



# MOUNTAIN VIEWS NEWS TO HONOR 2026 GRADUATES

The May 30th edition of this paper will be dedicated to the Class of 2026! In order to be included, please send your graduates picture, full name, age, school and a line or 2 about them. The Class of 2026 - tomorrow's leaders - deserve to be honored! Send to: editor@mtnews.com Subject: Class of 2026

# Mountain Views News

Sierra Madre Arcadia Duarte Monrovia Pasadena Altadena South Pasadena San Marino

SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2026

VOLUME 20 NO. 20

## St. Rita School



## MAYOR LOWE CALLS FOR PUSD BOARD RESIGNATIONS OVER ALLEGED BROWN ACT VIOLATIONS

At the final meeting the Pasadena Unified School District's (PUSD) School Consolidation Advisory Committee for District Transformation and potential school consolidation for the 27-28 school year, (aka Consolidation 2027), parents and community members expressed their dismay at what appears to be blatant disregard of the Brown Act in determining which schools should be closed.

Sierra Madre Mayor and career educator, Chris Lowe, was one of many speakers who chastised the board for failing the public they were elected to serve. In her comments to the committee, Lowe stated that there was evidence that PUSD Board President Tina Fredericks communicated, "with a majority of members to convey her opinions and plan to others. There is also evidence of a 'chain communication' where Fredericks discussed plans with Scott Harden who then text messaged Kim Kenne about the 'diabolical scheme'. Had these emails and text messages not been released about this private coordination among a majority of board members, we, the public would have thought that your 4-3 vote on December 11, 2025, vote was based on the presentation and agenda report." "This is not simply poor judgment-it was an abuse of public trust" and a "direct assault on transparent governance". "Tina Fredericks should resign or the community should seriously pursue recall." (continued on page 3)

## Sierra Madre's Catholic School



- Catholic Fidelity
- 103 Years of Tradition
- Grades TK-8<sup>th</sup>
- CYO Team Sports
- Advanced Technology
- After-School Programs
- Low Classroom Ratio
- Average Teacher Experience: 14 years



## 2026 MOUNT WILSON TRAIL RACE & KIDS' FUN RUN FESTIVITIES RETURN NEXT WEEKEND - FUN FOR ALL

Returning to Memorial Day weekend this year, the Mount Wilson Trail Race (MWTR) and Kids' Fun Run will be held on Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026, with all events taking place in Kersting Court. The entire community is invited to come to cheer on the runners, visit the Kersting Court Booth Expo, and celebrate being together after a two year hiatus due to the Eaton Fire. Besides the races, there is something for everyone, adults, children, and the whole family. Come one come all and join in the fun!

The MWTR is an iconic community event that represents the best of Sierra Madre and for which we can all be proud. The MWTR course length is 8.6 miles, starting up from Baldwin Ave., right on Mira Monte Ave., up the Mount Wilson Trail to Orchard Camp and back. The total elevation gain is over 2,160 feet. First run in 1908, the annual Mount Wilson Trail Race is among the oldest trail races in California.

MWTR Packet Pickup for those who have already registered is available as listed below. This includes runners picking up their race bib, T-shirt, & goodie bag. Kids' Fun Run T-Shirt pickup for registered children is on MWTR race day, 5/23/26, in Kersting Court:

Thursday, May 21 <sup>st</sup>	Run With Us - Pasadena - 3:00 pm - 7:00 pm	235 N. Lake Ave. - Pasadena - South of 210 Freeway
Friday, May 22 <sup>nd</sup>	RT Rogers Brewing Company - 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm	38 E. Montecito Ave., Sierra Madre
Saturday, May 23 <sup>rd</sup> Mount Wilson Trail Race Day	Kersting Court - 6:00 am - 7:30 am	Corner of Baldwin Ave. & Sierra Madre Blvd.

MWTR race day events begin with packet pickup on Saturday, 5/23/26, at 6:00 a.m., with the MWTR starting at 7:30 a.m. and the Kids' Fun Run starting at 7:45 a.m. In addition, the day's events include the Kersting Court Booth Expo, featuring popular community groups, organizations, and services, as well as specially designed Mount Wilson Trail Race merchandise/swag, local artwork, delicious 355 Burger breakfast burritos, Starbucks, free massage, free Photo Booth, pet adoption opportunities by Pasadena Humane, giveaways, the popular RT Rogers Beer Garden, and much more.

Before the MWTR this year, Maggie Moran of Chantry Flat's Adams Pack Station will sing the National Anthem. Sierra Madre's VFW Post 3208 will post the colors. The MWTR Starter is Coach Simon Cooper, who has been leading the MWTR Training Program for many years and also serves on the MWTR Committee. Serving as the Kids' Fun Run Starter this year is Phoebe Del Rosario, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade student at Sierra Madre Elementary School, who also designed this year's Kids' Fun Run T-shirt.

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## SIERRA MADRE MAYOR FOR THE DAY

On Tuesday, the Sierra Madre Police Department had the honor of welcoming Cora to Sierra Madre Police Department as our "Mayor for the Day!" shown here with SMPD Chief Gus Barrientos and Officer Fisher and Mayor Chris Lowe.

Later in the day, Cora had the honor of opening the City Council Meeting a task that she welcome as "I want to be a leader".

From learning about city operations to getting a behind-the-scenes look at public safety, it was an unforgettable day celebrating leadership, community, and the bright future ahead. Congratulations on this well-deserved honor!

Photo courtesy City of Sierra Madre

### 2026 CALIFORNIA PRIMARY CALENDAR

- The last day to register to vote for the June 2, 2026, Primary Election is May 18, 2026.
- All California active registered voters will receive a ballot for the June 2, 2026, Primary Election.
- County elections officials began mailing ballots on May 4, 2026.
- Secure ballot drop-off locations opened on May 5, 2026.
- Ballots can be dropped off at a drop-off location, county elections office, or returned by mail.
- The first vote centers open for early in-person voting in all Voter's Choice Act counties on May 23, 2026.
- In person early voting locations throughout California will be open on Saturday, May 30, 2026.
- June 2 is the last day to vote in-person or return a ballot by 8:00 p.m. Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Vote-by-mail ballots must be postmarked no later than June 2. If mailing on Elections Day, get a hand-stamped postmark from a postal employee inside a United States Post Office.



## Little Seeds to Mighty Saints.

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## SIERRA MADRE PROPOSES MAJOR OVERHAUL OF AGING CITY FLEET

By Kevin McGuire

The City of Sierra Madre is preparing to modernize its aging municipal vehicle fleet through a five-year partnership with Enterprise Fleet Management (EFM) marking a significant shift from decades of reactive vehicle replacement practices to a structured, long-term fleet management strategy.

City officials say the proposal is driven by mounting maintenance costs, operational inefficiencies, and growing safety concerns tied to an aging fleet that now averages more than 12 years old.

Leandro (Leo) Reyes, an Account Executive for EFM, gave a presentation at the regular April 28<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting highlighting the benefits of a partnership. He was joined by Executive Dylan Goldsack.

According to Reyes, Enterprise Fleet Management has partnered with many cities across California, including Pasadena, South Pasadena, San Fernando, and Oxnard. Most cities opt for an open-ended leasing model, which, according to Reyes, enables a sustainable, proactive approach to fleet management that lets you plan ahead.

### Fleet Shows Signs of Significant Deferred Replacement

“Today, the city has 37 vehicles that it owns and operates. Something to point out is that 20 of the said 37 [vehicles] are over 10 years old,” Reyes noted. The combined estimated book value of those 37 vehicles is \$422,225. According to the City’s analysis:

- The fleet’s average age is 12.1 years
- Vehicles average 50,031 miles
- The City holds vehicles for an average of 30.8 years
- The City acquires only 1.2 vehicles per year

Officials said the current replacement process has historically occurred “vehicle-by-vehicle,” with purchases made only after units have exceeded their useful life.

Fleet Age Threshold	Number of Vehicles	Percentage of Fleet
Vehicles older than 2012	15	40%
Vehicles older than 2016	17	46%
Vehicles older than 2018	23	62%

What that creates is a necessary risk in the form of not having the standardized safety features for the drivers. “You’re currently averaging 1.2 acquisitions over the last five years, which, if you continue at that pace, would take the city almost 30 years to replace every vehicle,” Reyes stated.

### Safety Concerns Drive Urgency

City staff warned that many municipal vehicles lack modern crash-avoidance technology now standard in newer models.

Features absent from much of the fleet include:

- Forward Collision Warning with Autobrake
- Blind Spot Detection
- Rear Automatic Braking
- Lane Departure Warning
- Electronic Stability Control

According to data cited from the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety and Highway Loss Data Institute:

- Forward collision systems can reduce front-to-rear crashes by up to 50%
- Injury crashes can decline by 56%
- Rear automatic braking can reduce backing crashes by up to 78%

Officials said the lack of these technologies increases liability risks for both City employees and the public.

### Proposed Fleet Management Program

Under the proposed agreement, Enterprise Fleet Management would acquire vehicles on behalf of the City through a “Master Equity Lease” structure.

### How the Program Would Work

- Enterprise purchases vehicles and leases them back to the City
- Vehicles would be replaced on an approximate five-year cycle
- The City would pay primarily for depreciation rather than the full vehicle cost
- Resale equity from old vehicles would return to the City or offset replacement costs
- Preventive maintenance would shift to Enterprise-authorized service providers

City staff said the approach is intended to stabilize long-term costs while reducing unexpected repair expenses associated with older vehicles.

### Five-Year Replacement Schedule

The proposal would replace 29 vehicles over five years. “What we’re looking to achieve here is a five-year, new useful life cycle, compared to the 30-year life cycle being used today and implemented by the city. At a very high level, what you’re looking at is Year One replacing 13 vehicles, beginning with everything that’s 10 years and older,” Reyes said.

### Planned Vehicle Replacements

The proposed implementation will occur in five phases:

Phase	Vehicles	Timing
Phase 1	13	Year 1 (upon City Council approval, FY 2027)
Phase 2	8	Year 2 (subject to separate budget authorization, FY 2028)
Phase 3	1	Year 3 (subject to separate budget authorization, FY 2029)
Phase 4	2	Year 4 (subject to separate budget authorization, FY 2030)
Phase 5	5	Year 5 (subject to separate budget authorization, FY 2031)



• Phase 1 vehicles were selected based on age, mileage, maintenance history, and operational criticality. The full 29-vehicle replacement program will standardize the fleet on an approximate five-year replacement cycle, eliminating the current pattern of extended vehicle holding periods averaging more than 30 years.

• Phase 2 vehicles will be incorporated into the FY 2027-28 budget process and returned to the City Council for authorization prior to ordering.  
 • Phase 3 vehicles will be incorporated into the FY 2028-29 budget process and returned to the City Council for authorization prior to ordering.  
 • Phase 4 vehicles will be incorporated into the FY 2029-30 budget process and returned to the City Council for authorization prior to ordering.

• Phase 5 vehicles will be incorporated into the FY 2030-31 budget process and returned to the City Council for authorization prior to ordering. Sustainability and Electric Vehicles: The program advances the City’s sustainability objectives.

### Sustainability Goals Included

The modernization effort also includes a transition toward cleaner vehicles.

Of the 29 vehicles proposed for replacement:

- Seven are expected to be electric or hybrid models

City officials said the move supports climate action goals while improving fuel efficiency and lowering long-term operating costs. However, the City acknowledged that funding for charging infrastructure has not yet been secured.

### Potential grant sources under consideration include:

- South Coast AQMD AB 2766 Discretionary Fund
- California Air Resources Board HVIP Program
- Other state and federal clean transportation grants

A separate capital improvement request for EV charging stations is expected during the FY 2026-27 budget cycle.

### Fleet Mechanic Position to Shift to Sewer Operations

As preventive maintenance for light-duty vehicles transitions to Enterprise-authorized vendors, Sierra Madre plans to reallocate its Fleet Mechanic position from the Fleet Internal Service Fund to the Sewer Fund.

City officials said the change reflects growing operational demands in sewer maintenance while reducing the in-house workload for routine fleet servicing.

Under the proposal:

- Approximately 70% of the mechanic’s salary and benefits, or about \$66,000 annually, would shift to the Sewer Fund
- The remaining 30% would stay within the Fleet program
- The employee’s classification, compensation, and employment status would remain unchanged

The Fleet Mechanic would continue maintaining heavy equipment and specialized vehicles.

### Police Vehicles May Follow Separate Rules

The Sierra Madre Police Department has also received federal grant funding through Congresswoman Judy Chu and the Department of Justice for future police vehicle acquisitions.

Some grant-funded police vehicles may be required to remain in service longer than the City’s proposed five-year replacement cycle.

Officials said those units may either remain outside the Enterprise program or operate under separate lease conditions depending on grant requirements.

### Financial Impact

The proposed lease agreement would be funded through the City’s Fleet Internal Services Fund.

