



# SOUTH PASADENA NEIGHBORS

The Official Community Newsletter ♦ www.ci.south-pasadena.ca.us ♦ Vol. 7#2 ♦ Autumn 2002

## Senior Citizens' Center Celebrates 20 Years

The South Pasadena Senior Citizens' Center opened its doors in October 1982, providing a place for older adults to come together, enjoy and stay active with social and recreational opportunities. Volunteers answered phones and greeted



newcomers. The Senior Citizens' Commission assisted with overall oversight until a director was brought on board in 1983.

Today the Senior Center is a 'one-stop' center for seniors, their families and/or caregivers. Services range from daily transportation, health services and nutrition to human services, educational and recreational opportunities.

One of the first programs offered, still in place 20 years later, is 'Trips & Tours.' The program initially provided a few day trips and excursions. It eventually expanded to day trips offered each month, as well as extended trips scheduled a few times per month. Remarkably, Pamela Fillingham, the same volunteer who started Trips & Tours, is still volunteering her services.

A committee has been formed to coordinate the 20-year anniversary celebration, scheduled for Oct. 17. Look for additional information in the local newspapers and in the Senior Citizens' Newsletter. For more information, please call the senior services supervisor at (626) 403-7364.

## New City Budget Will Facilitate Completion of Major Infrastructure Projects

The South Pasadena City Council has adopted its annual operating budget for fiscal year 2002-03. As one might expect in the current economic climate, flat revenue projections and rising costs mean that funding for basic City services will be virtually unchanged in FY 2002-03 when compared with the prior year. However, more than \$1 million has been earmarked for street repairs, and competitive grant money awarded to the City will permit completion of several major infrastructure and capital projects in the next 12 months.

### EXCITING PROJECTS SLATED

Although there is very little General Fund money available to complete major capital improvement projects, the City will put to use grant funds it has aggressively pursued in recent years and will spend other special-purpose government funding that has been accumulated to realize many desirable capital projects.

Specifically, street repairs are slated for Oak Hill Avenue, Garfield Avenue from Monterey Road to Clark Place, St. Albans, Rollin Street from Diamond Avenue to Fair Oaks Avenue, Illinois Street, Hillside Road, and Glendon Way

Other significant projects include installation of new playground equipment at Orange Grove and Eddie Parks, design of Arroyo Park restrooms, design and installation of sidewalk and streetscape enhancements along Fair Oaks Avenue and Mission Street, construction of public parking for riders of Gold Line Light Rail, construction of a new water reservoir, installation of new crosswalk technology to improve safety for students and completion of the final phase of Garfield Park walkways. All of the

above projects are to be funded by special-purpose funds and grants.

### FISCAL CHALLENGES

Although City officials project the City's General Fund revenues to decrease slightly, South Pasadena voters' recent approval of the local utility users tax ensured that City services would not be interrupted or decreased. South Pasadena relies heavily on property, sales and utility-user (UUT) taxes to fund vital City services and operations.

These three taxes comprise 60 percent of the City's general fund revenues — the portion of the City budget over which the City Council has the greatest discretion and out of

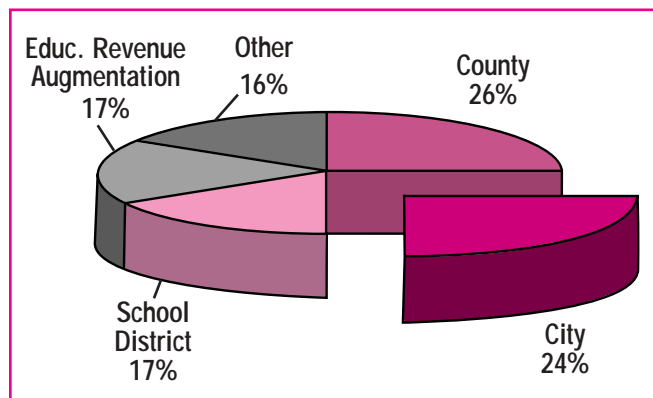
which most City programs and services are paid.

The City's annual budgeting dilemma arises from the fact that the aggregate revenue from our three biggest revenue sources (\$8,130,000) is not enough to pay for the combined budgets of the Police, Fire and Library (\$8,942,176) — and there are many more services to be funded. This problem would be worse without voters' continued support of the local library parcel tax that generates 18 percent (\$223,000) of the library's annual expenses.

