

St. Rita School

NORTH ON BALDWIN



Sierra Madre's Catholic School



Catholic Fidelity

103 Years of Tradition

Grades TK–8th

CYO Team Sports

Advanced Technology

After–School Programs

Low Classroom Ratio

Average Teacher Experience: 14 years

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2026

VOLUME 20 NO. 40

SMPD UNDER NEW LEADERSHIP

Council Approves Former La Habra Police Chief Jerry Price Following SMPD Chief Gus Barrientos' Retirement

September 28, 2026 – The Sierra Madre City Council has appointed veteran law enforcement executive Jerry Price to serve as Interim Chief of Police following the announcement of Police Chief Gustavo Barrientos' retirement.

The City Council approved Price's appointment at its September 8th City Council Meeting. Price brings more than 30 years of municipal law enforcement experience to Sierra Madre, including nearly a decade as Chief of Police for the City of La Habra.

"Jerry brings extensive experience leading a full-service municipal police department and understands the unique role local law enforcement plays in the community," said City Manager Mike Bruckner. "His experience and leadership will provide stability and continuity for the Police Department during this transition. I am confident that our officers, professional staff, and community will be well served under his leadership."

Price began his law enforcement career with the La Habra Police Department in 1991 and rose through the ranks from Police Officer to Chief of Police. As Chief, he led a department of more than 100 full-time employees serving a community of more than 62,000 residents and managed an annual budget exceeding \$20 million. His career includes leadership assignments in patrol, investigations, professional standards, emergency response, personnel and labor relations, and community policing.

Price holds a Master of Arts in Public Administration from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, and a Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership from Azusa Pacific University. He also holds California POST Executive, Management, and Supervisory Certificates and has completed advanced executive leadership training through POST and the Senior Management Institute for Police.

"The Sierra Madre Police Department has a proud tradition of providing professional, community-focused law enforcement services," Price said. "I am honored to have the opportunity to serve Sierra Madre and look forward to working alongside the men and women of the Department, City staff, and the community."

Price will assume his duties as Interim Chief of Police beginning October 5th, and will serve in that role while the City determines its next steps for the permanent leadership of the Sierra Madre Police Department.



Jerry Price - Sierra Madre Interim Chief of Police

Photo Courtesy City of La Habra

EXCESSIVE HEAT WARNING FORECAST THROUGH THURSDAY

San Gabriel Valley temperatures expected between 98-105 degrees through Thursday.

With excessive heat in the forecast for the next week, electrical demand is expected to soar as Southland residents crank up the A-C.

Power providers are urging customers to conserve wherever possible to help avoid outages.

An independent investigation ommissioned by Governor Gavin Newsom has released findings affirming key failures on the part of Los Angeles city and county agencies to plan, communicate and respond to the January 20-25 fires that killed 31 people and destroyed 16-thousand structures.

The 7-hundred-24-page report also found that the COUNTY Fire Department -- the lead agency handling the EATON fire that began in foothills of Altadena -- had significant communication issues resulting in critical information never reaching incident commanders ... and failed to use advanced technology such as satellite imagery.

HEAT EXHAUSTION OR HEAT STROKE?

HEAT EXHAUSTION SYMPTOMS

1. Faint or dizzy
2. Excessive sweating
3. Cool, pale, clammy skin
4. Nausea, vomiting
5. Rapid, weak pulse
6. Muscle cramps

HOW TO TREAT IT

1. Move to cooler location
2. Drink water
3. Take a cool shower or use cold compresses

HEAT STROKE SYMPTOMS

1. Throbbing headache
2. No sweating
3. Body temp above 103
4. Nausea, vomiting
5. Rapid, strong pulse
6. May lose consciousness

HOW TO TREAT IT

1. Get emergency help
2. Keep cool until treated

#HEATRELIEF4LA

Little Seeds to Mighty Saints.

SCHEDULE A TOUR TODAY!

322 N. Baldwin Ave.
Sierra Madre
626-355-6114
www.st-ritaschool.org

Non-Profit Special Events Community Meeting

AT SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
232 W SIERRA MADRE BLVD.

Let's Discuss the Special Events Permit



Wednesday October 7 6:00 PM

We want to learn about your events in the City. Not able to attend? Send your comments or questions to: communityservices @sierramadrecal.gov

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
232 W SIERRA MADRE BLVD.

Open Special Events COMMUNITY MEETING

YOUR VOICE MATTERS. YOUR PRESENCE COUNTS.

We'll discuss the Special Events Permit and the future of City events.

This event will be broadcasted and recorded.

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 14

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
232 W SIERRA MADRE BLVD
6:00PM

Can't Attend?

SEND IN QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS!

communityservices @sierramadrecal.gov

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561 Sierra Meadows

SIERRA MADRE, CALIFORNIA

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THINGS TO DO - SUPPORT

"Oh, the places you'll go!"
Creating luxury travel adventures for discerning Clientele



Catherine Addé, MA, CTC
*On Lake Avenue by appointment - catherine.a@travelstore.com
 626-639-2614*

Congratulations to the
- 2027 -
Sierra Madre
Rose Float Royal Court



SIERRA MADRE ROSE FLOAT ASSOCIATION

Left to right:
Princess Allison Leo — Pasadena High School;
Princess Tiffany Fink — California School of the Arts-San Gabriel Valley;
Ambassador Oliver Farnam — San Marino High School;
Princess Ashley Massino — Maranatha High School.

They will be riding on this year's float, 'Barn Dance.'

DOWNTOWN SIERRA MADRE HALLOWEEN WINDOW PAINTING

Gather your friends and paint local merchants' windows in Halloween themes.

Sponsored by the Sierra Madre Civic Club

Contest open to youths ages 9-17. At least one member of the team must be a Sierra Madre resident.

Awards for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in each age category.

For Applications and More Info:
SierraMadreCivicClub.org
 Facebook [sierramadrecivclub](https://www.facebook.com/sierramadrecivclub)
 The Library
 City Hall
 Your Local School

FREE EVENT!

PAINTING DATES AND TIMES
 FRI, OCT 23, 2:30 P.M. — 6:00 P.M.
 SAT, OCT 24, 7:30 A.M. — 10:00 A.M.

DEADLINE TO TURN IN YOUR APPLICATION TO CITY HALL IS OCTOBER 15, BY 4:00 P.M.

QUESTIONS? INFO@SIERRAMADRECIVICCLUB.ORG



October Events Around Town!
Brought to you by Sue Cook



One Time Events

October 3
Bob Baker Marionettes Halloween Spooktacular Show at One Colorado This family-friendly revue features performances from Dracula, witches, the Purple People Eater, and more. 10am and 1:30pm

October 3
Montrose Oktoberfest 2026 Enjoy authentic German fare, beer, live music, dancing, carnival rides and games. Honolulu Avenue 12pm – 10pm

October 3
Pumpkin Fairy Gardens at the Arboretum Children can explore pumpkins and succulents as they create a living fairy garden inside a real pumpkin. 1pm – 2:30pm & 3pm – 4:30pm

October 9
ArtNight Pasadena Pasadena's museums and cultural institutions open their doors for free and offer special programming. 6pm – 10pm

October 10
Flower Arranging: Oaks and Fifth Season Florals at the Huntington Make vibrant floral designs inspired by oak landscapes 10am – 12pm & 1pm - 3pm

October 10
Barks and Boos at the Arboretum Stroll with your dog and enjoy craft brews, adoptable pets, costume contest, delicious bites and beers. 11am – 4pm

October 24
Kabuki in Motion: The Lion Returns at The Huntington Celebrate one of Japan's great performing art traditions as you enjoy live music and dance-drama. 4:30pm – 6:30pm

October 25
Arroyo's Edge: An Exploration of Architecture with Nature as Inspiration Explore the remarkable architecture, history, and ecology of the arroyo led by a Gamble House docent and One Arroyo Foundation guide. 9am -10:30am

October 31
Hometown Halloween Festival in Sierra Madre Dress up for a pumpkin patch, trunk-or-treat, spook zone, entertainment & food vendors. 10am – 2pm

Ongoing Events

September 18 – October 31
Halloween at Kidspace Pumpkin bowling, a parade, monster-making & more.

October 2 – November 1
Carved at Descanso Garden Festive fall celebration filled with glowing jack-o'-lanterns, giant carved pumpkins, and seasonal surprises.