### Cost Comparison

Program	Estimated Cost
Five-year Enterprise lease program	\$1,811,733
First-year FY 2026/27 cost	\$258,542
Estimated FY 2026/27 traditional replacement and maintenance cost	Approximately \$1.2 million

City officials acknowledged the lease structure may ultimately cost more than direct vehicle purchases, but argued it offers several advantages:

- Lower upfront capital expenses
- Predictable annual budgeting
- Reduced maintenance volatility
- More consistent replacement cycles
- Improved safety and reliability

City Council unanimously approved entering into a lease agreement with Enterprise Fleet Services and authorized the city manager to execute the agreement.

## PUSD

(continued from page 1)

“...Resolution 2852 should be reversed until a fully transparent, lawful and community-driven process can occur in the light of day.”

Lowe’s sentiments were also echoed by others in the audience.

The Ralph M. Brown Act, which was passed in 1953 to “ensure that public agencies’ deliberations and actions are open to the public applies to City councils, County boards of supervisors, School boards and other boards, commissions, or agencies with decision-making authority.

A draft Equity Impact Analysis (EIA) Report is scheduled to be presented at the Board’s regular meeting on May 28. A Board vote on school consolidations is currently scheduled for June 28.

If approved, the school consolidations/mergers would occur at the start of the 2027-28 school year.

# COMMUNITY POLICE ACADEMY



Join the Sierra Madre Police Department’s Community Police Academy, held every Wednesday from June 17 through August 19, from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM. This engaging, behind-the-scenes program is designed to strengthen the connection between our department and the community we proudly serve, offering participants the opportunity to learn about our Neighborhood Watch program, the process of becoming a police officer, patrol operations, a guided station tour, basic first aid, traffic safety and E-bike awareness, use of force and less-lethal options, investigations, firearms, DUI enforcement, and vehicle pursuits. Space is limited and only a select number of applicants will be accepted, so we strongly encourage early applications to secure your spot. Whether you’re interested in a future career in law enforcement or simply want to become more informed and involved in your community, this academy provides valuable insight and hands-on learning—are you ready to step behind the badge and see what it takes to serve and protect?



To register come into the SMPD lobby to receive an application or contact Officer Shawn Porter at [Sporter@sierramadrecapd.gov](mailto:Sporter@sierramadrecapd.gov)

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# SIERRA MADRE

SIERRA MADRE

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Saturday, May 16, 2026

## Weather Wise

6-Day Forecast Sierra Madre, Ca.

Sun	Ptly Cldy	Hi	80s	Lows	50s
Mon	Ptly Cldy	Hi	80s	Lows	50s
Tues	Ptly Cldy	Hi	80s	Lows	50s
Wed	Ptly Cldy	Hi	80s	Lows	50s
Thur	Ptly Cldy	Hi	80s	Lows	50s
Fri	Ptly Cldy	Hi	80s	Lows	50s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service



## WALKING SIERRA MADRE:

*The Social Side* by Deanne Davis



The best blessing for May just crossed my path. Yes, I realize the month is half over, but it's never too late for a life-changing blessing!

- May you be happy.
- May you be well.
- May you be safe.
- May you find comfort.
- May you have strength.
- May you find courage.
- May you have healing.
- May you have peace.
- May you have joy.
- May you be filled with loving kindness.
- May you be blessed today and always!

Mother's Day was lovely, wasn't it? Various parts of my enormous family gathered together here there and everywhere and sent me pictures. So glad to see these precious faces and I can pull those pictures out and look at them again and again. I hope your Mother's Day was just as nice.

## SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MAY 12, 2026 5:30 pm

The Brown Act provides the public with an opportunity to make public comments at any public meeting. As an alternative, public comment may be submitted by e-mail to [publiccomment@sierramadrecal.gov](mailto:publiccomment@sierramadrecal.gov) by 3:00PM on the day of the meeting. Emails will be acknowledged at the City Council meeting and filed into public record.

A copy of the posted agenda and a live video stream of the meeting can be found on the City's website at [sierramadrecal.gov](http://sierramadrecal.gov) on Foothills Media website at [foothillsmedia.org](http://foothillsmedia.org) sierramadre, and broadcast on Government Access Channel 3 (Spectrum).

May is full of birthdays for the aforementioned enormous family: My son, John, who was actually born on Mother's Day a few years ago, celebrated his birthday on the 12<sup>th</sup>. Grandson, David, who lives in Germany, celebrated his birthday on the 15<sup>th</sup>. Nephew, Vinny, will be 32 on the 17<sup>th</sup>, great-grandson, Brannan, will be 3 on the 21<sup>st</sup> and grandson, Caleb, will be 13 on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Notice I don't mention everybody's age. Or I could say that, like me, they'll all be 29 again. Two anniversaries, too, and my dear friend Celia Kalm will also be 29 again on the 30<sup>th</sup>. June isn't quite as full, mercifully! Incidentally, Amazon has the niftiest greeting cards and they'll send them to you overnight. The picture is my Mother's Day flowers from daughter, Leah!

World Ego Awareness Day was last Monday, the 11<sup>th</sup>. Now when I say "Ego" you probably think, "Oh oh..." but actually, not all ego is bad. Everyone should have enough confidence/ego to stand on their own. It's what defines you and is your spark, your creativity and your individuality. Drive, passion and excitement are all good. Where people get into trouble with ego is when it's misused. "Swallow your pride occasionally, it's non-fattening!" "Make your ego porous. Will is of little importance, complaining is nothing, fame is nothing. Openness, patience receptivity, solitude is everything."

Talking about ego made me think of Mother Teresa, who left this world for heaven in September of 1997. Here is a person whose entire life was dedicated to others, which meant no ego trips.

Just a couple of quotes from her: "Do not think that love in order to be genuine has to be extraordinary. What we need is to love without getting tired. Be faithful in small things."

"Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love." Looking at the list of celebratory events for May, I have wonderful news! Today, May 16<sup>th</sup>, is National Classic Movie Day, National Learn to Swim Day, Do Something Good for your Neighbor Day, National Love a Tree Day, and here's my favorite...National Mimosa Day!

May is also Kentucky Derby month and I was delighted to see that Golden Tempo, ridden by Jose Ortiz won the Derby on May 2. The exciting thing about that is that Golden Tempo was trained by Cherie DeVaux, the first female trainer to win the Kentucky Derby! That's really cool.

Our friends, Ann McKenzie and Hanna J. Bauer, who can be found on Instagram: @annandhannashow are busy showcasing all things local. They had a great Derby Day party and have been to our beautiful new Rose Angel Tea House and if you want to know what's going on, check out this dynamic duo on Instagram. AND, the Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce awarded them the Spirit of Sierra Madre award. Take a look!!

And to end this week's Walking Sierra Madre, Guinevere's song about May from "Camelot."

"Tra la! It's May!  
The lusty month of May!  
That lovely month when everyone goes  
Blissfully astray.  
Tra la! It's here!  
That shocking time of year  
When tons of wicked little thoughts  
Merrily appear!  
It's May! It's May!  
That gorgeous holiday"

Check out my book page: Deanne Davis: Amazon.com Great stories there about my granddad searching for gold, "The Fever Never Ends"

## 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).

## TRAIL RACE (continued from page 1)

### MWTR – MAY 23, 2026 – RACE DAY SCHEDULE – KERSTING COURT

6:00 a.m. – 12 noon	Kersting Court Expo – check out the sponsors, booths, & food
6:00 a.m. – 7:20 a.m.	MWTR Packet pick-up & drop bag services are available
6:00 a.m. – 7:40 a.m.	Kids' Fun Run T-shirt pick-up
7:30 a.m.	MWTR starts on Baldwin Ave.
7:45 a.m.	Kids' Fun Run starts on Baldwin Ave.
8:30 a.m.	Breakfast burrito sales open – from 355 Burger Sierra Madre
8:30 a.m.	Beer Garden opens – from RT Rogers Brewing Company
10:15 a.m.	Awards Ceremony
Until 12 noon	Enjoy sponsors, booths, breakfast burritos & beer garden

Registration for the MWTR is limited and can be done 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. All registered runners receive a goodie bag and specially designed race participant T-shirt. MWTR registration is limited to 350 people and is expected to sell out. There is no race day registration.

The Kids' Fun Run (ages 3 – 13) goes up Baldwin Ave. and back. The total distances are 1.0 mile for ages 8 – 13 and .6 miles for ages 3 – 7. For the Kids' Fun Run, 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. Race day registration will only be available if there is space remaining. All registered children participating receive a T-shirt and finisher's ribbon. 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> or call the City of Sierra Madre Community Services Department at (626) 355-5278.

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SierraMadreWomasClub

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## South Pas Police to Hold DUI Checkpoint

The South Pasadena Police Department will conduct a driving under the influence (DUI) checkpoint tonight from 6:00 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. at an undisclosed location.

DUI checkpoint locations are determined based on DUI arrest and crash data, the ability to maintain safety for motorists and officers, regard for traffic volume and impact to the area, and ample space for motorist screening and standardized field sobriety tests. The primary purpose of DUI checkpoints is to educate the public about the dangers of driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs and to promote public safety by taking suspected impaired drivers off the road.

"Impaired drivers put others on the road at significant risk," Lieutenant Shannon Robledo said, "All judicially reviewed and constitutionally upheld prevention measures that reduce the number of impaired drivers on our roads improves traffic safety."

The South Pasadena Police Department reminds the public that impaired driving is not just from alcohol. Some prescription medications and over-the-counter drugs may interfere with driving. While medicinal and recreational marijuana are legal in California, driving under the influence of marijuana is illegal.

Drivers charged with a first-time DUI face an average of \$13,500 in fines and penalties, as well as a suspended license.

For more information about the City of South Pasadena, visit: [southpasadenaca.gov](http://southpasadenaca.gov).

## Poker Night at the Blinn

*A Roaring 20s*

Join Pasadena Heritage May 30 from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. for an evening of cards, cocktails, and classic style at the Historic Blinn House.

Step into a 1920s-inspired night featuring a Texas Hold'em tournament, live jazz, a roaming magician, and an outdoor cigar lounge. Your ticket includes craft cocktails, beer and wine, and food and small bites throughout the evening. Period attire is encouraged.

### Tournament Format

Self-dealt Texas Hold'em with rotating dealing responsibilities. Staff and volunteers will be available to assist. Limited seats available.

This is a charity tournament, and all proceeds support Pasadena Heritage and our work to protect and preserve Pasadena's historic places through advocacy and education. There are non-cash prizes for the first and second-place winners.

Blinn House is located 160 N Oakland Ave.

Tickets start at \$100. To get tickets or more information visit: [pasadenaheritage.org](http://pasadenaheritage.org).



## Chalk Festival Moved to Kidspace

Event organizers announced Thursday that the Pasadena Chalk Festival, normally held Father's Day weekend, is moving to a new location and date. The popular event will be held at Kidspace Museum on September 26 and Sept. 27.

Light Bringer Project, founders and producers of the festival, now in its 33rd year, were faced with a challenge this spring. With over 500 artists, the demand for drawing space is ever-expanding. However, this June, events in the Civic Center are jam packed like never before they said.

"The PPD Classic Car Show, Juneteenth, Pasadena Pride,

and The Hemmings Great Race celebrating the Route 66 Centennial are all happening in the Civic Center in the same month," said Patricia Hurley, Managing Director, Light Bringer Project. "Pasadena Chalk would simply have less space available on the previously planned Father's Day weekend."

The Light Bringer team reached out to Kidspace Museum to see if they would be open to having the Pasadena Chalk Festival in their museum-adjacent area of Brookside Park. They provided a welcoming reply and now plans are underway organizers said. It was a perfect

match for their mission- to nurture the potential of all children through kid-driven experiences, inspiring them to become joyful, active learners.

Referred to as the "Museum Without Walls," the festival is expected to draw in over 20,000 attendees and will feature hundreds of expert chalk artists who will create massive and vibrant murals using several styles and techniques. From whimsical to poignant and powerful, the artworks are meant to evoke emotions and leave a lasting impression on its viewer.

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

## Catch Basin Stenciling to take Place Citywide



As part of ongoing efforts to protect local waterways and promote public awareness of stormwater pollution prevention, Greg de Vinck, Director of Public Works, said the department is refreshing storm drain stencils throughout the city. The markings at catch basins remind the public that water entering the storm drain system flows directly to local waterways. A Public Works contractor is performing the work.

The stencils display the message "No Dumping - Drains to Ocean" with a fish symbol and are reapplied as needed when markings fade over time due to traffic and weather.

Maintaining clear and visible storm drain stencils supports the City's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System ("MS4") Permit requirements and compliance with state and federal stormwater regulations.

These markings serve as a simple reminder to discourage illegal dumping and improper disposal of pollutants such as trash, oil, and chemicals. By increasing public awareness, this program helps reduce pollutants entering the stormwater system and supports water quality in local waterways.

Residents may notice crews working in neighborhoods across the City as part of this effort. This work is a routine and essential activity that supports water quality protection, regulatory compliance, and the long-term function of the City's stormwater system.

For additional information about stormwater programs or maintenance activities, residents can visit the City's Stormwater website at: [cityofpasadena.net/public-works/stormwater/](http://cityofpasadena.net/public-works/stormwater/) or contact the City's Stormwater Program Administrator at [SWAdministrator@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:SWAdministrator@cityofpasadena.net).

