighted era, it was just another Friday.

The end result, as in so many MAGA realms, is chaos. Natasha Sarin, president of the Budget Lab at Yale, wonders, "How should people budget for their families in the face of this much (economic) uncertainty?"

Trump's ongoing tariff con has left the business world in the lurch. Nobody knows how to plan for the future. Nobody knows whether they should absorb costs, cut or expand inventory, brace for more Trump levies, or fear retaliatory tariffs from (former) allies.

Ron Kurnik, who owns a Michigan coffee company, tells Fortune magazine, "It's like a nightmare we just want to wake up from." Join the club, pal.

I'm reminded of something Tony Soprano once said: "I'm like King Midas in reverse. Everything I touch turns to s-."

How nice it would be if Trump had even a smidgen of Tony's self awareness.





**City of Sierra Madre**

**ORDINANCE NO. 1489**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING CHAPTER 10.52 (PARKING PROHIBITIONS ON YELLOW AND RED FLAG ALERT DAYS) OF TITLE 10 (VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC) OF THE SIERRA MADRE MUNICIPAL CODE

**RECITALS**

WHEREAS, under Vehicle Code section 22507, the City is authorized to adopt an ordinance prohibiting or restricting parking vehicles on City streets;

WHEREAS, Chapter 10.52 of the Sierra Madre Municipal Code was adopted to protect health, safety, and the general welfare by regulating on-street parking on designated City streets during Red Flag Alert Days; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to update Chapter 10.52 to remove the reference to Yellow Flag Alert Days and update the list of designated City streets.

THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE, CALIFORNIA, DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Recitals. The Recitals above are true and correct and incorporated herein by this reference. SECTION 2. Amendment. Chapter 10.52 (Parking Prohibitions on Yellow and Red Flag Alert Days) of the Sierra Madre Municipal Code is repealed in its entirety and replaced with the following:

**Chapter 10.52 – PARKING PROHIBITIONS ON RED FLAG ALERT DAYS**

10.52.010 Purpose of this chapter. The purpose of this chapter is to protect the health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens of Sierra Madre by regulating on-street parking on designated city streets during days with weather conditions that pose a risk of debris, mudflows, or fire hazards.

10.52.020 Definitions.

A. On-street parking.

The stopping, standing, or parking of any vehicle on designated city streets as specified in Section 10.52.030.

B. Red Flag Alert Day.

A condition declared by the Fire Department when weather conditions pose a heightened risk to life or property due to fire danger, debris flow, or mudflow potential. Such conditions may include, but are not limited to:

1. Extreme burning conditions are expected or ongoing; or
2. Moderate debris and mudflows may occur in multiple areas of the City; or
3. There is potential for significant debris and mudflows in specific high-risk areas.

A Los Angeles County Public Works Phase II or Phase III forecast may prompt debris and/or mudflow alerts. Authorization to declare a Red Flag Alert Day is by the Fire Chief or designee.

10.52.030 Parking Prohibitions.

A. General Prohibitions.

Whenever the Fire Department determines that on-street parking on designated city streets would pose a hazard to life or property by interfering with emergency vehicle access or resident evacuation during a Red Flag Alert Day, on-street parking is prohibited.

Signs shall be installed and maintained to give notice of these prohibitions. Such signs shall include a warning that vehicles parked in violation may be removed at the owner's expense.

B. Designated Streets.

The following streets, or portions thereof, are subject to the parking prohibitions of this chapter:

Lower Canyon\*

- Alta Vista Drive
- Audubon Way
- Brookside Lane
- Holly Trail
- Oakdale Drive
- Sierra Court
- Sturtevant Drive
- Sunnyside Lane
- Vista Circle Drive
- Woodland Drive
- Yucca Trail

Upper Canyon\*

- Canyon Crest Drive
- Casey Road
- Churchill Glen Street
- Churchill Road
- Fern Drive
- Fern Glen
- Idlehour Lane
- Madre Lane
- Old Ranch Road
- Orange Drive
- Skyland Drive

Upper and Lower Canyon\*

- Forest Lane
  - Pleasant Hill Lane
- Non-Canyon Specific\*
- Elm Avenue
  - Mount Wilson Trail

\*The canyon area headings are provided for organizational purposes and do not limit the applicability of this section to the full length of any listed street.

10.52.040 Violations/penalties.

A. Removal of Vehicles.

Vehicles parked in violation of this chapter may be removed by the City. The owner is liable for the expense of removal, which constitutes a collectible debt to the City.

B. Misdemeanor Violation.

Violating this chapter is a misdemeanor punishable as set forth in Chapter 1.12 of the Sierra Madre Municipal Code.