October 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11
Autumn Festival at The Huntington Celebrate the arrival of autumn at the Japanese Heritage Shoya House with an exhibition of court dolls and Ikebana floral arrangements. 12pm – 4pm

October 10, 11
Explore JPL 2026 NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory celebrates its 90th anniversary with a free open house. 9:30am – 4pm

Weekends October 10 – 31
Pumpkinfest at Cal Poly Pomona Explore Pumpkin Hill, The Marketplace, Jr. Farmers Discovery Zone, a petting farm, a train, and more! 10am – 7pm

October 10, 11
Cat-Con at Pasadena Convention Center Celebrate cats and pop culture with cat experiences, over 150 exhibitors and more. 10am – 5pm

October 11-18
Craftsman Week 2026 – Pasadena Heritage Explore local homes and landmarks as you join in a celebration of Pasadena's architectural legacy and the artists and craftspeople who continue these traditions today.

October 24, 25, 31
Pumpkin Patch and Fall Fun Fest at Santa Anita Park Celebrate the spooky season and explore a straw maze, enjoy a train ride, pony ride, pumpkin painting and more. 2:30 pm – 6pm

October 30, 31
Strange Science at The Huntington Celebrate the tenth thrilling year of The Huntington's annual Halloween bash, a bewitching night of tales, live performances, dancing, drinks and bites. 6pm - 10pm

SUE COOK COMPASS
 626.253.1323
suecookrealtor@gmail.com
 DRE 02015404

CREATIVE ARTS GROUP
CAG
 Sierra Madre

FALL HIGHLIGHTS

ON VIEW IN THE GALLERY
BLANDINE SAINT-OYANT



METAL ARTS SOCIETY
 Mystery Metals Challenge Group Exhibition



EVENTS
SCARECROW FESTIVAL
 Make your own Scarecrow! Scarecrow kits now available for pick-up!

COMING SOON!
ART FESTIVAL
 November 7-8
 10:00AM-4:00PM
 Student Sale
 November 14
 10:00am-4:00pm

CREATIVEARTSGROUP.COM/SCARECROW
 108 N Baldwin Ave., Sierra Madre Gallery Open Monday-Friday 10am-5pm

2026 SIERRA MADRE
SCARECROW Festival
 September-October

JOIN THE FUN!
BUILD A SCARECROW

THE SCARECROW FESTIVAL IS A FREE FAMILY-FRIENDLY FALL TRADITION THAT CELEBRATES THE CREATIVITY, IMAGINATION, AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT THAT MAKE SIERRA MADRE SO SPECIAL.

SCARECROW KITS ARE AVAILABLE NOW UNTIL SUPPLIES LAST!
 DROP BY THE CAG OFFICE TO PICK ONE UP.

CREATIVEARTSGROUP.COM/SCARECROW



SIERRA MADRE

ARCADIA PASADENA ALTADENA MONROVIA

Weather Wise

6-Day Forecast Sierra Madre, Ca.

Sun

Mon

Tues

Wed

Thur

Fri

Sunny

Sunny

Sunny

Sunny

Sunny

Sunny

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Hi

Hi

Hi

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100s

90s

Lows 80s

Lows 80s

Lows 80s

Lows 80s

Lows 80s

Lows 80s



Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service



SIERRA MADRE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

October 6, 2026

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@sierramadrecalifornia.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 sierramadrecalifornia.gov on Foothills Media website at foothillsmidiasite.org sierramadrecalifornia, and broadcast on Government Access Channel 3 (Spectrum).

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

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

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

Your event must:

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

Just write a Public Service Announcement that describes your event and e-mail it to radio@cityofsierramadrecalifornia.com.



Sierra Madre Woman’s Club

550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd, 91024

Why have you not yet joined Sierra Madre Woman’s Club?

We’re NOT “Little Old Ladies” playing Bridge at Tea!

We offer: Tuesday Morning Chair Yoga (10-11) w/ Paul Hagen (members only).

We enjoy 2nd Wednesday Luncheons or Teas w/ with interesting programs!

We host Nov. 18th’s Annual Community Interfaith Prayer Breakfast and our July 4th Pre-Parade Lawn Social (w/ Continental Breakfast)

Visit Our Booth during: Winter Village, Wistaria Festival, Trail Races

Wistaria Thrift Shop is our biggest fundraiser!

Shop is open: 1st Thursday in September through Last Saturday in May M, Th, F – 10 am – 3 pm; Saturdays 10 am – 1 pm

Join our weekly Tues / Wed Prep Crew: Jul –May.

Fundraisers : October Pumpkin Decorating & March Murder Mystery

AND: We annually award 8 Scholarships and donate to 20+ Charities!

Join Now! Call Lynette at 626-836-7715

SierraMadreWomansClub.org 626-355-4379

COMMUNITY EFFORT TO HELP LONGTIME RESIDENT AND VOLUNTEER ALAN TIERNEY FIGHT THE BATTLE OF HIS LIFE

For years you’ve seen Alan around town, helping wherever he could - at Little League, numerous community events and much more. Now he needs our prayers and support. Please scan the QR code below and join Team Alan.

Flock Cancer



SCAN TO DONATE



TEAM ALAN

https://gofundme.com/14ff454ee



PLEASE HELP ALAN AND HIS FAMILY THROUGH HIS CANCER FIGHT.

WHEN: Saturday, October 10th, 5-8pm

WHERE: Downtown Sierra Madre

Tickets are on sale now through the link below - \$50 presale, \$65 day of (limited tickets will be available day of).

<https://winewalk26.auctria.events/>

Get your tickets today and support Sierra Madre!

IT’S BACK!

SIERRA MADRE WINE WALK

SIP. SHOP. STROLL.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2026

5:00 – 8:00 PM

DOWNTOWN SIERRA MADRE

Enjoy wine at participating businesses

Shop local & discover something new

Support our community

Bring your friends and make a night of it!



A festive evening of wine, shopping, and community in the heart of Sierra Madre!

TICKETS:

<https://winewalk26.auctria.events>

WALKING SIERRA MADRE: The Social Side by Deanne Davis

“My beloved October has returned – with its brilliant colors, cool temperatures and sunny, cloudless, azure skies, and I must enjoy it before it escapes for another year.” Peggy Toney Horton, “Somewhere in Heaven My Mother is Smiling”

October serenades the breeze into dancing a cha cha cha; the mountains echo in the background.

October sky never looked more charming nor the sublime leaves of the trees so graceful.” Avijet Das

Here’s something you might not know...In 1774 Johnny Appleseed, a pioneer nurseryman known for introducing apple trees across the American frontier, was born John Chapman in Leominster, Massachusetts. Appleseed’s reputation as a quirky, barefoot wanderer with a tin-pot hat and a passion for planting apple trees solidified his place as an American folk hero who introduced trees grown with apple seeds to large parts of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and the Canadian province of Ontario, as well as the northern counties of West Virginia.

Legend has it that he was a kind boy who loved nature and animals, plants and trees, but most of all, he loved apples. Eventually a desire grew within him to plant apple trees for pioneer families, so he began to walk west, taking his apple seeds with him. He didn’t wear shoes, even in the winter. He wore a potato sack with holes cut out for his arms instead of regular clothes. The tin-pot he wore on his head doubled as both his hat and his cooking pot. He, obviously, wasn’t interested in what he wore, he only cared about being kind and helping others. He walked hundreds of miles and slept outside no matter how cold it was. He planted apple seeds everywhere he walked and taught people how to care for these trees. If you happen across an old apple tree, visiting the Midwest, it might very well be one planted by Johnny Appleseed.

If you take a look around the Produce section of your favorite grocery store, you’ll see more and more of the classic harvest staples like crisp apples, juicy pears and tart cranberries that reach their peak during the autumn months. And, you’ll probably see a big box filled with pumpkins, big ones, small ones, strangely shaped ones and as we all know, pumpkins can be much more than an orange squash with seeds inside.

Where am I going with all this? I want to make some Apple Cake and you, dear friends and neighbors, should have some, too. This is really easy, and it’s one of the things people never get tired of. You can serve it as a dessert, a snack, heat it up for breakfast and with all those apples and nuts in it, you won’t feel guilty eating it down to the last crumb. It looks elegant

on a pretty plate with maybe just a spoonful of whipped cream on top.

EASY APPLE CAKE

Preheat your oven to 350 degrees.

2 cups Granny Smith apples, cored, peeled and cut in good sized chunks

1 cup sugar

Put the apples in a bowl and add the sugar. Let stand 30 minutes. (This part is really important as this makes your apples release their juices.)

Add to the apples and sugar:

¼ cup oil

1 egg beaten

1 tsp vanilla

Blend well

Combine and add to the apple ingredients:

1 cup unsifted flour

1 generous tsp. cinnamon

1 tsp. soda

¼ tsp. salt

Add ½ cup or so chopped pecans or walnuts and a handful of dried cranberries works, too.