## Pasadena Fire Protection and Street Infrastructure Needs Community Survey

City of Pasadena officials announced they are launching a broader community conversation regarding the long-term challenges facing Pasadena's fire protection system, streets, sidewalks, and aging infrastructure systems. Residents are encouraged to participate in a new community survey and attend an upcoming public meeting focused on future infrastructure and public safety priorities.

According to officials as Pasadena continues to grow and evolve, aging infrastructure, rising construction costs, increasing service demands, and long-term maintenance needs are placing growing pressure on the city's ability to maintain the high level of services residents expect.

According to the city's recent Public Works infrastructure assessments, Pasadena currently maintains approximately 357 miles of streets, with an estimated 291 miles needing repair or maintenance. Annual street funding currently averages approximately \$5.5 million, while unfunded street and sidewalk repair needs are estimated at approximately \$125 million. (Link to Streets Information) At the same time, Pasadena's Fire Department is facing increasing emergency call volumes, aging fire stations, and growing operational demands associated with wildfire preparedness, disaster readiness, emergency medical response, and maintaining fast 911 response times



citywide. The city's long-term Fire Department planning efforts identify future needs that may include:

- Modernization and replacement of aging fire stations
  - Additional emergency response staffing and apparatus
  - Increasing capacity to provide emergency services to increasing demands
  - Long-term investments to maintain reliable citywide emergency coverage
  - The current effort is focused on education, transparency, public engagement, and gathering community feedback.
- The community survey will ask residents about:
- Fire and emergency response priorities
  - Wildfire preparedness and disaster readiness
  - Street and sidewalk maintenance needs
  - Traffic safety and mobility

Residents are encouraged to complete the brief survey online and participate in the upcoming public discussions to help shape Pasadena's long-term planning priorities.

Link to Survey: [bit.ly/PasadenaSurvey](http://bit.ly/PasadenaSurvey)

## Dogs must be Leashed at All City Parks

With reports of off-leash dogs at Pasadena parks increasing, the City of Pasadena reminds the public to leash dogs at all times while visiting city parks, with the exception of designated off-leash areas, including Alice's Dog Park in Viña Vieja Park and Playhouse Village Dog Park.

A Pasadena Municipal Code prohibits off-leash dogs in city parks outside of designated off-leash areas. Those who violate the code are subject to citation, which may result in a fine up to \$500. To ensure the safety of all park visitors, the City of Pasadena began issuing citations to dog owners with dogs off-leash in May last year. Pasadena Humane enforces leash requirements, provides the community with ongoing education on dog-leashing, and conducts routine patrols at all hours.

"Our priority is ensuring that our parks remain safe and welcoming for everyone," said Director of Public Health Manuel Carmona. "Stricter enforcement of leash requirements helps us protect both residents and their pets."

Leashing dogs reduces the risk for dog attacks on other dogs and humans and lowers the risk of other accidents, such as dogs being hit by passing cars.

Park visitors who witness unleashed dogs outside of designated off-leash areas can report their concerns to Pasadena Humane at (626) 792-7151 ext. 998.

For more information, visit: [cityofpasadena.net/parks-and-rec/park-rules](http://cityofpasadena.net/parks-and-rec/park-rules).

## Barger Responds to Newsom's Proposed Disaster Rebuilding Fund for Wildfire Survivors

In response to Governor Gavin Newsom's revised state budget proposal released today, Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger issued the following statement: "Governor Newsom's revised state budget proposal offers an encouraging sign for wildfire survivors who are still struggling to rebuild their lives and homes.

I appreciate Governor Newsom proposing a new \$100 million Disaster Rebuilding Fund to help wildfire survivors access the financial tools they need to move forward. Many Eaton Fire survivors are under enormous pressure and strain right now, navigating rising rebuilding costs, insurance payouts that fall far short of what it actually takes to rebuild, and FEMA assistance caps that leave significant gaps uncovered.

My understanding is that while this funding would not provide direct cash assistance to homeowners, it could play an important role by facilitating access to private financing through an interest rate buy-down program and a loan loss guarantee program that would encourage lenders to finance rebuilding projects. These tools can make a meaningful difference for families who otherwise may not have access to the capital needed to rebuild.

If the Legislature approves this budget proposal, I will be looking to the state to provide timely and clear guidance so survivors fully understand how these resources can support their rebuilding efforts and what options will be available to them.

Recovery after a disaster is never easy, and there is still more work ahead. But every effort to expand access to rebuilding support helps ease the burden on survivors and brings families one step closer to returning home."

# WE'RE MOVING

THANK YOU FOR GROWING WITH US.







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**Come. Bring Friends For An Afternoon of Games**

Bridge, Bingo, Mah Jong, Rummicub, Gin Rummy, or Share Your OWN Board Game(s)

**Wednesday, May 27**

**1:00 - 4:00 pm**

**\$10 or Sharable Snacks\***

(\* Chips, Dips, Nuts, Cookies, Bars, Brownies, Pretzels, etc.)

We provide Tea Sandwiches, Delights & Beverages

**RSVP w/ Game Preference & Snack Type(s)**

**Candace Taylor - 626-355-6040**

Sponsored by Sierra Madre Woman's Club

**Wistaria Thrift Shop**

350 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Sierra Madre - South Side Parking Lot

**Sat, May 30**

9 am - 1 pm

Is our BIG Year-End "Everything Goes"




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**626-355-7739**

# MORE SGV NEWS FOR YOU

## STATE FARM MISHANDLES LOS ANGELES WILDFIRE CLAIMS, ASM. HARABEDIAN RESPONDS

(Altadena, CA) – The California Department of Insurance today announced that State Farm markedly mishandled insurance claims filed by survivors of the 2025 Los Angeles wildfires. These violations include slow and inadequate investigation, low settlement offers, underpaid claims, and inadequate communications. The Department of Insurance enforcement action pursues millions of dollars in penalties to State Farm.

Assemblymember John Harabedian (D-Pasadena) issued the following statement:

“From the White House to Lake Avenue, today’s investigation confirms what everyone knows: State Farm is grossly mishandling wildfire claims. In a time when wildfire survivors should have received the support they needed to rebuild, State Farm failed policyholders when it mattered most, prolonging the timeline of recovery and pushing families to the brink of financial ruin. Survivors have long asked for support and it is imperative that legal action against State Farm ensures accountability to the fullest extent of the law. I commend Commissioner Lara on the investigation and enforcement action against State Farm and look forward to seeing real results for survivors.”

With complaints issued by consumers and at Assemblymember Harabedian’s and the Legislature’s urging, [the Department](#) has filed an Accusation and Order to Show Cause against State Farm - the first step toward a public hearing before an administrative law judge. The filing alleges violations of the Unfair Insurance Claims Practices Act and related regulations, including the 398 violations identified in the Market Conduct Examination and 34 additional violations based on consumer complaints.

Under California Insurance Code Section 790.035, penalties may reach \$5,000 per violation, or \$10,000 for willful violations. Penalties may be imposed by the Commissioner following the administrative hearing.

*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.*

## ARCADIA MAYOR AGREES TO PLEAD GUILTY TO FEDERAL CHARGE, RESIGNS POST

LOS ANGELES (CNS) The mayor of Arcadia will plead guilty to a federal charge of secretly working to illegally promote the interests of China, federal prosecutors announced today, resulting in her stepping down as mayor and resigning from the city council.

Eileen Wang, 58, of Arcadia, was charged April 1 in Los Angeles federal court, but the paperwork, along with her plea agreement, remained sealed until Monday.

According to her plea agreement, Wang admitted working to promote the interests of the People's Republic of China between 2020 and 2022 by, among other things, “promoting pro-PRC propaganda in the United States” in conjunction with her then-fiance, Yaoning “Mike” Sun, who acted as Wang's campaign adviser.

Court records show Sun -- at the direction of PRC government officials -- coordinated with others to promote the PRC's interests by, among other things, orchestrating a team to help elect Wang to the Arcadia City Council.

Wang was elected to the council in November 2022.

Sun, 65, of Chino Hills, is serving a four-year federal prison sentence after he pleaded guilty in October 2025 to acting as an illegal agent of a foreign government.

Wang and Sun worked together to operate U.S. News Center, a website that purported to be a news source for the local Chinese American community.

Wang and Sun received and executed directives from PRC government officials to post pro-PRC content on the website, federal prosecutors said.

Wang admitted in her plea agreement that she did not notify the Attorney General that she was acting in the United States as

an agent of the PRC, that she was located in the United States when she engaged in these acts, and that did she not disclose on her website that some of its content had been posted at the direction of members of the PRC government.

In announcing the case against Wang, First Assistant U.S. Attorney Bill Essayli said in a statement that people “in our country who covertly do the bidding of foreign governments undermine our democracy. This plea agreement is the latest success in our determination to defend the homeland against China's efforts to corrupt our institutions.”

Wang was scheduled to make her initial appearance Monday in U.S. District Court in downtown Los Angeles. She is expected to plead guilty in the coming weeks.

An announcement from Justine Bruno, Arcadia's deputy city manager, confirmed Wang's resignation from the council.

“The allegations at the center of this case, that a foreign government sought to exert influence over a local elected official, are deeply troubling,” Bruno said in a statement. “We take them seriously.” “We want to be clear: this investigation concerns individual conduct, and the charges are for conduct that ceased after Ms. Wang was sworn into office in December 2022,” she continued. “Following an internal review, we can confirm that no city finances, staff, or decision-making processes were involved.”

Bruno said that at its next meeting, the Arcadia City Council will select a mayor and mayor pro tem from among the remaining council members, and will begin discussing how Arcadia's District 3 will be represented until the next election cycle in November.

Wang and her attorney could not immediately be reached for comment.

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# EDUCATION AND YOUTH

## 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

**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

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

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

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

**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

**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

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

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

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

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

**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

**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

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

**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

**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

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

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

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

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

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

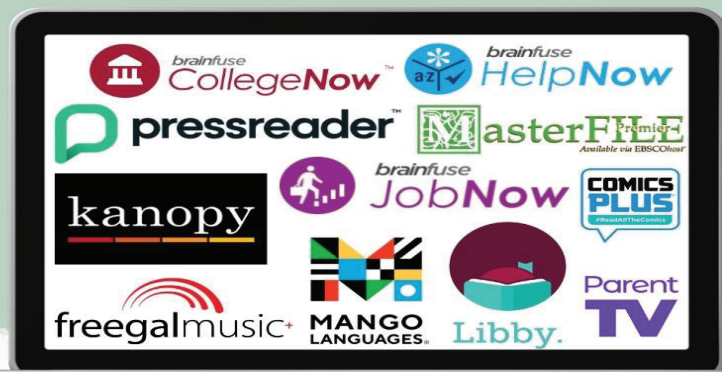
**Arcadia Unified School District**  
234 Campus Dr., Arcadia, Ca. 91007  
(626) 821-8300 Website: www.ausd.net

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

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

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Cost: \$150.00 (+ \$100.00 Reg. Fee) | Total: \$250.00 Daily
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(213) 554-4003 | EMAIL: MAnderson@abvmpasadena.org

# FOOD - DRINK - FUN



Peter A. Dills  
L.A.'s King of Cuisine  
<https://podlink/1116885432>

## RESTAURANTS THAT FEEL LIKE PASADENA (AND THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY)

A few weeks ago, I made what some might consider a dangerous observation.

Parking in Old Pasadena actually seemed easier.

Now before you accuse me of losing my parking validation privileges, hear me out.

That simple observation turned into a lunch debate with my friend, author Michael Higgins.

I asked a question many of us have probably wondered:

Do we have too many restaurants?

Michael didn't hesitate.

"Never too many choices."

The more I thought about it, the more I realized he may be right.

Because Pasadena and the San Gabriel Valley don't just have restaurants. We have places that feel like home.

Restaurants with stories. Character. Familiar bartenders. Favorite booths. Menus you understand without needing a translator.

Take Taylor's Steakhouse in La Cañada.

If restaurants had personalities, Taylor's would be the guy wearing a sport coat, ordering a martini, and quietly judging your steak temperature selection. Old-school booths, proper pours, and enough history to fill a few chapters.

Then there's The Derby in Arcadia.

Few places in the San Gabriel Valley feel more rooted in local history. Horse racing, dark wood, and the kind of dining room that reminds you some places still know how to do occasion dining.

Domenico's belongs in this conversation too.

Whether you lean Pasadena nostalgia or Monrovia comfort, this is red-sauce California at its best. No apologies. Cheese, pizza, pasta, and the kind of food that doesn't need reinventing.

Casa Del Rey in Sierra Madre feels exactly like what a neighborhood restaurant should be.

Good margaritas. Friendly faces. A patio that makes you want to stay for "just one more."

And of course, Panda Inn.

Long before every strip mall in America had orange chicken, Panda Inn helped define upscale Chinese dining for Pasadena families.

Then there's North Woods Inn and Clearman's Galley.

Because sometimes what we really want is nostalgia served with a baked potato.

Maybe parking feels easier because habits have changed.

Maybe delivery apps keep more people home.

