



# SOUTH PASADENA NEIGHBORS

The Official Community Newsletter ♦ www.ci.south-pasadena.ca.us ♦ Vol. 11#4 ♦ Spring 2007

## Six Candidates File for Three City Council Seats

Six South Pasadena residents have filed papers for three open council seats in the March 6th City Council election. Incumbents are **David Margrave** and **Mike Ten. Odom Stamps** decided not to seek re-election.

The other candidates are:

- **Ernie Arnold**, a member of the Community Redevelopment Commission and a branch manager at Brookstreet Securities Corporation.
- **Robert Conte**, a member of the Cultural Heritage Commission and a government lawyer in the U.S. Attorney General's Office.
- **Dr. Richard Schneider**, a member of the Design Advisory Group and a pathologist.
- **David Sifuentes**, City of Los Angeles fire captain and a soccer dad.

For election results, please visit the City of South Pasadena website at: <http://www.ci.south-pasadena.ca.us> or contact the City Clerk's Office at (626) 403-7230.

## Annual Rabies Clinic



Come one, come all! Attention all dog owners! The Annual Rabies Clinic is just around the corner. Please bring your dogs to the South Pasadena Fire Station located at 817 Mound Avenue on Thursday, April 19th, between 6-8 PM.

License your pet and have your dog vaccinated for a minimal fee. Charges are as follows: DHLPP+ parvo (5 in 1 shot), \$12.00; rabies, \$8.00; lyme, \$16.00 and bordatella, \$10.00. Look for an insert in your March/April water bill.



**WHEN:** Saturday, April 7th  
**TIME:** Noon – 2 PM  
**LOCATION:** Garfield Park  
 (north section, near tennis courts)  
**COST:** \$5 per child

## City Hosts Second Annual Spring Egg-Stravaganza

Join the "egg-citement" as the City of South Pasadena holds its Second Annual Spring Egg-Stravaganza!

Families will enjoy pictures with the Easter Bunny, face painting, balloon artist, entertainment, games, crafts and a carnival ride. A thrilling highlight of this "egg-ceptional" event is the popular egg hunt with a golden egg for a special prize. Kids will be grouped by age. Food and refreshments will be available for purchase. Space is limited, so be sure to pre-register by Wednesday, April 4th.

For more information or to pre-register, please call the Recreation Division at (626) 403-7380, or stop by the Orange Grove Recreation Center at 815 Mission Street, Monday-Friday, 10 AM to 6 PM.

## Senior Health Fair Includes Variety of Free Screenings

The South Pasadena Senior Center will be hosting the seventh annual Senior Health Fair on March 30th. Some of the free screenings include a blood sugar screening from the Huntington Memorial Hospital; grip test from HealthCare Partners; hearing test from the Hear Center; bone density from Physician Associates; oxygen level testing from Arroyo Seco Medical Group; Blood Pressure Clinic, and many more.



A wealth of information will be provided from the Los Angeles County Area Agency on Aging, Chancellor Place of Pasadena, Villa Esperanza Services, Senior Care Network, HomeCare 1 and many others. The Health Fair will take place from 10 AM to 1 PM at the South Pasadena Senior Center, 1102 Oxley Street. For more information contact the Senior Center at (626) 403-7360.

## Annual Brush Clearance Requirements

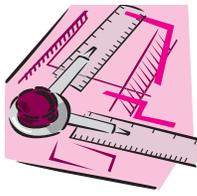
The South Pasadena Fire Department will soon be conducting brush inspections to ensure the fire safety of the community. Certainly, fires in the past few years have highlighted the importance of this program. The deadline to have hazardous brush removed is June 1st of each year. It is the legal responsibility of property owners to take all necessary actions to clear dry or dangerous vegetation and hazardous brush away from structures or buildings.

Successful prevention of catastrophic fires requires a partnership between the community and our fire department to maintain properties free of hazards. The South Pasadena Fire Department shall enforce the brush clearance requirements specified in the Uniform Fire Code (2000 edition).