Pour into well-greased 8” square pan

Bake at 350, 45 to 50 minutes till cake tester comes out clean.

Best served warm, shared with a good friend. You can double or triple it and it still comes out divine.

The picture this week, another scarecrow! I just have to share them with you!

“Think well of all, be patient with all, and try to find the good in all.” Muhammad Ali

My book page: Amazon.com: Deanne Davis

There are treasures there! Trust me! including “Just Desserts” A Fall Fantasy of Pumpkins Gone Wrong!

Fall fruits include classic harvest staples like crisp apples, juicy pears, and tart cranberries that reach their peak during the autumn months.



Living with Coyotes Community Discussion



The Pasadena Public Health Department (PPHD) will host Living with Coyotes: Reducing Conflicts with Our Wildlife Neighbors on Saturday, October 24, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at the Memorial Park Pavilion. The free community event will feature a panel of wildlife experts, a resource fair, and an opportunity for residents to ask questions about coyotes and learn practical ways to reduce human-coyote conflicts.

Over the past five years, the City of Pasadena has received growing community concerns about coyotes in neighborhoods throughout the city. In July 2023, the Pasadena City Council directed staff to take several actions to better understand Pasadena's local coyote population, examine how current coyote research applies to the community, and provide residents with information and tools to help deter coyotes from entering their properties. One of those actions called for the City to convene a panel of coyote experts to strengthen the community's understanding of effective approaches to reducing human-coyote conflicts. The community event builds on that effort by bringing wildlife experts and community members together for an educational discussion.

The panel will include state wildlife officials, researchers, and coyote experts who will discuss urban coyote behavior, applicable state laws, reducing attractants, and strategies for preventing conflicts. Featured panelists include Alex Heeren, Ph.D., California Department of Fish and Wildlife; Rebecca Dmytryk, CEO of Humane Wildlife Control; Dana Stangel, founder of Teranga Ranch; and Ted Stankowich, Ph.D., professor at California State University, Long Beach.

The resource fair will feature representatives from local and state agencies, educational institutions, and nonprofit organizations. Community members will be able to learn more about coyotes, ask questions, and access resources related to wildlife and conflict prevention.

The event is free, but attendees are asked to complete an RSVP form. The RSVP form allows participants to submit questions in advance, which event staff will use to help guide the panel discussion. Registration is not required and attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions and raise additional topics during a question-and-answer segment of the event.

The program is intended to advance the community conversation around reducing human-coyote conflicts, provide residents with practical tools for managing coyote interactions, and explore potential adjustments to current strategies.

For more information about the event and to RSVP, visit the Living with Coyotes: Reducing Conflicts with Our Wildlife Neighbors Calendar Listing website.



Tournament Announces 2027 Rose Court

The Pasadena Tournament of Roses announced Monday the seven members of the 2027 Rose Court. The anticipated reveal was attended by nearly 200 people on the south lawn of Tournament House, including friends and family of the 27 finalists. Volunteer Members of the Tournament of Roses' Queen & Court Committee made their selections based on several criteria including academic achievement, community and school involvement, public speaking ability and youth leadership.

The Tournament of Roses has a long-standing tradition of celebrating educational excellence and continues the legacy by providing each Rose Court member with a \$7,500 academic scholarship

The Rose Queen and Rose Court represent cherished traditions within the history of the Pasadena Tournament of Roses. This legacy continues with the Announcement and Coronation of the 108th Rose Queen and the presentation of the 2027 Rose Court, to be held on Tuesday, October 28, on the front lawn of Tournament House.

The 2027 Rose Court will ride on a float down Colorado Blvd. in the 138th Rose Parade* presented by Honda and attend the College Football Playoff Quarterfinal at the Rose Bowl Game*, both on Friday, January 1, 2027.

The seven members of the 2027 Rose Court are pictured: (#355) Lucy Joyce Wendling, San Marino High School

(#212) Tessa Rose Choi, La Cañada High School; (#152) Irene Lim Maddox, Eagle Rock High School; (#349) Elizabeth Tabaro Kengaju Rweyemamu, Polytechnic School; (#362) Daniela Guzman, Arcadia High School. (#235) Maria Teresa Monserrat McDonald, Thurgood Marshall Secondary School (#392) Evita Cielo Bridge, Mayfield Senior School.

For more information visit: tournamentofroses.com.

Pasadena Chalk Festival Inspires at Brookside Park



Artist Arlou Somo photo by D.Lee/MVNews

In the shade of Brookside Park, families and artists flocked to the Pasadena Chalk Festival murals surrounding the Kidspace Children's Museum. Large crowds gathered there for the first time to witness a celebration of art unbound from the gallery. People came to stroll through the park, picnic, and enjoy the vivid colors covering the pavement.

Artists voted amongst their peers for the esteemed awards in the Best in Festival 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places, Best Technique, Best Use of Color, Best 3-D Effect, Best Rendition of a Masterpiece, On the Way to MOCA, Most Humorous, Most Inspirational, Best at Silent Auction, Best in Animation, and Best New Artist. Here is the list of winners and their corresponding works.

- Best at Silent Auction - Leo Aguirre - @Leonides_80
- Most Inspirational - Jacqui Somo
- Most Humorous - Alexandra Cleveland - dnalevelc621
- Best in Animation - Karla Navarro - @KDaze
- Best Rendition of a Masterpiece - Lauren Ridenour - drawn2artstudios.com/pasadena
- Best Use of Color - Patricia Llovera - @pjl.design
- Best 3-D Effect - Julio Jiménez - @Jjsplant
- Best Technique - Yuji Baba - @ybllustration
- Best New Artist - Jacob Ritchie - On The Way To Moca - Austin Robertson - @austrobertson
- Best in Festival #3 - Shuji Nishimura - @kuniyoshi1972
- Best in Festival #2 - Kayla Garcia - @Kayla_doodles
- Best in Festival #1 - Arlou Somo - @Chalkblender, Arlousomoart.com (pictured top).

At the Awards Ceremony, artists championed and defended their field. One referred to the "Artistic Intelligence" of chalk artists; others shared how the practice has helped them process hard times. Two veteran artists of the festival, Randall Williams and Stacy Nalapraya, even shared their love before the crowd in an engagement, fifteen years after initially meeting at this very same festival.

Murals can still be seen at Brookside Park for as long as the elements permit, so stop by and see all the other murals before they're gone.

For more information visit: pasadenachalkfestival.org

Pasadena set to Celebrate National Coming Out Day



Join the city of Pasadena Saturday, October 10, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Memorial Park's Band Shell, 85 E. Holly St., to commemorate the city's efforts to celebrate and foster an inclusive community and mark Pasadena's 10th annual National Coming Out Day.

This free event is for all ages and supports those who have come out as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual and those who identify with a sexual orientation or gender identity that is not specifically named within the LGBTQIA+ acronym.

The event will feature music, resource tables, giveaways (while supplies last), a car display, and crafts. Participating community organizations and partners include SGV LGBTQ Center, Planned Parenthood Pasadena and San Gabriel Valley, PFLAG Pasadena, Great Autos Car Club, and more.

Nearly one in two Americans knows someone who is gay or lesbian, and one in 10 knows someone who is transgender. Coming out holds power and still matters whether as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, or asexual. Sharing our stories raises awareness and shifts perspectives. When people know someone who is LGBTQIA+, they are far more likely to support equality under the law.

This year's keynote speaker is Juju Lelliott. Lelliott is deeply committed to advancing health equity and LGBTQ+ representation. As the newly named executive director of Newcomers Access Center (NAC), she leads organizational efforts to provide food, clothing, housing, employment, and education to refugee and immigrant families in the Claremont region. Lelliott did her doctoral work at USC Rossier, where her research focused on perinatal care for trans, genderqueer, and nonbinary parents. Juju lives in Bungalow Heaven, Pasadena's first landmark district. Juju is a commissioner for the LA County LGBTQ+ Commission and was appointed by the Board of Supervisors in March 2025.

The City of Pasadena is proud to be an inclusive city, accepting of everyone regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, marital status, socioeconomic status, sex, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information, or disability.

This event is presented by the Pasadena Public Health Department, Pasadena Public Library, and Pasadena Parks, Recreation and Community Services Departments.