SECTION 3. CEQA. This Ordinance does not meet the definition of a "Project" for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act because, under 15 CCR 15378(a), a project does not include an action that does not have a direct or indirect physical change of the environment.

SECTION 4. Severability. If any sections, subsections, subdivisions, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance or any part hereof or exhibit hereto is for any reason held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance or any part thereof or exhibit thereto. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed each section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase hereof, irrespective of the fact that anyone or more sections, subsections, subdivisions, paragraph, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared invalid.

SECTION 5. Certification. Pursuant to Government Code Section 36932, the City Clerk shall certify the passage, approval, and adoption of this Ordinance by the City Council.

SECTION 6. Publication. Pursuant to Government Code Section 36933, the City Clerk shall cause this Ordinance to be published or posted.

SECTION 7. Records. Pursuant to Government Code Section 40801, proof of certification and publication shall be entered in the book of Ordinances of the City Council.

SECTION 8. Effective Date. Pursuant to Government Code Section 36937, this Ordinance shall take effect thirty days after its adoption.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 10th day of February 2026.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Ordinance was introduced by first reading on the 27th day of January, 2026, and duly adopted at a regular meeting held on the 10th day of February, 2026, by the City Council of the City of Sierra Madre, California, by the following vote:

AYES: Mayor Kristine Lowe, Mayor Pro Tem Gene Goss, Council Members Edward Garcia, Kelly Kriebs, and Robert Parkhurst

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

Laura Aguilar  
City Clerk, City of Sierra Madre, California

90807. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: JOHN ADAMS/OWNER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/30/2026. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 01/2026. NOTICE- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News/JDC Dates Pub: FEB 07, 14, 21, 28, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026-020050 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: MI TIEN/DITA R.P. 147 W WASHINGTON BLVD, LOS ANGELES, CA 90015. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) ROSA E PALMA. 147 W WASHINGTON BLVD, LOS ANGELES, CA 90015. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ROSA E PALMA/OWNER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/27/2026. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et

seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News/JDC Dates Pub: FEB 07, 14, 21, 28, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026-020894 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: PLANTS BY YVONNE, 3257 CALIFORNIA ST, HUNTINGTON PARK, CA 90255. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) YVONNE NEVAREZ. 3257 CALIFORNIA ST, HUNTINGTON PARK, CA 90255. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: YVONNE NEVAREZ/OWNER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/28/2026. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News/JDC Dates Pub: FEB 07, 14, 21, 28, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026-023369 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: QUEEN B'S CLEANING SERVICES, 439 S ST ANDREWS PL APT 20, LOS ANGELES, CA 90020. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) BERNARDA LOPEZ, 439 S ST ANDREWS PL APT 20, LOS ANGELES, CA 90020. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: BERNARDA LOPEZ/OWNER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/30/2026. The

registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News/JDC Dates Pub: FEB 07, 14, 21, 28, 2026

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2026-018413 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SPOT FREE WASH, ENERGY BUY SMART, 7025 GRANGER AVE, BELL GARDENS, CA 90201. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) ALBERTO AUSENCIO CRUZ, 7025 GRANGER AVE, BELL GARDENS, CA 90201. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ALBERTO AUSENCIO CRUZ/OWNER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 01/26/2026. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE- This Fictitious Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News/JDC Dates Pub: FEB 07, 14, 21, 28, 2026

**City of Sierra Madre**

**ORDINANCE NO. 1490**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING SECTION 3.08.040 (PURCHASING AND CONTRACTING FOR GOODS AND SERVICES (NON-PUBLIC PROJECTS)) OF CHAPTER 3.08 (PURCHASING PROCEDURES) OF TITLE 3 (REVENUE AND FINANCE) OF THE SIERRA MADRE MUNICIPAL CODE

**RECITALS**

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to update the dollar thresholds in the purchasing procedures of non-public projects to account for economic inflation.

THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE, CALIFORNIA, DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Recitals. The Recitals above are true and correct and incorporated herein by this reference.

SECTION 2. Amendment. Section 3.08.040 (Purchasing and contracting for goods and services (non-public projects)) of Chapter 3.08 (Purchasing Procedures) of Title 3 (Revenue and Finance) of the Sierra Madre Municipal Code is amended to read as follows, with additions denoted by underlined text and deletions denoted by struck-through text:

A. Up to Two Ten Thousand Dollars. Any purchase up to and including two ten thousand dollars may be awarded by the director of the department responsible for the project by force account, by negotiated contract, or by direct purchase.