Maybe people simply dine out less often.

Or maybe Michael Higgins is right.

You can never have too many choices.

Speaking of choices, if you'd like to argue restaurant opinions with me in person, I'll be pouring wine and telling stories at the Taste of South Pasadena on May 19—all in good fun.

Because around here, debating where to eat may be our favorite local sport. Email me at

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**SCHEDULE**

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10:00 AM - 11:00 AM  
Hear from local and state dignitaries!

**RIBBON CUTTING**  
11:00 AM  
Check out the renovated Library inside & out!

**BLOCK PARTY**  
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
Celebrate the renovation with us and each other!

**SUMMER READING KICKOFF**  
12:00 PM  
Thor's Reptiles in the Mary Tumilty Community Room!

**SIERRA MADRE MUSIC**  
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM  
Enjoy music in the Mary Tumilty Community Room

**PUZZLE COMPETITION**  
3:00 PM  
Puzzle it out in the Mary Tumilty Community Room!

## UNDERSTANDING CALIFORNIA PROPOSITION 19: WHAT FAMILIES NEED TO KNOW

California Proposition 19 changed how property taxes are transferred in California and has had a major impact on seniors, families, and inherited property. Passed by voters in 2020, the law created new benefits for older homeowners while also changing long-standing rules for inherited homes.

One of the biggest advantages of Prop 19 is for homeowners age 55 and older, individuals with severe disabilities, or victims of natural disasters. Under the new law, qualifying homeowners may transfer their lower property tax base to a new home anywhere in California, helping them downsize, relocate closer to family, or move into a more suitable living environment without a dramatic increase in property taxes.

This benefit can be especially meaningful for seniors considering assisted living or moving closer to adult children. A homeowner can now transfer their tax assessment up to three times, providing greater flexibility during major life transitions.

However, Prop 19 also changed inheritance rules. Previously, many families could inherit a parent's home and keep the lower tax assessment, even if the property became a rental or vacation home. Under Prop 19, children generally keep the lower property tax basis only if the inherited home becomes their primary residence and the property value does not exceed certain limits. If not, the home may be reassessed at current market value, often resulting in significantly higher property taxes.

For families navigating caregiving, assisted living, or estate planning, Prop 19 has become an important conversation topic. Selling a longtime family home, moving into senior housing, or passing property to children may now involve different financial considerations than in the past.

Because every family situation is unique, consulting with a tax professional, estate attorney, or financial advisor can help ensure decisions align with both caregiving needs and long-term financial goals.



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(626) 999-6913  
Steve@SafePathForSeniors.com  
SafePathForSeniors.com

## SENIOR HAPPENINGS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! ...MAY BIRTHDAYS\*



Beth Copti, Marilyn Diaz, Anne Schryver, Jo Ann Williams, Paul Hagan, Lenore Crilly, Joann Serrato-Chi, Harriett Lyle, Jean Coleman, Birgitta Gerlinger, Luciana Rosenzweig, Linda Wochnik, Marian Woodford, Debbie Sheridan, Joanne Anthony, Carole Axline, Kika Downey, Shirley Hall, Janet Ten Eyck, Jane Thomas, Ray Burley, Bridget Flanagan, Donna Mathisen, Vicky Ryan, \* To add your name to this distinguished list, please call the paper at 626.355.2737. YEAR of birth not required



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HCO# 194700934

## SENIOR TRAVEL DISCOUNTS: HOW TO SAVE ON YOUR NEXT TRIP



Dear Savvy Senior,

My husband and I are retiring later this year and hope to travel more while we're still healthy and active. Our budget will be tighter, so every dollar counts. Are there worthwhile senior travel discounts you can tell us about, and at what age do they begin?  
--Ready to Roam

Dear Ready,

Retirement is the perfect time to start checking destinations off your wish list. Senior travel discounts can make a real difference. Whether it's airfare, hotels, cruises, train tickets or attractions, the savings can add up – sometimes hundreds of dollars per trip – if you know where to look and compare.

To qualify, you'll need to meet the age requirement, which varies by company. Some start as early as 50, but most don't kick in until 55, 60, 62 or 65. Knowing these benchmarks helps you plan and save as soon as you're eligible.

Ways to save

One of the best ways to uncover senior travel deals is through membership organizations. AARP, with membership starting at 50, offers the deepest travel discounts, including savings on hotels, rental cars, cruises and vacation packages. AAA also provides travel-planning services and member savings on lodging and car rentals to adults of any age.

Another simple but often overlooked strategy is to ask. Many hotels, tours and attractions don't advertise senior discounts but may offer one if you inquire. Keep in mind, though, that the "senior rate" isn't always the lowest price. Promotional sales, advance-purchase fares and seasonal specials can sometimes be cheaper, so compare before booking.

Flexibility is another powerful money-saving tool. Traveling midweek, avoiding peak holidays, booking during shoulder seasons, or adjusting your dates slightly can significantly lower costs. You may also find last-minute deals on cruises, rail trips and guided tours, especially during slower travel periods when companies are eager to fill unsold space.

Here's a rundown of some different discount deals currently available:

**Airlines:** Senior airfare discounts are less common than they once were, but some still exist. AARP members can get discounts on select British Airways flights, about \$65 off economy and up to \$200 off business class. United and Delta may offer limited senior fares, usually for travelers 65 and older, on select routes if booked by phone or using "Senior" search tools. Loyalty programs can also add value through free checked bags or seat upgrades.

**Trains:** Amtrak offers about 10 percent off for travelers 65-plus on many routes, with some cross-border discounts starting at 60. Rail passes and multi-city tickets may provide additional savings.

**Rental cars:** AARP members can save up to 30 percent with companies like Avis and Budget, often with perks like a free additional driver and reduced rates on optional coverage. Hertz offers discounts through its 50 Plus Program.

**Hotels & lodging:** Many hotel brands offer senior or AARP rates, typically 10 to 15 percent off. Examples include Wyndham Hotels & Resorts (Days Inn, Ramada, Super 8, La Quinta), Best Western, Choice Hotels (Comfort Inn, Quality Inn), Cambria, and Rodeway Inn. Booking directly or through AARP usually ensures the rate.

**Cruises:** Some lines offer discounted fares for travelers 55-plus on select sailings, including Royal Caribbean, Carnival, Norwegian, MSC, and Viking River Cruises. AARP members may receive additional onboard credits through affiliated providers. Off-peak sailings often provide the best value.

**Restaurants:** Many chains offer senior menus, complimentary beverages, or percentage discounts for ages 55 or 60-plus, including Applebee's, Arby's, Burger King, Chili's, Chick-fil-A, Denny's, IHOP, Boston Market, and CiCi's Pizza. Participation varies by location.

**Entertainment & attractions:** Museums, theaters, zoos, aquariums, and golf courses often offer reduced admission for seniors 60 or 65-plus. One of the best bargains is the America the Beautiful Senior Pass from the National Park Service. For \$20 per year or \$80 for a lifetime pass (available at 62), it provides access to more than 2,000 federal recreation sites.

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

Catch breaking news at:  
[mtnviewsnews.com](http://mtnviewsnews.com)

## OUT TO PASTOR

A Weekly Religion Column by Rev. James Snyder

### SOAP ISN'T ALWAYS SOAP

After several months of mayhem in our house, things began to quiet down. It was beginning to get back to our normal way of life.

Of course, because of the mayhem, many things that needed to be done did not get done. That made The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage jump in line to try to catch up with everything around the house. If there's one thing undone, she cannot sit down.

I was able to get into my office and begin working on projects. I sure missed all that time working on my favorite projects. But I was committed to getting up to date with everything in my office. Of course, my up-to-date definition does not compare with The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage's.

I noticed there were a lot of dishes to be cleaned, so I went up to The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and said, "Would you like me to do the dishes today?"

After a long period of laughing, she looked at me and said, "Do you remember the last time you did dishes for me?"

My memory isn't always up to date, and I had to think a little bit about what she was talking about. Then it occurred to me.

About 20 years ago, I did the dishes for her. I think she was away shopping or something, so I decided to step in and help her with some of these kitchen chores.

I packed all of the dishes into the dishwasher. It took me quite a while because I couldn't figure out where they all went. Eventually, I got them all in.

Now I had to find soap to clean these dishes. I looked everywhere, and I couldn't find any soap in the kitchen. I finally went back to the laundry area and found a big box of soap there. I took that soap, went to the kitchen, opened the dishwasher, and just poured it all on those dishes. My goal was to make them cleaner than they've ever been.

I made sure every dish and utensil had a little soap on it. I was going to make The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage proud of her husband's work in the kitchen.

I put everything in the dishwasher, along with the soap, then closed the door and turned it on. I smiled as I heard it working there before me. I then went back to my office to do a bit of work while the dishwasher ran.

While I was in the office, I began to hear a lot of noise from the kitchen that I couldn't explain. It could be the dishwasher, since I've never heard it make that kind of noise before. What was happening in the kitchen?

I got up from my desk and went into the kitchen, and just as I entered the kitchen, I stopped in great shock. Soap from the dishwasher was pouring onto the kitchen floor.

The dishwasher was cleaning the kitchen floor, which I've never seen before.

That soap kept coming out of the dishwasher. I didn't know what to do. I've never been in a situation like this before. I've never washed dishes before.

I ran over to the dishwasher and turned it off. In a minute or two, the flow of soap ceased coming out of the dishwasher. I looked all over the kitchen floor, and it was soaked with soap.

I did not know what to do, and as I stood there, I heard the front door open, and in walked The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. She came into the kitchen, stopped, and yelled as I'd never heard her yell before.

"What have you done?" She said to me rather strongly.

I looked at her with some puppy-dog eyes and confessed, "I thought I could help you by doing the dishes today."

She looked at me, looked at the kitchen floor, then looked back at me.

I'm not sure how to resolve this situation. Still, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage looked at me firmly and said, "Why don't you just go to your office and do your work, and I'll stay here in the kitchen and do my work?"

Not knowing what to do, but knowing I was in a great deal of trouble, I did what she said and went back to my office. It took her most of the morning to clean up that mess I created.

That was 20 years ago, and I've never had that incident happen again. So, when I ask The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage if I could help her in the kitchen, I began to realize that the best help I could do for her was to get out of the way and go to my office.

I later found out that the soap I used was not for dishes but was for something completely different. How did I know there was a different soap for each project?

While in my office, I was reminded of a verse of scripture.

"Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord" (Psalm 27:14).

In my Christian life, the best thing I can do is get out of God's way and let Him do His work His way. If I don't, I mess up everything in my life.

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).



## CHRISTOPHER Nyerges

[Nyerges is the author of "Guide to Wild Foods" "Foraging California," and other books. He can be reached at Box 41834, Eagle Rock, CA 90041, or [www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance.com](http://www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance.com)]

### MANLY HALL & HAROLD PERCIVAL

In last week's column, I mistakenly attributed the author of the book "Thinking and Destiny" to Manly P. Hall. The correct author is Harold Percival.

This error gives me an opportunity to discuss each author so that you can get to know them better.

First, Manly Hall founded the Philosophical Research Society on Los Feliz Ave., just south of Griffith Park. He was a profound metaphysical thinker, and gave lectures and sponsored classes life-long at the PRS center.

I was first introduced to PRS and Manly Hall in the late 1970s, and often went there to lectures and classes. I went to poetry readings, and classes on such diverse topics as the meaning of symbols, the origin of tarot cards, Socratic dialogue, and the origin of Holidays. I attended a class called "The English Kaballah," which was conducted by a JPL scientist who wrote a book of the same name.

Manly Hall would give lectures on certain days, usually Holy Days. I only attended one lecture of his, which he presented to a packed auditorium. He was a big man, and seemed very stoic. When he spoke, there was an air of authority about the topic under discussion. He spoke in a deep, somewhat monotone voice, with a lifetime of knowledge behind his words.

He wrote many books and booklets, the chief of which was the monumental "Secret Teachings of All Ages," still in print from PRS. "Secret Teachings" is a heavily researched book that includes just about every metaphysical and spiritual idea you can imagine. If you had his book on your bookshelf, it would very likely be very close to "Thinking and Destiny."

"Thinking and Destiny," which I referenced last week, however, is a very different book. Unlike Manly Hall's book, Harold Percival's "Thinking and Destiny" has no references, no endless footnotes, and none of the "proofs" that you might expect to see in such a book. Originally published in 1946, Percival describes how he came to know these subjects by the act and art of Thinking. And this is not what is ordinarily meant by "thinking." Percival shares a four-step process of selecting a topic, focusing one's conscious Light upon the subject, and refining the subject until you literally "become" the subject and know everything there is to know about it. Percival describes how to would "think into" each topic, and then dictate so that his secretary or amanuensis Benoni B. Gattell would write it all down. This dictating took place between 1912 and 1932, until it was finally published in 1946. Wow! His entire magnum opus of nearly a thousand pages was written with from the perspective of knowing, and these are topics that you cannot look up in any encyclopedia, things such as the purpose of life, how thoughts are real things, and how each and every act, and non-act, scientifically determine our destiny.

I have read it cover-to-cover twice, and still find great insights upon further and deeper reading.