Fall Masters Series at Pasadena Senior Center

The history and legacy of 100 year old cultural icons — including two Los Angeles landmarks — that are still important parts of local and national culture will be the focus of the three week-long 'Looking Back, Looking Forward' fall Master's Series, beginning on Tuesday, October 6 and running consecutive Tuesdays through October 20 at 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. onsite at the Pasadena Senior Center.

Music historian Galen Wilkes and special guest presenters will explore the history of ragtime music — including new compositions of his own — in the October 6 session, while Cal State Fullerton Professor Andi Stein will take attendees on a tour through of the legends of Route 66 in its centennial year on October 13. The last in the series will offer a special look at the rich history of the Los Angeles Public Library and its iconic 1925 Central Library building, with the library's photo curator Christina Rice on October 20.

To attend all three lectures, tuition is just \$45 for members and \$50 for non-members. Individual lecture tickets may be purchased for only \$18 for members and \$20 for non-members. The lectures are in-person and will not be recorded. Reservations are suggestions and tickets will be available at the door.

To learn more visit: pasadenaseniorcenter.org or call 626-795-4331.

South Pasadena Public Library Genealogy Fair

The South Pasadena Public Library will host a Genealogy Fair today from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Library Community Room. The free community event will bring together genealogical resources, local cultural organizations, and community groups to help residents explore their family histories and learn more about genealogy.

Designed for community members at all levels of experience, the Genealogy Fair will offer opportunities to connect with organizations and resources focused on family history and cultural heritage. Attendees can visit exhibitors throughout the day and participate in presentations covering a range of genealogy-related topics.

The day's programming will begin with "Genealogy 101," a presentation by Sara Cockran, also known as The Skeleton Whisperer, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. At noon, Eugene Moy, President of the Historical Society of Southern California, will present on Chinese genealogy in Southern California, exploring resources and approaches for researching Chinese family history in the region.

The fair will conclude with a short documentary screening of My Mother's Voice, sharing the story of fourteen-year-old Flora Munushian escape from the Armenian genocide, followed by a Q&A with author and documentarian Dr. Kay Mouradian, from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Library Community Room is located located at 1115 El Centro Street.

For more information, contact the South Pasadena Public Library at 626-403-7359.

Sierra Madre



COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

Are You Ready for the Big One!

Join Wes Carson for an informative discussion on earthquake preparation and emergency readiness. Learn practical steps to protect your family, home, and community before, during, and after an earthquake. We will cover emergency supplies, evacuation planning, communication strategies, home preparedness, and simple actions that can reduce risks and improve your ability to respond to the Big One!

The public is welcome to attend!

Sierra Madre CERT General Meeting
Thursday, September 24th 7:00 PM
Hart Park House - Memorial Park
222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.



SIERRA MADRE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday worship 9:30 a.m.

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AROUND SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

MOSQUITO TREATMENTS PLANNED IN ALTADENA, MONTEREY PARK



ALTADENA (CNS) - Mosquito control treatments will be conducted Wednesday and Thursday in Altadena and Monterey Park in an effort to reduce mosquito populations that create a significant public health risk, officials said Friday.

The treatment will occur between midnight and 5:30 a.m. both days, according to the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District.

The Altadena treatment will occur in the area between Glenrose Avenue and Marengo Avenue, south of East Mariposa Street and north of West Woodbury Road.

The Monterey Park treatment will occur in the area between West Floral Drive and the Pomona (60) Freeway, east of Vancouver Avenue and west of Collegian Avenue.

The agency will use ultra-low volume

adulticide and low volumelarvicide applications to target mosquitoes at multiple life cycle stages to control the population and reduce the risk of mosquito-borne disease.

Specialists will be applying Aquaduet to target adult mosquitoes in both treatment areas. It contains Sumithrin and Prallethrin, active ingredients formulated to mimic the properties in chrysanthemum flowers. Since the material is suspended in water, the application will not harm the finishes on cars or homes, officials said.

In Altadena, specialist will also apply VectoBac WDG, a biological larvicide which contains Bacillus thuringiensis subsp. israelensis, to water sources containing immature mosquitoes to reduce the number that develop into biting adults. If weather conditions are not favorable, or if there are operational

delays, the application may be postponed or delayed.

Efforts will be made to notify residents in the treatment areas through physical postings, social media, Nextdoor and traditional news media.

Health officials recommend the following steps to prevent mosquitoes:

- Eliminate standing water in clogged rain gutters, rain barrels, discarded tires, buckets, watering troughs, or anything that holds water for more than a week.
- Ensure that swimming pools, spas, and ponds are properly maintained.
- Change the water in pet dishes, birdbaths, and other small containers weekly.
- Report neglected swimming pools in your neighborhood to your vector control district.

FEMA ANNOUNCES \$11M IN NEW DISASTER RELIEF FOR WILDFIRE, STORM SURVIVORS

LOS ANGELES (CNS) - The Trump administration today announced an additional \$11 million in recovery relief for nearly 6,000 survivors affected by the 2025 Palisades and Eaton wildfires and the 2023 winter storms.

In total, the Federal Emergency Management Agency has provided nearly \$24 million for case management services across the disasters, officials said.

The grants announced Wednesday include more than \$6.6 million for over 3,000 survivors of the wildfires and severe winds that affected the county.

To date, nearly \$10 million in FEMA funds have been provided for the disaster. Funding also includes more than \$4.5 million for services provided for more than 2,700 survivors of the 2023 storms that hit several California counties. More than \$13.6 million has been provided for storm relief, FEMA said.

Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger applauded the announcement. "I welcome FEMA's approval of additional funding for disaster case management for Los Angeles County," she said in a statement. "Once received, this funding will allow thousands of Eaton Fire survivors to continue receiving the personalized support they need as they navigate the complicated road to recovery. Having someone help them work through housing, insurance, rebuilding, and other recovery challenges can make a meaningful difference.

"I thank the Trump administration and FEMA for recognizing that survivors' needs continue. I hope that this funding will be accessible locally as soon as possible, so Eaton Fire survivors continue accessing this critical support system."

The Eaton Fire Collaborative, however, said additional FEMA funding does not solve the problems the EFC says are facing the Disaster Case Management Program.

The announcement gives no timeline for how long the program will continue, and there is no hint about how funds will be distributed across Altadena, Pasadena and Sierra Madre, according to the EFC. "It does not name the Eaton Fire, even though Eaton survivors make up the largest share of Disaster Case Management clients in Los Angeles County," according to EFC, which describes itself as a group of local nonprofits, community groups, city, county, and state officials dedicated to helping those affected by the Eaton fire.

"Case management is how survivors find their way through recovery, and it has to be there for the full length of that journey," Michael Ocon, executive director of the EFC, said in a statement. "We are grateful to the state of California for keeping services running and to the legislative partners who have pressed for this funding. We are ready to work with FEMA to finish the job. That means honoring the full commitment made to this program so no survivor loses their case manager mid-recovery."

\$5.5 MILLION IN STATE FUNDING HELPS MOVE CHARLES WHITE PARK REBUILD INTO CONSTRUCTION STATE INVESTMENT SECURED BY ASSEMBLYMEMBER HARABEDIAN IS HELPING FUND THE \$10.5 MILLION RECONSTRUCTION OF THE ALTADENA PARK DESTROYED IN THE EATON FIRE



(ALTADENA, CA) - Construction is set to begin Saturday on the rebuilding of Charles White Park, nearly 21 months after the Eaton Fire destroyed the Altadena park. The project is being funded with \$5.5 million from the State of California, secured by Assemblymember Harabedian, (above) and \$5 million from The Walt Disney Company, bringing the total project investment to \$10.5 million.

The Eaton Fire reached Altadena on January 7, 2025, destroying homes, businesses and public facilities throughout the community. Charles White Park was among the sites hit by the fire; its playground and other recreational facilities were destroyed.

The state funding for Charles White Park is part of a larger \$21.7 million state investment in Altadena parks and open spaces secured by Harabedian following the Eaton Fire.

Harabedian began pushing for state resources for Altadena's public infrastructure and long-term recovery in the immediate aftermath of the fire. His work in Sacramento has since included securing funding for local recovery projects and advancing legislation addressing the financial and housing challenges facing disaster survivors.

"When the Eaton Fire came through Altadena, it damaged every part of daily life. That included the places families

used every day," said Assemblymember John Harabedian (D-Pasadena). "Getting this funding into the state budget was about making sure parks were part of the recovery conversation from the beginning. Now, after a long wait, I am proud to say that construction has begun."

The project also carries a connection to Altadena's history. Charles White spent over two decades in Altadena and produced some of his best-known work here; his son, artist Ian White, is a resident of Altadena and has participated in the planning for the redesigned park.