Many residents are surprised to learn that only 24¢ of every \$1 of their property taxes goes toward funding vital City services (see chart above).

For a full text of a budget overview prepared by the city manager and finance director, please visit the City's website at <http://ci.south-pasadena.ca.us/government>. A copy of the City's FY 2002-03 budget is available for review at the South Pasadena Public Library.

### YOUR PROPERTY TAX DOLLARS





## Help Maintain Our Community

Code enforcement helps keep our community clean and livable. The Municipal Code prohibits the accumulation of weeds, trash, junk, inoperable vehicles and other unsightly debris. The goal of these property-maintenance codes is to maintain an attractive community and protect property values.

To report a code violation or to obtain more information on the program, please contact Veronica Velarde, community improvement coordinator, at (626) 403-7225 or e-mail her at [Vvelarde@ci.south-pasadena.ca.us](mailto:Vvelarde@ci.south-pasadena.ca.us).

## Community Blood Drive

Saturday, October 12  
10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Location: YMCA  
1605 Garfield Avenue  
South Pasadena, CA  
Appointment will be necessary. Please call (626) 403-7303.

Sponsored by Red Cross and Public Safety Commission.



## Time to Renew Your Paramedic Subscription



this is an excellent time to sign up your household or business.

The subscription period is November 1, 2002 thru October 31, 2003. Annual household fees are \$53.00. Businesses pay \$53.00 per year for the first 10 employees and \$20.00 for each additional 10 employees.

It's not necessary to belong to this program to receive ambulance service, but the service eliminates receiving any bills. With medical care costs increasing each year, the paramedic subscription program can help defray some of these costs. For more information on this program, call (626) 403-7303.

October is South Pasadena's paramedic subscription open enrollment period. Participating members will soon be receiving notification and new forms to be completed. For those who are not members,

# Dumpster Day Is Coming!

Clean out your back yard and empty your closets and garages — Dumpster Day will be here soon! The City of South Pasadena,

Senior Citizens' Center at (626) 403-7360 to arrange for a pick-up. When you call, please leave your name, address and a description of the items. This service is offered free to South Pasadena senior citizens, but don't wait too long. The deadline to call in requests is Thursday, October 10 at 10 a.m. Please have all items collected and readily available in one location for easier pick-up.



Athens Services and Out Of The Closet will sponsor this citywide clean-up day. On Saturday, October 12, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., residents are invited to bring items to the corner of Mission Street and Arroyo Drive.

The Out of the Closet thrift store chain, the nation's largest AIDS-related retail business, will be on hand to help you recycle your unwanted but usable goods: furniture, clothing, housewares and more. Out of the Closet, which has a store at 1136 Fair Oaks Avenue in South Pasadena, benefits AIDS Healthcare Foundation in their mission to provide "cutting-edge medicine and advocacy regardless of ability to pay" to thousands of patients here in Southern California, New York and Florida.

Athens Services will provide the dumpsters for all disposable items that are too bulky or heavy to place into regular trash containers, such as old furniture and appliances. This service is offered at no charge to South Pasadena residents with proof of residency.

Senior citizens who need assistance with removal of items from their homes may call the



Please note that household hazardous waste items will not be collected. Special roundup events are held regularly throughout Los Angeles County to provide assistance to residents interested in disposing of such items as motor oil, pesticides, car batteries, etc. Call 1-888-CLEAN-LA (253-2652) for a schedule of upcoming events.

If you have any questions regarding Dumpster Day or Household Hazardous Waste, please contact the Public Works Department at (626) 403-7240. They are available to assist you Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Fridays until 4 p.m.

## "Grapes of Wrath" Day Coming to Library



The South Pasadena Public Library is one of 40 libraries to receive a grant from the California Council for the Humanities and the California Center for the Book to support a book and film discussion program encouraging

people to read and discuss John Steinbeck's novel, *The Grapes of Wrath*.

The grant is part of a yearlong celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Nobel Prize-winning American author, John Steinbeck. For more information, look for flyers at the library, call (626) 403-7355, or check out the library's page on the City of South Pasadena website.



## Come to the Dedication

The public is invited to attend a dedication ceremony on Saturday, October 26 at 2 p.m. for the newly restored Oaklawn Bridge. Green and Green Architects constructed the historic pedestrian bridge, located at 435 Fair Oaks Avenue, in 1906. Refreshments will be served. For more information, please call (626) 403-7240.