Manly Hall founded the Philosophical Research Society to further the studies he began, and the organization still exists on Los Feliz in Los Angeles, with regular classes, lectures, and a library. The followers of Harold Percival created and maintain the Word Foundation, whose main function is to keep alive the writings of Percival, and publish his many books.

The writings of both these men can be described as metaphysical, and non-sectarian, though many adherents to specific religions continue to follow the teachings of both.

P.S. Thank you to the reader of Mountain News who pointed out this error.



### SWEET GEMMA

GEMMA: aka "Big G," is a cute tuxedo, age 5.



She is shy, but thanks to her caregivers she is learning to love being petted and to approach people for pets. She's quite lovely, and has the cutest little meow. She loves her food and treats, being on high places, and plays well with her toys.

If you're looking for a cat who isn't clingy but will shower you with love and sweet moments, Gemma is the perfect match for you. She deserves to be pampered in a loving forever home, with no children or dogs.

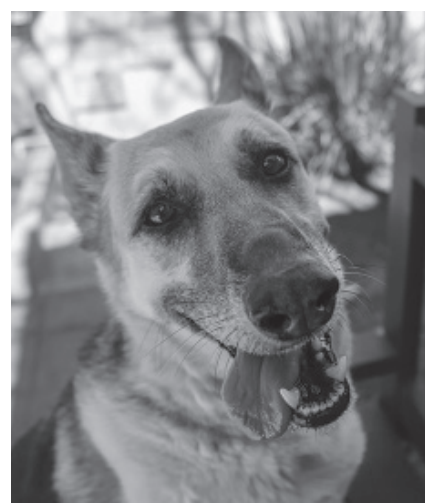
Gemma will make the purr-fect, low-maintenance companion for someone with patience--and someone who will thrill to see her thrive under their care, and, who knows, maybe be blessed with the joy of having

Gemma actually jump up onto your lap for some biscuit-making! Gemma is fully vetted and healthy.

See more pix and apply to meet her at <https://www.lifelineforpets.org/gemma.html>, or use the qr code.

### Pet of the Week

Meet sweet Bella at Pasadena Humane! Bella has spent years being a loyal companion, and now this wonderful golden-age senior German Shepherd is ready for a second chance with a family she can call her own.



She's a bit of a local celebrity—an adoption event star who's often out in the community on walks with her foster or volunteers. Easygoing and relaxed, Bella takes new places and people in stride.

Whether it's a quiet afternoon at home or a neighborhood stroll, she's happiest by your side. If you're looking for a calm, loving companion, Bella might be your perfect match! She's also available for an adoption trial, making it easy to see how naturally she could become part of your everyday life. 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

### THE EXERCISE EATING TRAP



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](mailto:michele@kid-fit.com). Visit her Facebook page at: [michelesfitness](https://www.facebook.com/michelesfitness). Visit her Facebook page at: [michelesfitness](https://www.facebook.com/michelesfitness).

Have you ever finished a workout and thought, "I Exercised, So I Can Eat Anything"? Maybe it was a donut, a big dinner, or a few extra snacks later that night. It feels fair. You exercised. You did something good. So now you get a reward. This way of thinking is very common. In fact, it might be one of the biggest reasons people don't see results—even when they are exercising regularly. It sounds harmless, but over time it can quietly undo the good you are trying to do.

Exercise feels like work, and sometimes hard work. When we finish, our brain looks for a re-ward. That reward often becomes food. The problem is that most workouts don't burn as many calories as people think. A 30-minute walk might burn around 100 to 150 calories. That's about the same as a small snack. But the reward we give ourselves is often much bigger. A muffin can be 400 calories. A fast-food meal can be 800 to 1,000 calories. Even a "healthy" smoothie can be 300 to 500 calories if it is loaded with extras. So even though you exercised, you may end up eating more than you burned. This is not a failure. It's just a misunderstanding of how things work.

There's also something else going on. Your brain likes balance. When you do something hard, your brain says, "You deserve something good." That's not wrong. It's how we are wired. But it's not always helpful when your goal is to improve your fitness or lose weight. On top of that, exercise can increase your appetite. Your body wants to replace the energy you used. So now you have two things happening at the same time. You feel like you earned a reward, and you are actually more hungry. That combination can lead to overeating without even realizing it.

When you use food as a reward for exercise, you start to connect the two in your mind. Exercise becomes something you "have to do" so you can eat what you want. That is backwards. Exercise should be something that helps your body feel better, move better, and get stronger. Food should support that—not cancel it out. If every workout is followed by overeating, progress becomes very slow, or it stops completely. That's when people get frustrated and say, "I'm exercising, but nothing is working."

So, instead of saying, "I exercised, so I can eat anything," try saying, "I exercised, so I should fuel my body well." That one small change can make a big difference. Food is not just a reward. It is fuel. The right foods can help you recover faster, feel less sore, have more energy for your next workout, and build strength over time. When you start to see food this way, your choices begin to change without feeling forced.

You don't need a complicated eating plan to make this work. Keep it simple. After exercise, your body does best with some protein to help your muscles, some carbohydrates to replace energy, and fluids to rehydrate. These choices help your body recover without going overboard. They also keep your energy more steady so you don't end up feeling tired and hungry later.

This does not mean you can never have treats. You can still enjoy the foods you like. This is not about being perfect. The goal is to stop using exercise as the reason for overeating. Instead of saying, "I worked out, so I can eat this whole pizza," try saying, "I'm going to enjoy a slice because I want it, not because I earned it." That keeps you in control. It also helps you build a healthier relationship with both food and exercise.

Here's a simple test you can use after a workout. Ask yourself, "Would I still eat this if I didn't exercise today?" If the answer is yes, then go ahead and enjoy it in a reasonable amount. If the answer is no, then it might just be the reward trap talking. That quick pause can help you make a better choice without feeling deprived.

Exercise is powerful. It helps your body in many ways, including strength, energy, mood, and overall health. But it doesn't give you a free pass to eat without thinking. When you match your eating to your activity, good things start to happen. You feel better, you see progress, and your workouts begin to pay off. So the next time you finish a workout, take a moment before you reach for food. Instead of asking, "What did I earn?" ask, "What does my body need?" That one question can change everything.

*Michele Silence, M.A. is a certified fitness professional who offers semi-private/virtual fitness classes. Contact Michele at [michele@kid-fit.com](mailto:michele@kid-fit.com). Visit her Facebook page at: [michelesfitness](https://www.facebook.com/michelesfitness)*

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# VIEW AT EVERY TURN





## UNLOCK YOUR LIFE

### WHAT ARE YOU HOLDING IN YOUR MIND ABOUT THEM?



#### What Are You Holding in Your Mind About Them?

There is a person in your life, estranged or maybe just distant, a person whom you've given up on. Not directly. You'd never say it. But in your mind, the story has been written. You know how this goes. You know who they are.

What if that story is the problem?

Here's something I've come to believe after nearly thirty years, as a litigator, watching people fail in relationships and now helping people design relationships they love: the version of a person you hold in your mind is the best version of that person they can ever be in your presence. Your inner picture of someone sets the ceiling for your relationship with them.

This is not magical thinking. It is rigorous mental work.

#### Start With What You Actually Want

Most of us have buried our desire for reconciliation under layers of 'why bother' and 'it'll never happen.' We've made peace with the loss by convincing ourselves we didn't want what we lost. But what if you let yourself want it?

Try this question: If anything were possible, what would I truly love with this person? Don't shrink the answer to fit what seems realistic. Let the real desire surface. Desire is not weakness; it is the engine of transformation.

#### The Story Running in Your Head

We are always narrating our relationships. The question is whether we're conscious of the story or just subject to it. Take a moment and ask yourself:

What story am I telling about this person? Is it actually true? And, most importantly, do I want it to be true?

There's a phrase I use with my clients: Are you arguing for your limitations, or for your vision? Because we will always find evidence for whatever story we're committed to. The question is which story we choose to marry.

#### Before You Try to Change Them

Here's where most of us get it backward. We focus entirely on what the other person needs to do differently. But vision-driven transformation asks a prior question:

#### Who am I being?

When you shift internally, processing old hurt, choosing forgiveness, deciding to see someone differently, you can change the energy you carry into every interaction. Relationships are a dynamic between two people. When you change your part of the dynamic, the dynamic shifts.

#### I Know This From the Inside

I once had an estrangement from someone I loved deeply. For a long time, I didn't believe repair was possible, and honestly, I wasn't sure I believed it should be. But I started asking a different question: What if healing is possible, even if I can't see the way yet?

I stopped rehearsing the old grievances. I started imagining what it would feel like to be at peace with this person. Slowly, something in me shifted. The next time we spoke, something was different, not in my words, but in my presence. It wasn't overnight. But it was the beginning of something I had once stopped letting myself want.

I caught myself sliding back into the old story more than once. When I did, I'd tell myself: Don't pick that back up.

#### Even If They Don't Change

Here's the liberation in this practice: even if the other person never shifts, you are changed by the vision you hold. You become someone who loves more boldly. You experience more peace, not as a reward for their transformation, but as the result of inner peace.

In a world that says 'don't get your hopes up,' I want to offer a different invitation: dare to want more. Hold the highest vision of the people in your life. And see what happens. Lori A. Harris is an Integrative Change Coach and Life Mastery Consultant. This column, Unlock Your Life, appears weekly in Mountain Views News. If this column stirred something in you about a relationship you've stopped believing in, that matters. It's time you listened. You can learn more about working with Lori at [loriaharris.com](http://loriaharris.com).

## ALL THINGS by Jeff Brown

### MARRIAGE OR COHABITATION?

Marriage is a formal and legally recognized relationship. Many people see it as a symbol of lifelong commitment, trust, and responsibility. Married couples often feel a stronger sense of security because their relationship is officially accepted by society, religion, and the law. Marriage can provide emotional stability and encourage couples to work through difficulties together. It also offers legal and financial benefits, such as inheritance rights, tax advantages, medical decision-making authority, and protection for children. Another advantage of marriage is the sense of permanence it may create. Couples may feel more dedicated to supporting each other during difficult times because they have made a public commitment. Marriage can also strengthen family relationships and increase social respect, especially in traditional societies where marriage is highly valued.

However, marriage also has challenges. It requires patience, sacrifice, and constant communication. Some couples feel pressured by the responsibilities and expectations that come with marriage. If the relationship becomes unhealthy or unhappy, divorce can be emotionally painful, financially expensive, and legally complicated. Some people also believe that marriage may reduce personal freedom because major decisions often require compromise and shared responsibility.

Living together without marriage, often called cohabitation, is another option that has become increasingly common in modern society. Many couples choose this arrangement because it gives them the chance to understand each other better before making a permanent commitment. Living together can provide flexibility and independence while still allowing partners to share daily life, expenses, and emotional support. Couples may feel less pressure because they are not legally bound to each other. This arrangement may also allow individuals to focus more on career goals,



personal growth, or financial stability before considering marriage.

Despite these advantages, living together may not provide the same level of stability or security as marriage. One partner may feel uncertain about the future if there is no official commitment. In some countries or communities, unmarried couples may not receive the same legal rights and protections as married couples. Families with traditional beliefs may also disapprove of cohabitation.

In conclusion, both marriage and living together have benefits and disadvantages.

Marriage offers legal security, social recognition, and long-term commitment, while living together provides flexibility and independence. The best choice depends on the couple's understanding, trust, and shared goals. A successful relationship is built not only on legal status but also on love, honesty, respect, and responsibility. Whether married or living together, true happiness comes from mutual care, commitment and most importantly, liking each other.

Research indicates that marriage generally correlates with longer relationship stability compared to cohabitation. According to a 2022 report from the National Center for Family & Marriage Research, about 50% of cohabiting relationships end within five years, while approximately 60% of marriages last a decade or more.

This difference may be attributed to the societal expectations and legal commitments associated with marriage, which often encourage couples to navigate challenges together rather than opt for separation.

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## STUART TOLCHIN PUT THE LIGHTS ON FIND THE FUN



I prefer to imagine that individuals who chance upon my articles will gain something of benefit from the experience. To me, it often feels as if my readers and I are co-creators struggling to maintain our determination to live a life that is worth living. I think of the sui-cide note supposedly written by Mr. Epstein prior to taking his own life. The final five words were "NO FUN -- NOT WORTH IT!!"

Alright, co-creators, first we must define our terms. What is meant by "FUN"? We really are not concerned by what Mr. Epstein meant by "fun". What does "fun" mean to you and I? Must it mean doing something particular? As we all know "fun" for Mister Epstein included his ownership of a private island to which world-wide celebrities were invited which was inhabited by teenage girls who had been procured for the pleasure of the guests. It was Mr. Epstein's intention to become the biological father of a multitude of infants as yet to be born, I believe. His dream, which he acknowledged, was to be the master-father of a newly-created Master Race.

Yes, I know that sounds ridiculous but compare it with a statement recently made by Mr. Epstein's one-time very-close friend. Today we call that man the "President" -he has made the world aware that being called the President, or the Greatest President, is not enough for him (and yes, we avoid using that person's name.)