For Harabedian, the project represents one of the tangible pieces of the state's response to the Eaton Fire that residents will be able to watch take shape.

"The goal was never simply to replace what was there before the fire," said Assemblymember John Harabedian (D-Pasadena). "It was to make sure Altadena has the public spaces it deserves as it rebuilds. Charles White Park will be part of that next chapter."

The groundbreaking ceremony will take place Saturday, October 3, from 10 a.m. to noon at Charles White Park, 77 Mountain View Street in Altadena.

#####

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

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PASADENA UNIFIED LAUNCHES “ALL-STAR YEAR” WITH ALL-STAR BAND IN 2027 ROSE PARADE, ALL-STAR MUSICAL “LES MISÉRABLES”

Nearly 150 band members and 200+ musical students begin months of rehearsals for a landmark season in Pasadena’s public schools

PASADENA, CA - The Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) is launching an “All-Star Year” of its performing arts education programs. The PUSD All-Star Band will march in the 2027 Tournament of Roses Parade on January 1, 2027, for the first time in nearly four decades, and the district’s All-Star Musical will stage a full-scale student production of “Les Misérables” February 17-21 at Pasadena High School in association with Pasadena Playhouse.

Both milestones put public school students on some of the region’s biggest stages. PUSD’s All-Star Band will march in the Tournament of Roses Parade, a New Year’s Day tradition watched by millions around the world. For the All-Star Musical, performed every other year, students from all PUSD high schools audition and apply to join the professional-caliber production. Students fill every role, on stage, in the orchestra, and behind the scenes. Together, the two All-Star programs this year involve more than 350 students from PUSD high schools, including Blair High School, John Muir Early College Magnet, Thurgood Marshall Secondary, and Pasadena High School.

“Our All-Star Year shows that, when a community invests in its students, they rise to meet the moment. We invite Pasadena, Altadena, Sierra Madre, and people around the world to line the parade route and cheer on our student performers, and to fill the seats when the curtain rises on “Les Misérables” in February. Every cheer tells these students their hard work, creativity, and voice are valued,” said PUSD Superintendent Elizabeth Blanco, Ed.D.

All-Star Musical students, both performers and production crew, are mentored by teachers, working theater professionals, and industry experts, gaining work-based learning skills that can lead to careers in performance, set and art direction, and stage technology. This year’s musical, “Les Misérables”, has a challenging score and a story that centers on history, justice, community, and empathy.

Both programs draw high school students from across the district. As the cast and crew of students from different schools and grades work side-by-side, they build a shared vision and forge lifelong connections. Students in past All-Star Musicals said that they felt a sense of belonging and learned that collaboration, empathy, and trust are skills central not only to performing arts but to life itself.

All-Star Band members also mentor younger musicians for PUSD’s Elementary Music Festival, building a connected K-12 arts pipeline.

This year’s momentum carries added meaning for a community still rebuilding after the Eaton Fire. In March 2025, just months after the fire, students and staff came together to produce the band’s Rose Parade audition video, a symbolic step in the district’s recovery and a reminder of how the arts help bring the community together.

“Being selected to march in the Rose Parade for my hometown is a dream come true. We have been

rehearsing for two years, and every practice, we get better and move forward together. Wearing the colors of all four of our high schools reminds me that we are one Pasadena, and I am so proud to represent it,” said Santiago Smith Ruiz, Senior, All-Star Head Drum Major.

All-Star Band Returns to the Rose Parade

For the first time in years, a Pasadena Unified School District band has been selected, via audition, to march in the Rose Parade, competing against marching bands from around the world for a spot in the lineup.

The district most recently appeared in the parade in 2022, when the band marched as a special entry at the invitation of the Tournament of Roses President. Formed in 2020 to represent Pasadena in its hometown parade and grow instrumental music across the district, the current All-Star Band includes four drum majors (one from each high school), 121 band members, 20 color guard performers, and 12 dancers. The band is mentored by teachers from Blair, Marshall, Muir, and Pasadena high schools.

Before marching down Colorado Boulevard on January 1, 2027, the band will perform in the Hollywood Christmas Parade on November 29 and at Band Fest at Pasadena City College in December.

All-Star Musical Brings “Les Misérables” to the Stage
The All-Star Musical returns for its third biennial production, following the success of “Into the Woods” (2023) and “Hometown: Teen Edition” (2025), produced by the PUSD Visual and Performing Arts Department in association with Pasadena Playhouse. PUSD students will fill every role: leading and supporting cast, chorus, orchestra, stage crew, plus the design and construction of sets, props, and costumes. PUSD teachers and teaching artists in theatre, music, dance, and visual arts will guide and mentor the students. After intensive rehearsals this fall and winter, there will be five public performances of “Les Misérables” in the Gladiss Edwards Auditorium at Pasadena High School on February 17-21, 2027.

Learning Beyond the Stage

All sixth and seventh graders will attend the February 17 matinee, and high school performing arts and history classes are invited to the February 18 matinee, opening the stage to more than 3,000 students and roughly 6,000 student and community audience members overall. Grade-level curriculum, developed by All-Star Musical student assistant directors and classroom teachers, will support pre-show preparation and post-show classroom reflections, and on Friday, February 19, cast and crew will visit sixth grade classrooms to discuss the show and answer questions. Watch the PUSD All-Star Band audition video and the Rose Parade announcement video. To find program and musical performance information, visit pusd.us/Arts.

About Pasadena Unified School District
Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) serves TK-12 students in Pasadena, Altadena, and Sierra Madre, California. PUSD is committed to a well-rounded education, including robust arts programming, that prepares students to succeed in college, career, and life.

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@acsilions.com
Principal: Cindy Harmon
website: www.acsilions.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.bcsilions.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
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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

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Monrovia, Ca. 91016
(626) 471-2000
Website: www.monroviaschools.net

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



Several weeks ago, Pasadena High School made the decision to scrap the rest of the 2026/2027 varsity football season, downgrading the team to Junior Varsity for the remainder of this season.

Over the past few weeks, opinions on this topic are as varied as our nation’s politics. While we can debate what caused the precipitous drop in the varsity program (transfers, student enrollment, etc.) there can simply be no debate that the Coaches, Administration, and District made this decision considering that which matters most. The health and safety of the players.

In our often self-aggrandizing world, the staff at PHS put the health of the overall student body at the forefront.

The cancellation of this year’s Turkey Tussle vs. John Muir High, the disappointment of the seniors that remained loyal to PHS and in doing so sacrificed what may be there last chance to don the pads and play the game they love and have devoted so many hours towards, pale in comparison to the time honored tradition of doing what is right.

On Thursday, Pasadena’s football team hosted Gabriellino High School (JV) and secured their first on the field win of the season 20 -42.

However, the program secured its first win of the season well before they took to the field this week. Well done Pasadena High School.

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THE HIDDEN COST OF CAREGIVING: WHEN CARING FOR A LOVED ONE TAKES A TOLL ON YOUR HEALTH

Caring for an aging parent, spouse, or loved one can be one of the most meaningful things we do. But it can also come with a hidden cost: caregiver burnout.

Many family caregivers gradually take on more responsibilities—managing medications, preparing meals, driving to appointments, helping with bathing and dressing, handling finances, and providing emotional support. When dementia or other health conditions are involved, caregiving can become a 24-hour responsibility.

Over time, the constant demands can take a toll on the caregiver’s own health. Caregivers may experience chronic stress, poor sleep, anxiety, depression, headaches, or changes in appetite and weight. Some may put off their own doctor appointments, exercise, social activities, or even basic self-care because their loved one’s needs always seem more important.

Sleep deprivation can be particularly challenging. A loved one who wakes frequently during the night or needs assistance can leave a caregiver exhausted before the next day even begins. When this continues for months or years, the caregiver may feel physically and emotionally depleted.

One of the biggest problems is that caregivers often don't consider themselves caregivers—they see themselves as a spouse, son, daughter, or other family member simply doing what needs to be done. Asking for help can even make them feel guilty.

But getting help is not a sign of failure. It is a way to protect both the caregiver and the person receiving care.

Respite care, adult day programs, in-home assistance, support groups, and professional guidance can provide caregivers with much-needed relief. Sometimes, even a few hours away can make a significant difference.

If you are caring for someone you love, remember this: your health matters, too. You cannot continually give from an empty tank. Taking care of yourself is not selfish—it is an important part of taking care of your loved one.