B. Two Ten to Five Twenty-five Thousand Dollars. Any purchase from two of more than ten thousand dollars or less than or equal to five twenty-five thousand dollars may be awarded by the director of the department responsible for the purchase by any direct competitive pricing procedure set forth in Section 3.08.050 city manager by force account, by negotiated contract, or by direct purchase.

C. Five Twenty-five Thousand Dollars to Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars. Any purchase of more than five twenty-five thousand dollars or less than or equal to seventy-five thousand dollars may, except as otherwise provided in this chapter or the Act, be awarded by the city manager pursuant to the any direct competitive pricing procedure set forth in Section 3.08.050.

D. Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars to Two Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars. Any purchase of more than seventy-five thousand dollars or less than or equal to two hundred twenty thousand dollars may, except as otherwise provided in this chapter or the Act, be awarded by the city council pursuant to the direct competitive pricing procedure in Section 3.08.050.

E. Greater than Two Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars. Any purchase over two hundred twenty thousand dollars shall, except as otherwise provided in this chapter, be awarded by the city council pursuant to the Sierra Madre formal competitive pricing procedure in Section 3.08.051.

SECTION 3. Updating Thresholds. The City Manager may propose revised thresholds every three years based on the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers for the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim area with thresholds rounded to the nearest thousandth.

SECTION 4. CEQA. The City Council finds the adoption of this Ordinance is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Section 15301, Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations and is also exempt from review because it does not meet the definition of a project under CEQA Guidelines sections 15061, subdivision (b)(3), and section 15378, subdivision (a) and subdivision (b)(5).

SECTION 5. Severability. If any sections, subsections, subdivisions, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance or any part hereof or exhibit hereto is for any reason held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance or any part thereof or exhibit thereto. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed each section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase hereof, irrespective of the fact that anyone or more sections, subsections, subdivisions, paragraph, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared invalid.

SECTION 6. Certification. Pursuant to Government Code Section 36932, the City Clerk shall certify the passage, approval, and adoption of this Ordinance by the City Council.

SECTION 7. Publication. Pursuant to Government Code Section 36933, the City Clerk shall cause this Ordinance to be published or posted.

SECTION 8. Records. Pursuant to Government Code Section 40801, proof of certification and publication shall be entered in the book of Ordinances of the City Council.

SECTION 9. Effective Date. Pursuant to Government Code Section 36937, this Ordinance shall take effect thirty days after its adoption.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 24th day of February, 2026.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Ordinance was introduced by first reading on the 10th day of February 2026, and duly adopted at a regular meeting held on the 24th day of February 2026, by the City Council of the City of Sierra Madre, California, by the following vote:

AYES: Mayor Kristine Lowe, Mayor Pro Tem Gene Goss, Council Members Edward Garcia, Kelly Kriebs, and Robert Parkhurst

NOES: None.  
ABSENT: None.  
ABSTAINED: None.

Laura Aguilar, City Clerk

**Notice to Creditors of [Probate Code § 9050-9054] Case Number 26STPB01446**

Superior Court of the State of California  
For the County of Los Angeles  
In Re: Estate of Barbara Zink  
"Survivor's Trust of the Zink Trust Dated October 1, 1986"

Notice is hereby given to the creditors and contingent creditors of the above-named Decedent, that all persons having claims against the Decedent are required to file them with the Superior Court, at 111 North Hill Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012, and mail or deliver a copy to Michael S. Morris, as Attorney of the Survivor's Trust of the Zink Trust Dated October 1, 1986, wherein the Decedent was a Settlor, in care of Hart. Mieras & Morris. Inc. at 255 E. Santa Clara Street, Suite 300. Arcadia CA 91006, within the later of four (4) months after 2/14/2026 (date of the first publication of Notice to Creditors) or, if notice is mailed or personally delivered to you, 60 days after the date this Notice is mailed or personally delivered to you, or you must petition to file a late claim as provided in Section 19103 of the Probate Code. A claim form may be obtained from the court clerk. For your protection, you are encouraged to file your claim by certified mail, with return receipt requested.  
Date: 1/13/26

s/ Michael S. Morris, Esq.  
Hart, Mieras & Morris, Inc.  
255 E. Santa Clara St., Suite 300  
Arcadia CA 91006  
2/14, 2/21, 2/28/26  
CNS-4013025#

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF MARY PRICE**

Case No. 25STPB02538

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of MARY PRICE

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by WILLIAM ROPER in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that WILLIAM ROPER be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on MARCH 6, 2026 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 67 located at 111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.

Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an in-ventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or ac-count as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

For petitioner:  
WILLIAM ROPER  
P O BOX 1201  
BELLFLOWER, CA. 90707  
MARCH 6, 13, 20, 2026

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