Okay. You and I don't need that much from other people—then where do other people fit in with our own ability to have fun? Unfortunately, for me I know that having fun does not depend on other people but being aware of inequality and suffering and bombing and daily violent death of innocent civilians caught in this twenty-first century of lunacy makes it very difficult to feel content.

Is ignorance and indifference then a prerequisite to having fun? "If ignorance is bliss 'tis folly to be wise," written by English poet Thomas Gray in 1742 is taken to mean that if not knowing something makes you happy, then it is foolish to seek the knowledge that brings pain. I think many Americans have willingly followed this advice. I know many people who have stopped reading newspapers as a way of maintaining an illusion of bliss. For me, the search for knowledge and understanding is what I really enjoy. The fact that I never attain such knowledge allows me to remain ignorant and still feel blissful. I have now understood the meaning of our joint undertaking. Try to do something hard and not succeed but experience the inner satisfaction in knowing that you are still trying and realize you are having lots of fun.

Perhaps you need to know that in the past week I have survived covid inoculation with a brutal unexpected after effect which seemed to paralyze one whole side of my body and left me unable to move my head. Today during my third straight day at urgent care a culture was taken to determine if I was in the process of being invaded by the Shingles virus which possibly will have long term negative effects upon me or shorten my life completely.

As I frequently remind my readers and co-creators an article has been submitted by me for nearly thirty years, and I have always enjoyed picking up the paper on Sunday and finding my column and picture. Sometimes I even read the article. I am told that my now six-year old granddaughter's first sentence to her mother was "I did it!" The first sentence I remember from her I overheard was "I hate single file". Those two sentences express my ex-perience and attitude toward these creations by my imagined co-creators and myself. "I did it (actually "we did it") and we followed no one in doing it. Yes, and it has been lots of fun and well worth doing.

I do hope I feel better tomorrow and will learn more about what the future holds. Nevertheless with my loss of hearing and decline in mental ability I am certain not to fully understand very much so I, therefore, can continue searching and having fun. It would be nice if someone enjoys this article, but "we" can feel good about trying. Is dementia approaching and if it comes, is it "fun"? That is another question to evaluate and think about, and it will be a challenge to make it fun. Blissfully I will probably remain ignorant.



## HOWARD Hays As I See It

"I don't think about Americans' financial situation. I don't think about anybody."

President Trump, asked about his motivations in dealing with Iran

Last week I wrote that when the Great Recession hit in 2008, Americans dodged a bullet with President George W. Bush having been unable to enact his plan to "privatize" Social Security - turning it over to Wall Street. Had he succeeded, retirement funds we counted on would've been wiped out.

I was reminded of this when reading how, despite closure of the Strait of Hormuz, cutting off 20% of the world's oil supply and hiking oil prices, our economy has remained relatively strong. Antonio Gabriel at Bank of America Securities explained it's because our reliance on oil has decreased so much over the past fifty years. In the 1970s, we needed three times the oil as today to produce the same amount of GDP. Back then, a 10% hike in oil prices would bring close to a full point rise in inflation, while today it's maybe a quarter-point.

The 1973 OPEC oil embargo saw prices rise 400%, with another oil crisis a few years later with the Iranian Revolution. Over the following decades, there was growing appreciation for how developing alternative energy sources and reducing dependence on fossil fuels was important not just for the environment, but for our economy and national security. This recognition culminated with hundreds of billions invested in clean energy projects and tax credits under President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act.

That progress and those projects came to a screeching halt under the current Trump administration - intent now on increasing our reliance on, rather than weaning ourselves off of, fossil fuels. Had Bush succeeded in privatizing Social Security, the Great Recession would've wiped out retirements. Had Trump succeeded in his first term with what he's trying to do in his second, reestablishing dependence on fossil fuels, closure of the Strait of Hormuz would've brought not just that progress and those projects, but our entire economy to a screeching halt.

Interior Secretary Doug Burgum testified to the House Natural Resources Committee that the problem with solar energy is that when the sun goes down, "it doesn't work" (and suggested House members might learn more in a "secure briefing"). This was followed by Rep. Jared Huffman (D-CA) being granted unanimous consent to have entered into the record that there's "this amazing new technology that apparently the secretary is unaware of, it's a battery."

Also at that hearing, Secretary Burgum was asked about a \$13 million no-bid federal contract to re-do the reflecting pool at the Lincoln Memorial - awarded to a company that had never before held a federal contract. Rep. Joe Neguse (D-CO) reminded the secretary of federal law limiting no-bid contracts to situations of "unusual and compelling urgency", where the government would suffer "serious injury" otherwise. When asked what that "ur-gency" and potential "serious injury" was in this case, Burgum responded by noting there are 19 fountains in the capital that don't work, with a 250th national anniversary coming up.

And for another no-bid contract: Edge Ops LLC was formed in 2014 to hold ownership of a sailboat, by a couple with backgrounds in federal contracts; one at the Defense Department and the other at Raytheon. After Trump's 2024 election, the LLC switched to defense contracting - offering an AI surveillance tool to track immigrants. It turned out, though, that info and images on their website were just made-up stuff and stock photos. Supposed cus-tomers on the website offering glowing testimonials said they'd never heard of the compa-ny. Nevertheless, Edge Ops LLC was awarded a no-bid \$12.2 million federal contract with ICE.

Federal spending has gone up some 3% from Biden's last year to Trump's first. 11% of that spending in 2024 was in contracted services (\$755 billion), with 30% of that in no-bid contracts. Without having current figures, we can reasonably assume that no-bid contracts have now become the accepted method of doing business with this administration (along with multi-million donations to Trump's vanity projects), and that those two examples cited above are the tip of an iceberg.

For the first time since WWII, our nation's debt has now, under Trump, exceeded our annual GDP. He added \$7.8 trillion to our debt during his first term, with another \$1.8 trillion the first year of his second. (Trump's spending a quarter of his time playing golf is expected to cost taxpayers \$300 million by the end of this second term; double what it was over the first.)

Forbes estimates Donald Trump's wealth to have grown from \$3.9 billion to at least \$7.3 billion since the election, with sons Don Jr.'s and Eric's wealth from \$40-\$50 million each to \$300-\$400 million. In the meantime, early non-insider MAGA investors in such ventures as Trump Media and meme coins have seen "billions evaporate". Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility has sued Secretary Doug Burgum's Interior Department for documents pertaining to the nation's upcoming 250th anniversary celebrations. Reportedly, along with the fireworks, bands and hot dogs, personal access to Donald Trump will be on sale for \$2.5 million.

President Trump was no doubt being honest when describing his motivations when dealing with Iran - or anything else, for that matter. He couldn't care less about Americans' financial situation. And he really doesn't appear to think about anybody - other than himself.

## RICH JOHNSON MISTAKES.....WHO ME?



"And bad mistakes, I've made a few, I've had my share of sand kicked in my face, But I've come through." Freddie Mercury

Undoubtedly there are more songs about love than making mistakes, but mistakes are high up on the list. Neil Young wrote a classic mistake song, the title which I cannot in good taste, list here, primarily because the title has a really bad word in it (maybe the worst bad word in the English language) and reprinting it would definitely be a big MISTAKE.

A song you might think has the word "mistake" in it is the classic "My Way" written by Paul Anka and sung by Frank Sinatra. Instead, the word used in the song is the byproduct of making a mistake. It goes like this: "Regrets. I've had a few, but then again, too few to mention."

Regrets are typically a byproduct of mistakes made. Mistakes are often tough to deal with because they involve both thinking and feeling. Yuck! Consider regret a temporary exercise, a look backwards as you consider a course correction going forward. I suggest moving on quickly.

The really, really dangerous byproduct to avoid in a lingering look backward is the trap of sad, regretful lingering forward. We call it the "if only" syndrome. Talk about a mental trap. You may be experiencing it right now. "If only" I had not started to read this column. "If only" has a bad cousin whose name is "What if". Known better as the what if syndrome.

Consider the purpose of "If only" and "what if" in your life: Compare it to kindling in a fireplace. It is meant to have a very short quick burning effect that exists just long enough to ignite the important long slow burning stable, hot fire. The metaphor? Think of the slow burning fire as the warm fuzzies you feel when you have made a series of smart organized decisions (I hope to experience that someday.)

There are plenty of example throughout history where we can review the results of "if only" and "what if" being used to move forward with varying degrees of success.