OUT TO PASTOR

A Weekly Religion Column by Rev. James Snyder

NOT EVERYTHING IN LIFE IS FUNNY

I’m the kind of person who finds a sliver of humor in just about everything in life. If I can’t laugh, I guess I’m not awake yet.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage is not on board with my attitude. It takes her quite a while to find something to laugh at. If only she could see my bathroom mirror in the morning, she could find something to laugh about.

Several years ago, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and I celebrated our birthdays which are two days apart. We went to a restaurant to celebrate. I told the waitress that we were celebrating our birthdays.

She looked at me, smiled, and said, “Tell me, sir, how does it feel to be old?” Then she laughed.

Of course, I laughed back at her, then reached across the table and began squeezing the arm of The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage. I looked back at the waitress and said, “It sure feels good.”

The waitress and I were laughing, and the only one not laughing was sitting across the table from me. For some reason she didn’t think it was funny.

I worried she might bring it up on the way home, but she never did.

I always find ways to turn something around and laugh at it.

Often, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage would start a conversation by saying, “I was thinking...”

Then, without thinking, I interrupted her and responded, “With what?” Then I would laugh hysterically.

Of course, I was the only one laughing at the time. She would look at me with one of “her looks,” and I could tell she was not laughing, even on the inside.

Laughing has been one of my hobbies throughout life. If I can’t laugh, then what good is anything? So I make it a practice to find something to laugh about every day.

After 55 years of marital bliss, I have had many occasions to laugh. Even when people make fun of me, I join in the laughter, which is all right with me.

Driving across town last week, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage was driving the Sissy Van.

She was coming close to a red light, and being the knucklehead that I am, I said to her, “There’s a red light, make sure you stop.”

Looking at me, she said, “You think that is funny?”

I must’ve, because I was laughing then. She, on the other hand, was not laughing at all. Looking at me, she said, “Would you like to walk home?”

The one thing that The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage is afraid of is a cockroach. She sees one, grabs her broom, and chases it until she can get rid of it.

Once, as we were going to bed, before she turned off the light, she saw a cockroach right under her pillow. She had a screaming moment and then got her shoe and tried to kill that old cockroach.

Upon getting rid of the cockroach, she looked at me and said, “Did you plant that cockroach under my pillow?”

Of course I shook my head in the negative, but as I thought about it, that would’ve been a good plan for me to use. I had never thought of doing something like that. But it was another bullet in my arsenal.

Several weeks later, I thought about that. In the kitchen, The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage had a box of sugar-free cookies, and I was only allowed one per day.

I wanted my second sugar-free cookie, and I didn’t know how to get it without getting caught. The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage was in the kitchen, and there was no way I could sneak in and get a cookie. So when I came into the kitchen, I looked back down the hallway and said, “Oh, is that a cockroach down the hallway?”

I sounded serious, so she got up to get that cockroach while I sneaked across the kitchen and picked out one more sugar-free cookie without being caught.

Coming back into the kitchen, she said, “I guess it got away because I can’t find it.”

After she said that, she looked at me, looked at the box of sugar-free cookies, and then looked back at me. She wasn't smiling; she was scowling and growling. She just stood there quietly for several minutes, just staring.

I tried, but I couldn’t control myself, and I started laughing.

Then she said, “What do you think is so funny?”

“Oh, nothing,” I said, trying to control myself, “I was just thinking of a joke.”

Still scowling, she stared at me and said, “I think I know what joke you were thinking of.”

At this point, I was going to ask her to explain what she meant because I was afraid she had caught me. But the laughter was worth it. And I enjoy laughter; it seems to lift my spirit.

Reflecting on this, I was reminded of one of my favorite Bible verses.

"A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones" (Proverbs 17:22).

To me, no medicine is better than a “merry heart.” Sometimes it takes effort to have a merry heart, but it’s worth it in the long run. The real challenge is knowing what I believe is funny. Sometimes I laugh at the wrong thing and suffer for it.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! OCTOBER Birthdays*



Gloria Schauer, Janda Ferris, Darlene Traxler, Margit Johnson, Sole Krieg, Mary Jane Baker, Dixie Coutant, Jill Frank, Cathleen Cremins, Adie Marshall, Susan Gallagher, Maggie Ellis, Gloria Giersbach, Ellen O’Leary, Jenny Piagenti, Anita Thompson, Linda Boehm and Angela Stella *

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NATIONAL TACO DAY - Keep It Local!

Tuesday, October 6, is National Taco Day, and I'm sure my friend Greg Simms over at KNX 1070 will have plenty of suggestions from all over Southern California.

Me? I'm staying a little closer to home.

Let's start right here in Sierra Madre. Casa Del Rey makes a mighty fine shredded chicken taco. Crispy shell, plenty of chicken and exactly what I think a neighborhood taco should be. I'm sure they'll have some kind of special going on for National Taco Day, but special or not, they're first on my list.

A few years back, Los Angeles Times writer Chris Erskine told me about Yuca's on Fair Oaks. Chris claimed they made the best taco in Los Angeles. Those are big words.

But hey, you know the Times — always exaggerating subscriptions and tacos. A little taco humor, folks.

Head over to Colorado Boulevard and there's Chiquita Bonita, run by my friend Tavo — Tavo! Their shredded beef taco comes in a hard shell, the kind of taco many of us grew up eating. I recently put it on TikTok and called it the best taco below the 210 Freeway. I know, I know. Them's fighting words.

And yes, chains make tacos too. Seems everybody makes a taco these days. I sometimes wonder if you can actually get a taco in Mexico City.

My daughter Lauren's favorite is the Yaki Taco at Islands. I'm not going to argue with her. I've learned something over the years: restaurant critics can disagree with anybody except their daughters.

Then there's Amigos. After one of their killer margaritas, everything tastes pretty darn good — including the tacos. That's not criticism. That's science.

My friend John Mathues likes to use the phrase “Mac Daddy.” I still don't know exactly what that means, but if we're talking tacos in South Pasadena, Señor Fish on Mission Street is the Mac Daddy in those parts.

I think they still have my dad Elmer Dills' picture on the wall. Dad knew his restaurants, and he certainly knew a good taco when he found one.

National Taco Day is fun, but there's another reason I'm writing about it. Eat Local.

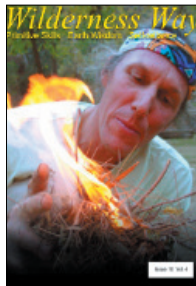
I was recently interviewed by Mike Simpson on KNX 1070, and he asked me point blank, “Peter, what can we do to help these restaurants?” My answer was easy. Stop in.

That restaurant you've driven past a hundred times? Pull over and check it out. Order a taco. Sit at the bar. Say hello to the owner. Spend a few dollars in your own neighborhood. It might become your new favorite restaurant.

That's what Eat Local is really about. We don't have to save every restaurant in Southern California. But we can certainly support the ones around the corner.

So on National Taco Day, have a taco. Maybe have two.

And yes, I forgot a few places. On purpose? Who knows.



CHRISTOPHER Nyerges

THE CAROB TREE (CERARONIA SILIQUA) PRODUCES A NEARLY PERFECT FOOD!

Found from California to Arizona to Texas -- But our cities are cutting them down. Christopher Nyerges. He has been teaching ethno-botany since 1974. He is the author of “Guide to Wild Foods,” “Foraging Edible Wild Plants of North America,” “How to Survive Anywhere,” and other books. He can be reached at www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance.com.]

What is “carob?” If you've only had carob drops from the health food store, then *YOU* really don't know carob. Though the drops do contain some carob, they contain lots of added sugar and other ingredients.

Pure carob is ground from the long brown pods of the carob tree, long regarded as one of the ultimate survival foods. The whole pod can be stored for years. It's highly nutritious, and it requires no cooking before consumption.

According to archivist Richard E. White of Highland Park, California, a large number of the carob trees growing around Glendale, Pasadena, Temple City, and other Southland cities, from Los Angeles County to Arizona to Texas, were planted by Seventh Day Adventists in the aftermath of the Great Depression and Dustbowl era of the 1930s. According to White, “Years ago, some farsighted Seventh Day Adventists planted carob trees around and on the grounds of almost all the Pasadena area public schools, apparently hoping that the students would gather and eat this free and nutritious food should there be another Depression and a scarcity of food. If children were encouraged to eat carob instead of candy bars, there would soon be no more litter problems under the carob trees and, perhaps, fewer cavities in youthful mouths.”

Carob trees once lined the streets around Pasadena City Hall, and once lined the mirror pools in front of Pasadena City College. No more.