## Meet Motor Officer Jeff Holland

The South Pasadena Police Department would like you to meet its new motorcycle officer, but not because you have been stopped for a traffic violation. Officer Jeff Holland, a seven-year veteran of the department, recently completed a rigorous training course at the Motorcycle Training Academy in San Bernardino. He is now patrolling the streets of South Pasadena astride a new Kawasaki 1000 motorcycle.

City residents have indicated that traffic issues are very important to them. The Police Department regularly fields complaints from concerned citizens about traffic violations, some of which include excessive speed, failure to stop for stop signs or signals, and failure to yield to pedestrians in crosswalks. One of the most effective ways for the Police Department to address these concerns is by deploying motorcycle officers.

## South Pasadena Heritage Restoration Awards

On June 26, the South Pasadena Preservation Foundation held its 4th annual Heritage Preservation and Restoration Awards at the City's Library Community Room. This year, the 2001 awards were given to:

### 1. Outstanding Achievement in Historic Rehabilitation

**Harold S. Larson, 1719 Monterey Road**  
Alan Zorthian, Architect and  
Harold S. Larson, Restoration Craftsmanship.

### 2. Outstanding Achievement in Heritage Appropriate Design, Restoration and Craftsmanship

**Tom and Mary Reamer, 1967 Marengo Avenue**  
Harold and Mary Reamer, Design and Restoration.

### 3. Outstanding Achievement in Heritage — Appropriate New Construction

**Kris & Robert Morrish, 1709 Milan Ave**  
Odom Stamps, Architect  
and Mike Sanfilippo, Contractor



1719 Monterey Road  
South Pasadena



## Enjoying Trails Safely

South Pasadena has a lovely horse and pedestrian trail running the length of Arroyo Park, connecting with trails in Los Angeles and Pasadena. Many enjoy the trails with their horses or dogs, for jogging or a nice stroll. Here are a few safety tips when someone is riding a horse in your vicinity:

- ★ Always move slowly. Sudden sound or movement startles horses. Their instinct is to turn and run away quickly.

- ★ Make sure the horse and rider are both aware of your presence. One way is to say "heads up" in a loud voice, just like saying "fore" on the golf course.



- ★ Never walk near a horse's tail. A horse could become startled and possibly kick you.

- ★ Always ask the owner for permission before petting a horse.

- ★ When inside a tunnel, walk carefully and quietly. Horses are very nervous in closed areas. Use the "heads up" warning.

- ★ If a horse is out of control, stay out of the way! Quickly get to one edge of the trail, but do not run or try to stop the horse. Contact the police, using one of the two red emergency phones if necessary.

## AUTUMN CALENDAR

### CITY EVENTS

#### SEPTEMBER 2 LABOR DAY

City Hall, Library, Community Services Closed

#### OCTOBER 5-6 MISSION WEST STREET FESTIVAL

Sat., 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., Sun., 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

#### OCTOBER 12



#### DUMPSTER DAY

Sat, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Corner of Mission Street and Arroyo Drive

#### OCTOBER 13 SPAGHETTI DINNER

Fire Dept., 3 - 7 p.m.

#### OCTOBER 14 COLUMBUS DAY

City Hall, Library, Community Services Closed

#### NOVEMBER 11 VETERANS' DAY

City Hall, Library, Community Services Closed

#### NOVEMBER 28, 29 THANKSGIVING

City Hall, Library, Community Services Closed

### CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EVENTS

SEPT. 17, OCT. 15, NOV. 19  
Network Breakfast, 7:30 a.m.  
La Fiesta Grande Restaurant

SEPT. 18, OCT. 16, NOV. 20  
Legislative Meeting, Gus's Barbeque, 8 a.m.

### LIBRARY EVENTS

#### SEPTEMBER 22

Restoration Concert: Martinai Trio  
Library Community Room - 4 p.m.  
Call (626) 799-0670 for more information.

#### OCTOBER 5

'Grapes of Wrath Day' - Free  
Library Community Room - 2 p.m.  
Call (626) 403-7350 for more information.

#### OCTOBER 20

Restoration Concert: Peter Christlieb Jazz Quartet  
Library Community Room - 4 p.m.



John Steinbeck

Call (626) 799-0670 for more information.

#### NOVEMBER 21

Children's Book Week Program:  
Author Marianne Wallace  
Library Community Room - 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.  
Call (626) 403-7358 for more information.