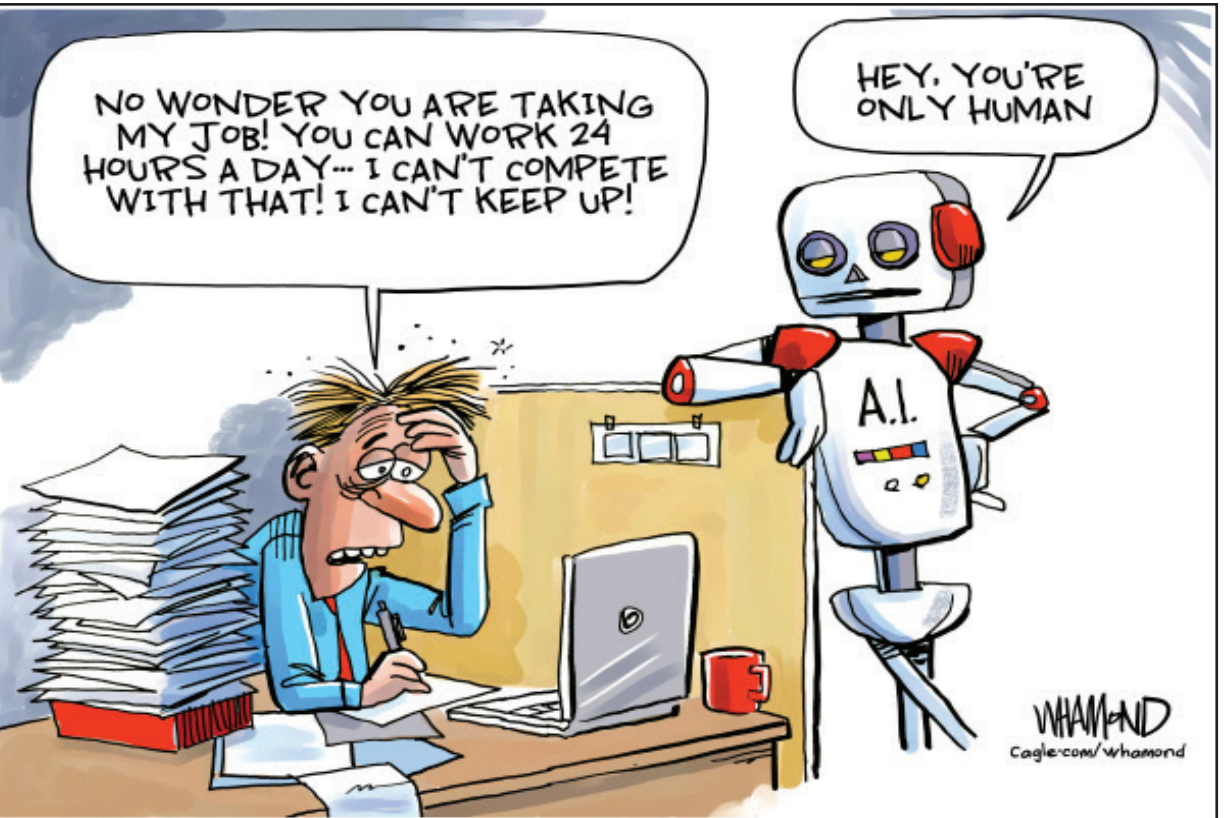
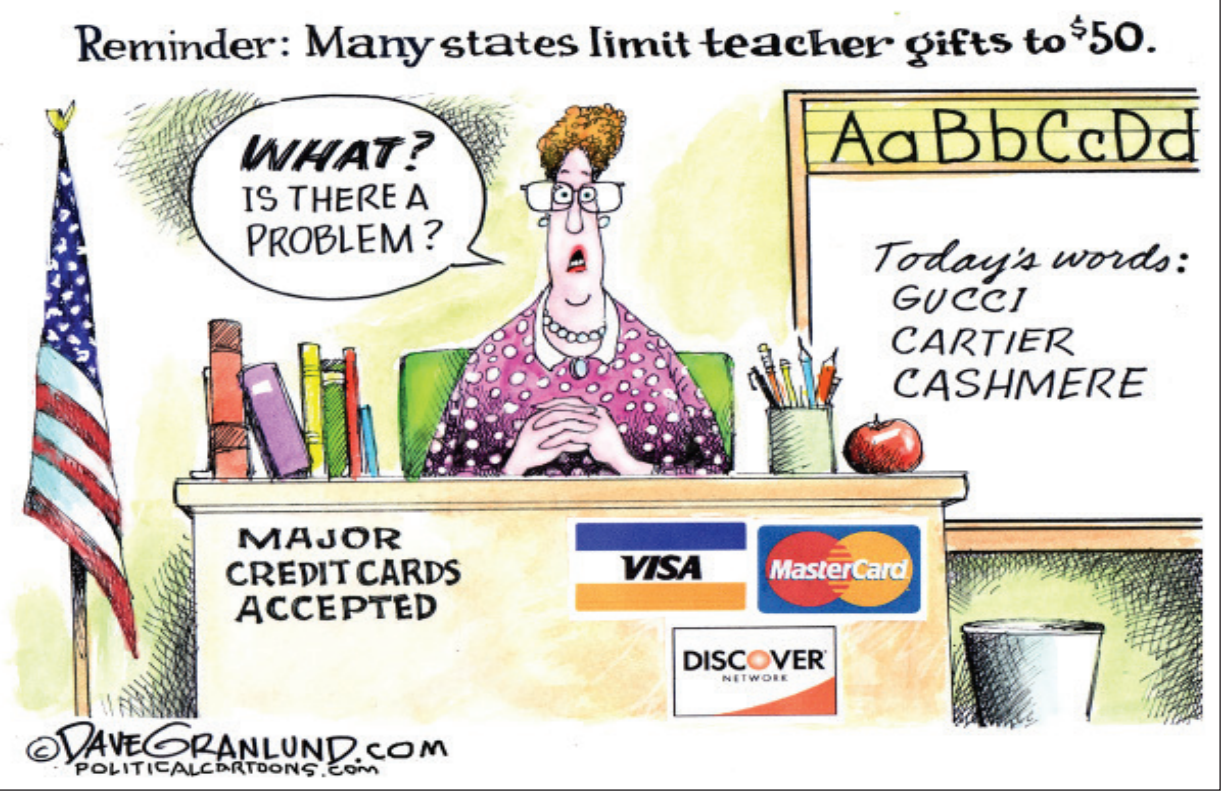
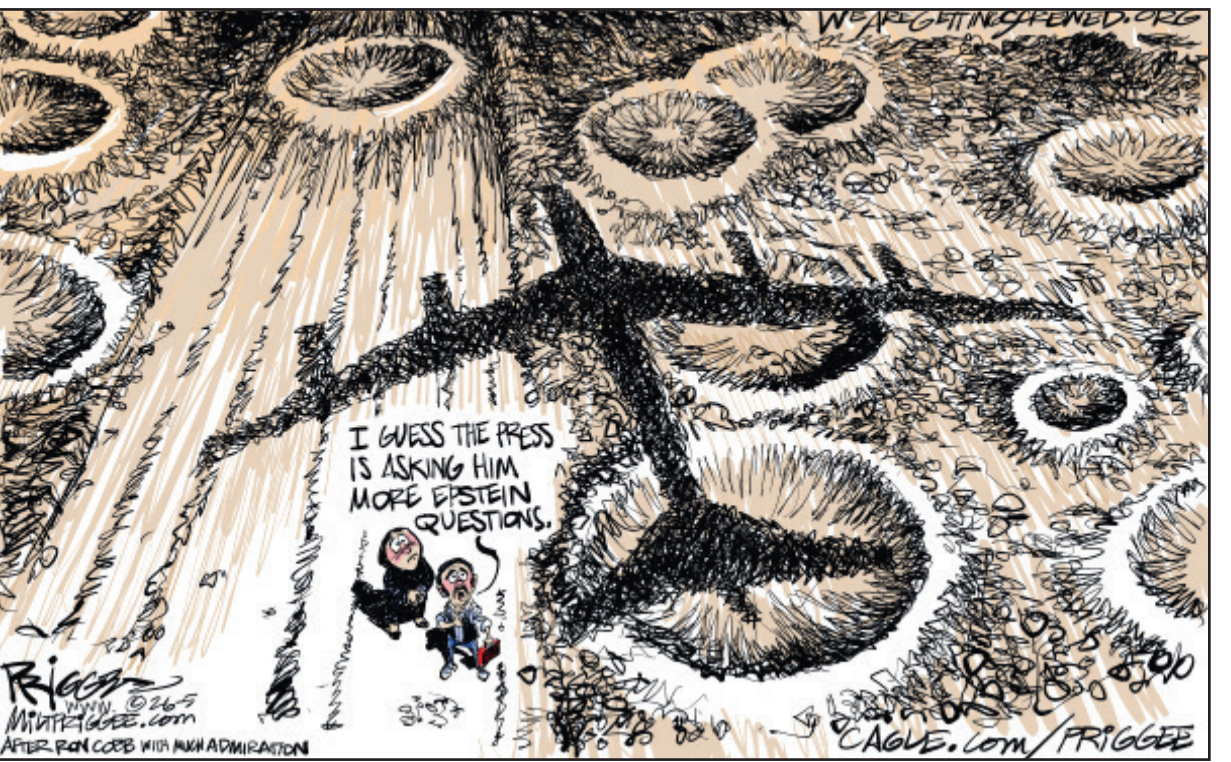
For example, I read about a Japanese fellow...an engineer named Soichiro who got turned down for a job at Toyota. A handy fellow, Soichiro started making piston rings in his garage. Early on his piston rings were rejected by everybody and then a bomb destroyed his little shop. He rebuilt it and then an earthquake destroyed it. He ended up selling the piston rings to Toyota, the company that turned down his much earlier job application.

Soichiro had a good attitude about it all. He said, "Success represents 1 percent of your work, which results only from the 99% that is called failure." Soichiro's last name was "Honda". They ended up naming a company he started after him. Started making motorcycles and then cars...still do.

I read about a basketball player who got cut from his high school varsity basketball team. Didn't give up. Don't know what happened to him. They actually ended up naming a tennis shoe after him. Call them "Air Jordans". (I wonder what he's doing these days.)

Of course, we can never forget the painter who painted over 800 paintings in his life. This wannabe artist sold only 1 painting his whole life! He also gave 1 away as payment to his doctor who used the painting to cover a hole in the roof of his chicken coop. Yeah, Vince learned that's the way it Gogh's. I think he drove a van. Heard that's the way the Van Gogh's. One of his paintings "Portrait of Dr. Gachet" is worth \$149 million dollars. (I wonder if whomever bought the painting of Dr. Gachet has a chicken coop?)

Well, enough mistakes from the keyboard (or is it key bored) of Rich Johnson. If you are crazy enough to want to see me...get over it lol. Actually this is a thinly veiled invitation to my upcoming August 8th rock and roll concert at Nano Café in Sierra Madre. My band, JJ Jukebox focuses on fun rock from the 60's, 70's and early 80's. Great instrumentation and surprisingly good vocals. If you like good food, occasional adult drink, good music and dancing come join us. The music of Creedence, Doobie Brothers, Beatles, Johnny Rivers, Steppenwolf, and countless other one hit wonders. Come join us. Nano Café can be found at 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Sierra Madre. (626) 325-3334.



Catch breaking news at: [mntviewsnews.com](http://mntviewsnews.com)

MYTHOLOGICAL CREATURES

ACROSS

- 1. Throat-clearing sound
- 5. Like a fiddle?
- 8. Chicago baseballer
- 11. Cyberattack target
- 12. Opposite of pizzicato, in music
- 13. Bullying, e.g.
- 15. Pharmacy ware
- 16. Wedding cake layer
- 17. \*Mythological part woman, part bird
- 18. \*Part man, part bull
- 20. Means justifiers
- 21. Seize the throne
- 22. Found at the pump
- 23. \*Part man, part fish
- 26. Julianne Moore or Lucille Ball, e.g.
- 30. Schiller's address to joy
- 31. Popular pet rodent
- 34. Bono's bandmate, with The
- 35. Chunk of iceberg
- 37. \*Pointy-eared humanoid
- 38. Knight's breastplate
- 39. Independent chieftan
- 40. Pay, in casino (2 words)
- 42. Bugling ungulate
- 43. Like sun
- 45. Mother-of-pearl, pl.
- 47. Public health org.
- 48. Manila hemp
- 50. Vegan's protein choice
- 52. \*Three-headed dog
- 55. African antelope, pl.
- 56. Not written
- 57. Arch above eye
- 59. Actor's rep
- 60. Sommelier's domain
- 61. \*Large and hideous humanoid
- 62. \*Giant bird of prey
- 63. Bulb type
- 64. \*Abominable humanoid

DOWN

- 1. Tally
- 2. Stay out of its way!
- 3. Small ladies' handbag
- 4. Extra large wine bottle
- 5. Robin Hood's companion Tuck
- 6. Frost over (2 words)
- 7. Millimeter of mercury
- 8. Little Miss Muffet's morsel
- 9. Mail carrier, acr.
- 10. Beyonc , a.k.a. Queen \_\_\_\_
- 12. Adjust
- 13. Beforehand
- 14. \*Wailing spirit
- 19. "Killers of the Flower Moon" Oklahoma location
- 22. Hair-raising product
- 23. Lawn trimmer
- 24. Organ swelling
- 25. Made over
- 26. Abundant
- 27. Landscaper's tool
- 28. Like an athlete
- 29. Office stations
- 32. Landlord's due
- 33. Acronym-named sandwich
- 36. \*Part lion, part eagle
- 38. Lickety-split
- 40. Nurses' org.
- 41. Incapable
- 44. Sunbaked, archaically speaking
- 46. Demijohn
- 48. Eagle's home
- 49. Gwyneth Paltrow's Goop
- 50. Not for here (2 words)
- 51. Barrel-counting org.
- 52. Type of hood
- 53. Restless desire
- 54. Database command
- 55. Roofing sealant
- 58. Yellow river tributary

CROSSWORD

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City of Sierra Madre

## NOTICE OF MULTIPLE PUBLIC HEARINGS

**From:** The City of Sierra Madre  
**Subject:** MEETING DATE AND TIME RESCHEDULED FOR MUNICIPAL CODE TEXT AMENDMENT (MCTA 26-02) ADOPTING BY REFERENCE THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE OBJECTIVE DESIGN STANDARDS BY ADDING CHAPTER 17.50 (OBJECTIVE DESIGN STANDARDS) TO TITLE 17 (ZONING) OF THE SIERRA MADRE MUNICIPAL CODE  
**Applicant:** City of Sierra Madre  
**Project Location:** Properties in the City of Sierra Madre, County of Los Angeles, State of California

The City of Sierra Madre gives notice that the previously scheduled City Council Special Meeting of May 26, 2026, has been cancelled and rescheduled for the date, time and place listed below. As a reminder, the City Council will conduct a public hearing to consider a Municipal Code Text Amendment (MCTA 26-02) adding Chapter 17.50 (Objective Design Standards) to Title 17 (Zoning) of the Sierra Madre Municipal Code and amending various sections therein applicable to multifamily residential and mixed-use developments.

The purpose of the amendment is to adopt the City of Sierra Madre Objective Design Standards. Several state housing laws, including SB 167, SB 423, SB 330, SB 4, and AB 2011, strongly incentivize cities to develop objective design standards for multifamily residential uses and mixed (residential and commercial) uses. By adopting Objective Design Standards, the City of Sierra Madre maintains the ability to impose design standards on multifamily residential and mixed-use developments. These Objective Design Standards are intended to streamline the approval process for housing units while maintaining good design.

CITY OF SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING	
DATE AND TIME OF HEARING	PLACE OF HEARING
Tuesday, June 9, 2026 (Hearing begins at 5:30 p.m.)	City of Sierra Madre City Council Chambers 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, CA

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@SierraMadreCA.gov](mailto:PublicComment@SierraMadreCA.gov) by 3:00PM on the day of the meeting. Receipt of emails will be acknowledged at the public hearing, filed into public record and scanned onto the City website for public review. The meeting will be streamed live on the City's website at [www.SierraMadreCA.gov](http://www.SierraMadreCA.gov), on Foothills Media website at <https://www.foothillsmidia.org/sierramadre> and broadcast on Government Access Channel 3 (Spectrum).

**ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:** This project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) because there is no possibility that the proposed project could have a significant impact on the environment. The project itself does not allow construction of any building or structure but sets forth design regulations that shall be followed. Therefore, it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the project may have a significant effect on the environment and thus is not subject to CEQA review.

**APPEAL:** The decision of the Planning Commission is subject to a 10-day appeal period to the City Council. If in the future anyone wishes to challenge the decision of the Planning Commission in court, one may be limited to raising the issues that were raised or presented in written correspondence delivered to the Planning Commission at, or before, the scheduled public hearing. If in the future anyone wishes to challenge the decision of the City Council in court, one may be limited to raising the issues that were raised or presented in written correspondence delivered to the City Council at, or before, the scheduled public hearing. For further information on this subject, please contact the Planning and Community Preservation Department at (626) 355-7138.

City of Sierra Madre

## Public Hearing Notice

**From:** The City of Sierra Madre  
**Subject:** CORRECTION OF THE MEETING DATE RESCHEDULED FOR THE GENERAL PLAN UPDATE OF THE OPEN SPACE & RECREATION ELEMENT AND THE CONSERVATION ELEMENT  
**Applicant:** City of Sierra Madre  
**Project Location:** City of Sierra Madre, County of Los Angeles, State of California

The City of Sierra Madre gives notice that the general public will have the opportunity to review and, for a period of 30 days, provide comments on the Sierra Madre General Plan Open Space & Recreation Element and Conservation Element updates. All public comments received in review of these documents will be forwarded to the Planning Commission and City Council for consideration during public hearings at the times and dates listed below, corrected as shown in bold.