Unfortunately, many cities have since made war on the carob trees, and have slowly begun to cut them down. This is usually a result of planting them in inappropriate spots, such as between a sidewalk and street in the urban areas. In such cases, the shallowly-watered roots often break sidewalks, and the pods continually fall to the ground, causing people to sometimes trip and fall, and then sue the city!

According to arborist and Pasadena resident Timothy Snider, “When carob trees are pruned, they tend to go rotten. And I don't mean pruned wrong, just pruned. So ideally, they should never be pruned. And they should never be planted as street trees, because the cities always want to prune them, and they usually do wood butcher jobs, and hack at the tree. Then they are even more prone to the sulfur fungus, which tends to eat them out. Carob is a good tree, but should be planted in more open areas like parks, fields, farms, and graveyards. Remember, the carob in its original state is more of a shrub. They had to be trained to be trees, so it is really inappropriate to use carobs as street trees.”

A true HEALTH FOOD

Health-food enthusiasts and authors were advocating carob over chocolate since the 1940s at least. The reasons are many. The pods, once ripened, can be picked and eaten with no preparation whatsoever (besides wiping off the dust). They are very sweet and chewy, though the hard seeds should be spit out.

Though carob is often compared to chocolate, chocolate and carob are two very different creatures. Chocolate's appeal is the presence of the stimulating theobromine, but raw chocolate is bitter. By contrast, carob has 60 percent fewer calories per pound than chocolate and lacks any stimulants. Also, the carob pod is naturally sweet. Carob's natural flavor is akin to dates, and the flavor is completely different from chocolate.

NUTRITION

The carob pods are analyzed as having 4 percent protein (4.5 grams of protein per 100 grams, 20.4 grams of protein per pound) and 76 percent carbohydrate. In addition, carob pods contain substantial phosphorus (81 milligrams per 100 grams, 367 milligrams per pound) and are extremely rich in calcium (352 milligrams per 100 grams, 1,597 milligrams per pound).

Carob is rich in A and B vitamins and many other minerals. Carob is a superior food that ought to be used more.

There was a short-lived carob farm in Riverside County, California, but it was discontinued because it did not produce the quality of carob that is produced in its native home.

The carob tree is native to the Middle East, where the pods have a long history of use as food. The trees widely planted throughout Pasadena and the United States – mostly in the South and the West -- all produce edible pods, though they are inferior to the commercially grown pods. Most commercial carob today comes from Cyprus.

Remember the prodigal son in the Bible? After he left his father's home, he was hungry from famine and without money, and looked in the pig's feed for carob husks to eat (Luke 15:16). Biblical scholars who focus on the botany of the Bible believe that these husks were not corn, as commonly believed, but carob.

The ripe brown pods can be simply washed, and eaten – being sure to spit out the hard seeds.

You can also remove the seeds, and grind the pods into a sweet flour which can be added to cake, cookie, and pancake recipes, adding sweetness and a brown color. I've done lots of experiments with carob pods. I always remove the hard seeds first, and then I ground up the pods into a flour. I have made drinks and many types of cakes and cookies from this carob. However, I still prefer to simply eat the whole pod and spit out the seeds.

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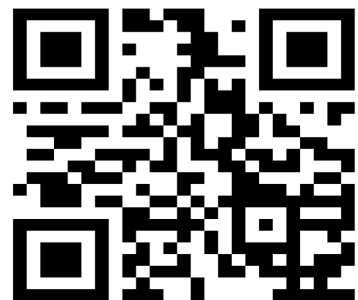
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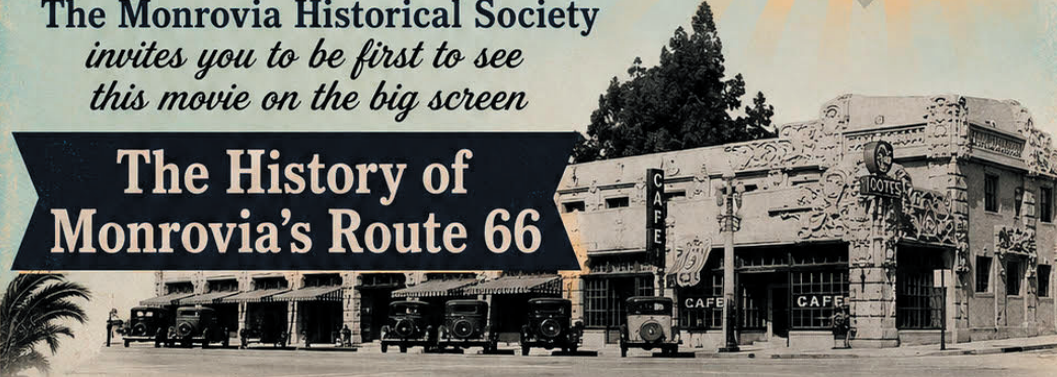
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MOUNTAIN VIEWS NEWS

PUBLISHER/ EDITOR
Susan Henderson

PASADENA CITY EDITOR

Dean Lee

SALES

Patricia Colonello
626-355-2737
626-818-2698

WEBMASTER

John Avery

DISTRIBUTION

Peter Lamendola

CONTRIBUTORS

Lori A. Harris
Michele Kidd
Stuart Tolchin
Harvey Hyde
Audrey Swanson
Meghan Malooley
Mary Lou Caldwell
Kevin McGuire
Chris Leclerc
Dinah Chong Watkins
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Joan Schmidt
LaQuetta Shamblee

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Letters to the editor and correspondence should be sent to:

Mountain Views News
80 W. Sierra Madre Bl.
#327
Sierra Madre, Ca.
91024
Phone: 626-355-2737
Fax: 626-609-3285
email:
mtnewsnews@aol.com



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STUART TOLCHIN



Well, they've been sent, already. Do you know what I am referring to? I hope you are aware of the despicable performance by Senator Eric Schmitt of Missouri occurring as a part of his attempted interviewing of Special Counsel Jack Smith. The expression I use as the title of this article is a theatrical term referring to what

circuses do if an act went wrong such as a trapeze artist falling. I understand the phrase to refer to a performance that is going disastrously wrong and fools are being called in to rescue a "pathetic situation".

What is the "pathetic situation" to which I am referring? Is it just the Trump Administration or the entire Republican Party or America itself; or is it the potential demise of our entire specie? Before I get too carried away, please allow me to be more specific. Yesterday, September 29, 2026 former special Counsel Jack Smith defended his prosecution of Donald Trump during a four-hour hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee. Republican Senator Eric Schmitt of Missouri questioned Smith about his alleged attendance at an Atlanta Hawks and Golden State Warriors Professional Basketball game in Georgia, February 2024. (In fact, Smith attended a female basketball game involving the Hawkeyes a College Game in Maryland on February 24.) This was an attempt by Schmitt to link Smith to Georgia Fulton County District Attorney Fanni Willis.

What was revealed instead was the total ignorance, incompetence, malice, and indifference to truth, and the political hypocrisy of that group which now runs America. Partisanship to me is pardonable, excusable, inevitable I guess. Lying, cheating, and outright ignoring basic values is not so easily excusable. As America aligns itself with the world's dictators and seems indifferent to climate threats and labels the possible human domination by machines as a "hoax" there is reason for us all to be concerned. As I think about it I realize that historically mankind has chosen to see humanity itself as the primary purpose of existence and it was an accepted truth that the Earth was the Center of the Universe. Most of us learned in School that Galileo invented instruments that allowed him to observe the motion of the stars and planets more closely. Galileo proclaimed that the sun was the non-moving center around which everything else orbited.

Sorry, Galileo, the sun is moving too. In fact, EVERYTHING, is moving all the time and that includes human knowledge and what we call PROGRESS. My view of the world has changed radically over the past couple of months. During that time my son has been hospitalized or maintained in a Skilled Nursing Facility. At the beginning of this process I was very naïve imagining that being taken to the hospital was a process for a healthy human similar to an automobile being taken to a repair shop where it is soon repaired. Well, my son is not being repaired. He is not improving but simply remains in bed looking helpless. I am helpless to be of any help at all but I feel my heart beat as I leave his room and hear him utter "I love you Daddy". I was not ready and am not ready for this experience. Throw in the fact that on our way to the Hospital our car broke down requiring an Uber to get us home and then to take us to Car Max to buy a new-used car.