#### NOVEMBER 24

Restoration Concert: Linda Wang - Violin  
Library Community Room - 4 p.m.  
Call (626) 799-0670 for more information.

# Say Good Bye to Tinted Water!



You may have noticed red or yellow tinted water flowing from your faucet recently. The discoloration was the result of chemical instabilities between the City's old water mains and the imported water that the City had to purchase

from the Metropolitan Water District while repairs were made to the City's best groundwater well.

Repairs have now been made and the well was activated in August, allowing the City to once again pump local groundwater as its main source of water.

The repairs included installation of a new pump and motor, cleaning of 900 feet of well casing and reopening the perforations that allow water to flow from the aquifer into the well. The pump was set deeper in the well to draw more water from the deeper aquifer layers, which yield better quality water.

The City would like to thank everyone for their patience and apologizes for any inconvenience residents may have experienced.



# Scene Around Town

You may occasionally see film company trucks and movie production personnel about town. If so, perhaps you have wondered what's filming in South Pasadena and which stars are here?

South Pasadena has recently hosted some of your favorite television shows, feature films and high-profile commercials. Some recent highlights:

- ☞ Steve Martin and Angus Jones ('The Rookie') hanging out in the feature 'In the Houze'
- ☞ Jeff Goldblum and Selma Blair in the feature film 'Dallas and Rusty'
- ☞ Christopher Guest, Eugene Levy, and

Catherine O'Hara (the 'Best In Show' cast) in their new feature, 'The Mighty Wind'

- ☞ Malcolm McDowell in the family thriller, 'Inhabited'

And a couple of others on deck:

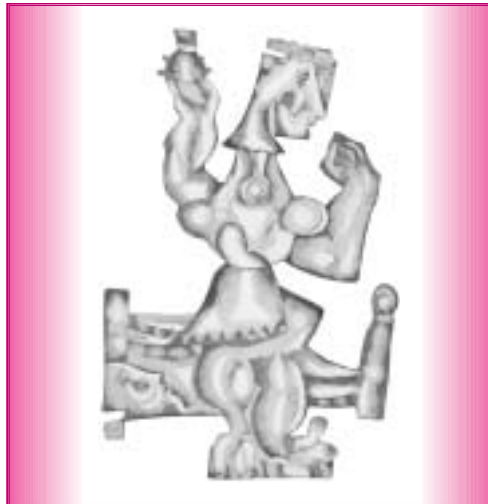
- ☞ Jim Carrey in 'Bruce Almighty'
- ☞ New TV series, 'Hidden Hills'

It's never too late to add your property to the City's new location library. If you're interested in participating, please leave your name and phone number with our film liaison, Joan Aguado, at (626) 403-7263, or e-mail the information to [jaguado@ci.south-pasadena.ca.us](mailto:jaguado@ci.south-pasadena.ca.us). A packet will be sent that provides information about the program.

## FARMERS' MARKET



4-8 p.m.; Meridian Avenue and Mission Street every Thursday. A variety of local businesses in Mission West stay open until 8 p.m. Come visit and support your local merchants!



## Alexandra Nichita Art Exhibition

The City of South Pasadena is sponsoring an art exhibition of Alexandra Nichita, the internationally acclaimed young artist.

The artist's reception is Saturday, September 7, 6-9 p.m.; the exhibit will have varying afternoon and evening hours from September 3-8 at the Tah Gallery, 1015 Mission St. in South Pasadena. A portion of the proceeds goes to City of Hope. For more information, call (626) 441-6846.

*Shown: "Revelation", aquatint, 26" x 19" Lacouriere Atelier, Paris*

## CITY COUNCIL

- Harry A. Knapp, *Mayor*
- David Saeta, *Mayor Pro Tem*
- Michael A. Cacciotti, *Councilmember*
- Dorothy M. Cohen, *Councilmember*
- David V. Rose, *Councilmember*

- Sally Kilby, *City Clerk*
- Victor Robinette, *City Treasurer*

**SOUTH PASADENA Neighbors** is published by the City of South Pasadena and is distributed as a public service to City residents and businesses. We welcome your comments and suggestions. Please call the City Manager's Office at (626) 403-7210. On the Web: [www.ci.south-pasadena.ca.us](http://www.ci.south-pasadena.ca.us)



## SOUTH PASADENA NEIGHBORS

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