The City of Sierra Madre is updating the Open Space & Recreation and Conservation Elements of the General Plan. These updates will guide how our community preserves, protects, and expands parks, trails, open spaces, and natural resources.

### PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD AND ACCESS HOW TO COMMENT

Open: May 12, 2026  
 Close: June 13, 2026

The Open Space & Recreation Element and Conservation Element may be reviewed online at any of the following links: During the Public Review Period, anyone may submit their comments by completing a simple form available from any of the links provided or by delivering their written comment to the Planning and Community Preservation Department.

[www.SierraMadreCA.gov/gp/open-space](http://www.SierraMadreCA.gov/gp/open-space)  
[www.SierraMadreCA.gov/gp/conservation](http://www.SierraMadreCA.gov/gp/conservation)

### PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

<b>DATE AND TIME OF HEARING</b> City of Sierra Madre Planning Commission meeting Thursday, June 18, 2026  (Hearing begins at 5:30 p.m.)	<b>PLACE OF HEARING</b> City of Sierra Madre City Council Chambers 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Sierra Madre, CA 91024
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### CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

<b>DATE AND TIME OF HEARING</b> City of Sierra Madre City Council meeting Tuesday, June 23, 2026  (Hearing begins at 5:30 p.m.)	<b>PLACE OF HEARING</b> City of Sierra Madre City Council Chambers 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Sierra Madre, CA 91024
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All interested persons may attend this meeting and the Planning Commission or City Council will hear them with respect thereto.

**ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:** The Project consists of policy-level updates to the City's General Plan that do not authorize or result in direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical changes to the environment and are intended to strengthen environmental protection. The updates function as a planning framework to guide future decision-making and do not approve or commit the City to any specific development, construction activity, or other physical alteration of the environment. Any future actions implementing the policies contained in the updated Elements would be subject to separate discretionary review and environmental analysis under CEQA. Based on the foregoing, and in light of the whole record, it can be seen with certainty that the Project will not have a significant effect on the environment. Accordingly, the Project is exempt from CEQA pursuant to the common sense exemption set forth in State CEQA Guidelines §15061(b)(3). In addition, the Project qualifies for the Class 8 categorical exemption under State CEQA Guidelines §15308 because it constitutes an action taken by a regulatory agency for the purpose of protecting the environment.

**APPEAL:** If in the future anyone wishes to challenge the decision of the City Council in court, one may be limited to raising the issues that were raised or presented in written correspondence delivered to the City Council at, or before, the scheduled public hearing. For further information on this subject, please contact the Planning and Community Preservation Department at (626) 355-7138. (GOV. CODE SEC. 65009)

## NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF GEORGE PAUL KISTNER Case No. 24STPB10600

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

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Suzanne Violet Aragon aka Suzanne Violet Kistner in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Suzanne Violet Aragon aka Suzanne Violet Kistner 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 May 15, 2026 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 11 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 inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Petitioner: Suzanne Violet Aragon aka Suzanne Violet Kistner  
 SUZANNE VIOLET ARAGON  
 AKA SUZANNE VIOLET KISTNER  
 670 WOODLAND DR  
 SIERRA MADRE CA 91024  
 CN126382 KISTNER Apr 18,25, May 9, 2026

T.S. No.: 25-16503  
 APN: 5325-020-005

## NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

**YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 5/2/2022. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER.**

A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below.

The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale.

Trustor: JEFFREY V. THOMPSON, A SINGLE MAN  
 Duly Appointed Trustee: Prestige Default Services, LLC

Recorded 5/9/2022 as Instrument No. 20220499425 of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Los Angeles County, California,

Date of Sale: 6/8/2026 at 11:00 AM

Place of Sale: Behind the fountain located in Civic Center Plaza  
 400 Civic Center Plaza, Pomona, CA 91766

Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$2,153,886.42

Street Address or other common designation of real property:

795 FAIRFIELD CIR  
 PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91106

A.P.N.: 5325-020-005 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale.

**NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS:** If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. All checks payable to Prestige Default Services, LLC.

**NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER:** The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (949) 776-4697 or visit this Internet Website <https://prestigepostandpub.com>, using the file number assigned to this case 25-16503. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale.

**NOTICE TO TENANT:** You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (949) 776-4697, or visit this internet website <https://prestigepostandpub.com>, using the file number assigned to this case 25-16503 to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase.

Date: 5/8/2026

Prestige Default Services, LLC  
 1920 Old Tustin Ave.  
 Santa Ana, California 92705  
 Questions: 949-427-2010  
 Sale Line: (949) 776-4697  
 Nida Taylor, Foreclosure Coordinator  
 PPP #26-005065

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA  
 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
 ALHAMBRA COURTHOUSE  
 150 WEST COMMONWEALTH  
 ALHAMBRA, CA. 91801

## SUMMONS

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: CULTIVA GROUP, et al

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:  
 5623 Peck Road, LLC., a limited liability company.

CASE NUMBER: 24NNCV01623

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below:

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site ([www.lawhelpcalifornia.org](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.

¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al de mandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California ([www.sucorte.ca.gov](http://www.sucorte.ca.gov)), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, ([www.lawhelpcalifornia.org](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, ([www.sucorte.ca.gov](http://www.sucorte.ca.gov)) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desear el caso.

CASE NUMBER:  
 (Número del Caso):  
 24NNCV01623

The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y dirección de la corte es):  
 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA,  
 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES,  
 ALHAMBRA COURTHOUSE  
 150 W COMMONWEALTH  
 ALHAMBRA, CA. 91801

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is:  
 (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):

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## May Events Around Town!

Brought to you by Sue Cook

### One Time Events

- May 1**  
**Cinco de Mayo in San Gabriel Mission District** - Enjoy live entertainment, kids activities, a roping contest, a beer and cocktail garden, and more. 5:30pm - 9pm
- May 2**  
**Cinco de Mayo at the UCLA Spring Game** Enjoy a marketplace, food, and live music while getting an inside look at the 2026 Bruins. 10am
- May 2**  
**Storytime at the Gamble House** - Celebrate of the 100th anniversary of Route 66, the "Little Old Lady from Pasadena" will share children's stories that spark the imagination. 11am - 12pm
- May 3**  
**Explore 1920's Style in Historic Rose Villa-Oakdale** - This Pasadena Heritage tour looks at post-WWI romantic, historically inspired design in Pasadena. Tours 9am, 10am, 11am and 5pm
- May 3**  
**Concorso Ferrari 2026** - Nearly 100 of the finest vintage and contemporary Ferraris will be on display on Colorado Boulevard in Old Pasadena. 10am - 3pm
- May 3**  
**Monrovia Historic Homes Tour** - Celebrate the centennial of Route 66 by touring homes along the original 1926 route on Shamrock Avenue and Foothill Boulevard. 10am - 4pm
- May 15**  
**Big Laughs Fest Presents: Friday Night Lights at Ice House Comedy Club** - Enjoy a high voltage night where touring comics share the stage with rising standouts. 8pm
- May 16**  
**Musical Storytime at the Gamble House with the Pasadena Conservatory of Music** - Unique learning experience, children's books become vehicles for musical play. 11am - 12pm

- May 29**  
**Golden Hour: Music in the Garden at Norton Simon** - Casual, creative afternoon. Music by Masatoshi Sato. Draw and enjoy light bites in the renovated garden. 4:30pm - 6:30pm
- Ongoing Events**
- April 4 - May 17**  
**The Original Renaissance Pleasure Faire** Embark on a rollicking romp through Elizabethan England. Games, demonstrations, and food. Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area. 10am - 7pm
- May 1 - 3**  
**History of the Arboretum Walking Tour** Explore the fascinating history of the Arboretum and the legacy of Lucky Baldwin, who built the queen Anne Cottage and Coach Barn. May 1 10:00 a.m. May 2 10:00 a.m. May 3 1:00 p.m.
- May 2 - 3**  
**Sierra Madre Art Fair** Art Fair in Memorial Park featuring the works of fine and emerging artists. 10am - 5pm
- May 7, 9**  
**Rooted Workshop: Mini Greenhouse Plant Propagation at Descanso Gardens** Learn propagation techniques and create a take-home mini greenhouse. 10am - 11:30am
- May 7 - 31**  
**LA County Fair at the Pomona Fairplex** Rides, Fair Food, Exhibits, Concerts and more! Thurs - Sun & Memorial Day 11am - 11pm
- May 8 & 22 (2nd & 4th Fridays May - Aug)**  
**Friday Nights at the Gamble House** - Enjoy a picnic, live music, and wine tasting on the lawn, plus tours of the first floor. 5:30pm
- May 14, 28**  
**Twilight Music and Cocktails at The Arboretum's Peacock Café** - Enjoy an evening of music and cocktails and wander through the vibrant garden. 6pm - 8pm



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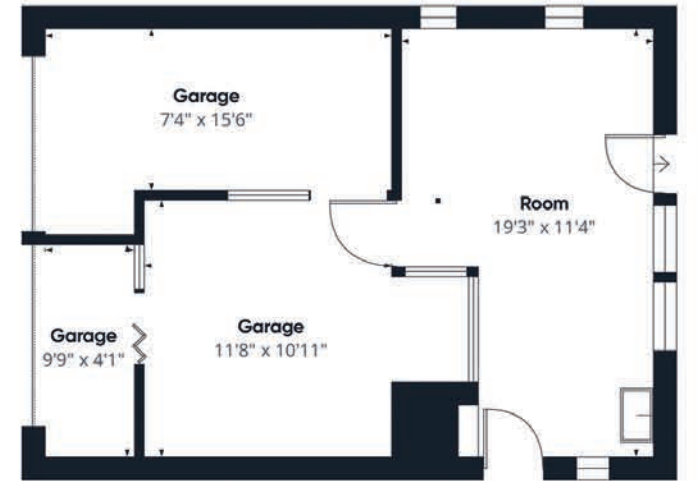
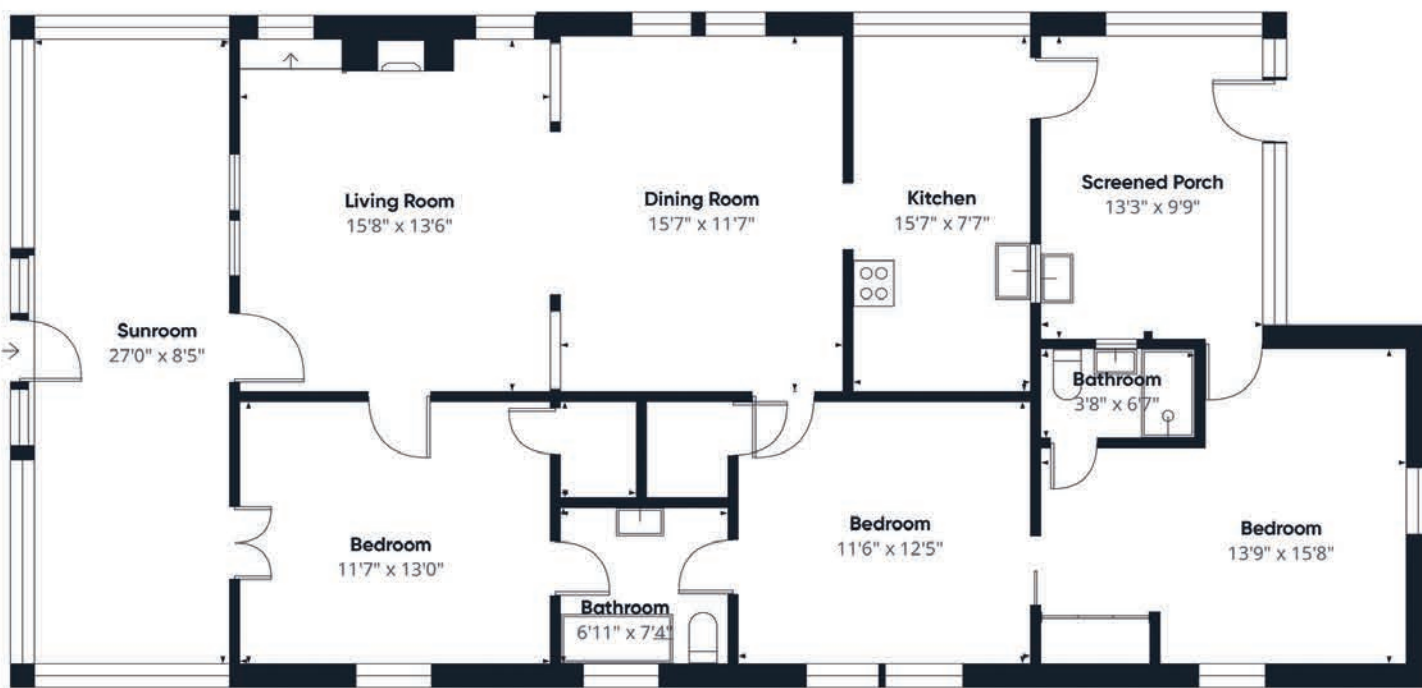
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