Believe me, I am not complaining. Well, of course I am; but I know things could be worse and are worse for many people. What concerns me right now is the future. The clowns are dominating the scene and I wonder what will be next? Will humanity be able to stay in step and move along with progress or, like Galileo who for bringing attention to unwanted truths was confined to his house for the rest of his life? All we can know is that everything will keep moving even clownish humanity. Maybe laughing is better than crying? HA

HOWARD HAYS As I See It



"This is the president of the United States. His supporters will say 'oh, I don't watch the news, I didn't see any of that.' You know who 'is' watching? The rest of the world, including our enemies, and drawing conclusions about his stability and cognitive health." - Tom Nichols, posting on President Trump's public remarks about a "very obese" friend taking "fat pills" who still "looks like (crap)" Another reaction, from jp: "He's just a pathetic old man who thinks he's amusing. And has nuclear codes. Good Lord."

MORE FAVORITE POSTS FROM SEPTEMBER:

Iran offers to open the Strait of Hormuz in return for the U.S. lifting the blockade on its ports. Trump responds, "I'm rejecting their deal. They want to make a deal where they open the strait immediately. . . we're winning tremendously. We have total control of the Hormuz strait". Gregg Carlstrom of The Economist posts: "They want to make a deal that would immediately do the thing that would lower your gas prices, and I'm rejecting it" seems like . . . curious domestic messaging". Economist Dean Baker asks: "Since Trump has total con-trol over the Strait, why is he letting so little oil through?"

Bill Maher mocked Trump's showing off construction projects like the White House ball-room and heli-pad to Xi Jinping, the Chinese leader who builds "entire cities in a week." Maher posted, "It's like showing Gordon Ramsay how you can reheat pizza."

Video from two years ago resurfaced of Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy commenting on Sydney Sweeney's figure, how "God made us a certain way . . ." Alex Cole posted: "Noth-ing screams traditional Christian values like publicly discussing a woman's chest and then bringing God into the explanation." From Lauren Windsor: "Sean Duffy: I'm not letting my daughter go to Harvard because those liberals will corrupt her. Also Sean Duffy: I LOVE SYDNEY SWEENEY'S (chest)"

From mariodenzil: "JD Vance always gives 'new principle trying to connect with inner city students' at his press conferences". And from lillianjeanc: "JD Vance is like if wearing wet jeans was a person." Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX) posts: "God save us from liberal White women." subpixx reacts: "This post is like 1000 grams of protein for liberal white women."

From rubyrockwellcomics: "Breaking news: Trump delivers speech detailing his surviving of the Titanic . . . Blames Biden for creating icebergs". Trump announces, "I was quite impressed with my intelligence. I'm a very high I.Q. person, after all." Chetter posts: "Nothing says high IQ quite like conducting your own intelligence review and unanimously approving it." Adds Barnacles: "Donald Trump thinks a demen-tia exam was an IQ test. This should tell you everything

PUT THE LIGHTS ON SEND IN THE CLOWNS

you need to know about his actual IQ." Senate Republicans posts: "Democrat socialists promise free stuff. But they never mention who pays for it." AJ Punk responds: "Trump has promised: -\$5k in free DOGE dividends (not delivered) -\$2k in free tariff dividends (not delivered) -\$5k in 'Trump dividends' if the GQP wins the midterms (won't be delivered) - But sure, it's the Dems who love promising free stuff."

With his trade war against Canada leading to the prospect of Canada becoming an "asso-ciate member" of the European Union, Trump now threatens to end all trade with Eu-rope. Alex Cole posts: "Imagine running a business this way. Every time a customer talks with another supplier, you threaten to stop selling to everyone. Trump keeps giving Canada reasons to rely less on America, then gets angry when Canada relies less on America." Trump posts a map on Truth Social with the Strait of Hormuz labeled "Trump Strait". Hawai-iDelilah responds: "Look up 'psychotic malignant narcissist' and next to it you will find a picture of Trump."

The American Culturist complains: "Why the (heck) is there a mariachi band on my TV per-forming The Star Spangled Banner for a Monday Night Football game in Chicago? What country do we live in?" Again from Alex Cole: "MAGA: HOW DARE BLACK PEOPLE KNEEL DURING THE ANTHEM!!!! MAGA: HOW DARE MEXICANS PLAY THE AMERICAN NATIONAL ANTHEM! At some point you start wondering whether the anthem was ever the issue."

As diesel prices keep climbing, Trump maintains the problem is not his war with Iran - but rather Ukraine bombing Russian refineries. Shaun Pinner posts: "Trump isn't asking Putin to stop killing Ukrainian children. He's telling Zelenskyy to stop striking the oil infrastruc-ture that funds Russia's war and is putting real pressure on Moscow. Literally a sock puppet of the Kremlin."

A favorite post was a pic of a slogan on a guy's t-shirt. I did some research to make sure I got the attribution right. It originated with a sign held by one of hundreds of protesters turn-ing out in Edinburgh and Aberdeen, Scotland, in July 2025 for Trump's visit to mark the opening of another of his golf courses. (As Tom Nichols is quoted above, "This is the presi-dent of the United States.") There were signs like; "The Smallest Man Who Ever Lived", "They're Eating the Checks, They're Eating the Balances" and one showing bagpipes with the caption, "At least this bag of hot air serves a purpose".

But the one getting the most attention, the one later adapted for that t-shirt, was the one that read, "I pray that 'Big Beautiful Bill' will be the name of Trump's cellmate in prison." Ceej posted their response on X: "We love you Scotland."

RICH JOHNSON



HOPE VS. DESPAIR

Don't know if you've discovered this yet, but our lives are chock full of despair. And it starts early on. Just take a quick peek at my 5th year on the planet: "Mommy, why can't I stay up with you and daddy and watch TV?" "I don't like asparagus and I won't eat it... can I have ice cream instead?" It seems all I ever heard was no! I was a 5-year-old overcome with despair. I needed hope. How did I ever survive? Did I survive?

Hope, by the way, is defined as "an optimistic state of mind that anticipates positive outcomes, despite the hardships in front of you." How many of us live in that mindset? Be honest!

Despair, on the other hand, is defined as "the complete loss of hope. Completely giving up".

The Yin and the Yang...so to say. Two of my favorite brainiacs, 19th century philosophers Soren Kierkegaard and Friedrich Nietzsche viewed despair not as a permanent dead end but, as a catalyst for psychological and spiritual growth. Maybe Fred and Soren are onto something.

Therein lies the key me thinks. I'm thinking of a diving board. A diving board isn't stiff and rigid. It has bounce. And competition divers jump up and down on the board before they dive. In other words, they go down to go up. Not sure what it means but it is cosmic. Let's talk about real losers.

Colonel Sanders was quoted saying: "One has to remember that every failure can be a stepping stone to something better."

Steve Jobs, co-founder of Apple Computers, was ousted from Apple in 1985 over disagreements with his partners and the board. He returned in 1997 to a failing Apple and resurrected the company with the iMac, iPod, iPhone and iPad. J. K. Rowling, creator of the Harry Potter series, struggled as a single mother before Harry Potter finally found its success. She said, "It is our choices that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities."

Comedian Jim Carrey, as a teenager, lived in a VW van with his family. He said about his father: "I learned many great lessons from my father, not the least of which was that you can fail at what you don't want, so you might as well take a chance on doing what you love.

Those four people would have identified themselves as losers. A good synonym for loser in this conversation would be risk takers. They took risks and succeeded. Most successful people risked losing.

I ran my own business for 30 years. Actually made money from attorneys. Hey, that must be good for something. The last twenty years of my life, I became involved in an Improv Comedy group, I have a rock and roll band that plays around the San Gabriel Valley. Next gig is actually on my birthday. That would be Halloween night at Nano's Café in Sierra Madre. The band name is JJ Jukebox.

And as you probably know, I write a column in the local newspaper every week. I certainly appreciate all of you who read the column. This particular column was difficult to write as I always try to make you smile, or laugh if I'm lucky.

This time I wanted to leave you with the encouragement to venture out and do something you've always wanted to do but, for whatever reason, felt too insecure or timid to try. Give it a shot! The worst two words anyone could ever utter looking back on their lives would be... "IF ONLY". Do you have any if only's in your past? If there is anything you've ever wanted to do, step out and take the risk. You may really be surprised. And just maybe I'll be coming to see you at Nano Café.

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A.P.N.: 5767-029-025 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 (800) 793-6107 or visit this Internet Website www.auction.com, using the file number assigned to this case 26-20698. 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 (800) 793-6107, or visit this internet website www.auction.com, using the file number assigned to this case 26-20698 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: 9/23/2026

Prestige Default Services, LLC
1920 Old Tustin Ave.
Santa Ana, California 92705
Questions: 949-427-2010
Sale Line: (800) 793-6107
Perla Vega, Foreclosure Coordinator
PPP #26-010502

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