For further information on how to comply with the Uniform Fire Code, please call the South Pasadena Fire Department - Fire Prevention Bureau, (626) 403-7300.

# City Offering Home Improvement Program



The City of South Pasadena is once again offering a Home Improvement Program that provides free home rehabilitation for residents with low to moderate incomes. This program is funded by federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. To qualify, you must own a home within the City and your income must fall within the program income limits. If accepted, you could receive up to \$5,000 for approved repairs. It is important to note that funds are limited and will be allocated based on several factors, including when applications are submitted, need, and scope of work, with priority given to new applicants. The emphasis will be on correcting code violations and addressing safety issues within your home.

Applications are now available, and once completed may be submitted to the Community Improvement Coordinator year round. Review of applications will start July 1 and will be partially based on a first come, first serve policy. Before you submit your application, please be sure to verify that you have provided all requested documentation and that you fall within the limits of the income guidelines stated in the informational brochure or handbook available at City Hall.

For further information or to request an application by mail, please contact the Community Improvement Coordinator in the Planning and Building Department at (626) 403-7225.

# Public Works Improvement Project Updates

South Pasadena has embarked upon a number of significant public works improvement projects that will help improve the City's infrastructure:

**Mission Street Pedestrian Improvements** – Work is scheduled to begin this spring for streetscape improvements on Mission Street between the Gold Line station and Fair Oaks Avenue.

**Fair Oaks Signal Synchronization** – Work began last fall to synchronize the traffic signals on Fair Oaks Avenue. The project involves installing conduit and wiring along the entire length of Fair Oaks to synchronize each signalized intersection. There will also be improvements to the pedestrian crossings. Work is scheduled to take approximately six months to complete.

**Northwest Focus Area** – Plans are being developed for the resurfacing of certain streets northwest of the intersection of Orange Grove Avenue and Mission Street.

**Wilson Well No. 2** – Plans and specifications for the investigational drilling and possible deepening of the City's well have been completed. The existing well has been out of service for about five years.

**Sidewalk Replacement Project** – Reconstruction of damaged portions of sidewalk on Fremont Avenue will take place this spring.

**Citywide ADA Ramps** – Construction of sidewalk access ramps will take place this spring. Ramps will be constructed at various intersections along Magnolia Street as well as Grand Avenue. Should you have any questions regarding these Public Works Capital Improvement Projects, please call the Public Works Department at (626) 403-7240.



Improvements along Fair Oaks Avenue



Certain streets will be resurfaced



Traffic signals are being synchronized

# Pedestrian Safety: It's Not Just For Kids

South Pasadena Police Chief Dan Watson reminds all community members of the importance in exercising care at all times while walking in both residential and business districts in our City. Remember some basic laws of physics when it comes to automobiles and pedestrians.

- ◆ Cars cannot stop instantly. Do not expect a vehicle to stop right away. Stopping times can even be greater depending on weather, lighting and driver reaction time
- ◆ The faster the vehicle is traveling, the more time it will take for it to stop.
- ◆ Cars weigh between 2,000 and 6,000 pounds. The vehicle will always come out the "winner" in a collision with a pedestrian.
- ◆ Drivers will be able to stop only if they can first see the pedestrian. Safety tips for all walkers:
  1. Always walk on the sidewalk. If there is no sidewalk and you have to walk in the road, always walk facing traffic, so you can see any car that might go out of control.
  2. Dress to be seen. Brightly colored clothing makes it easier for drivers to see you during the daytime. At night, you should wear special reflective material on your shoes, cap or jacket to reflect the headlights of cars coming towards you.
  3. Tips for crossing the street:
    - ◆ Cross only at corners or marked sidewalks.
    - ◆ Stop at the curb, or the edge of the road.
    - ◆ Stop and look left, then right, then left again, before you step into the street.
    - ◆ If you see a car, wait until it goes by. Then look left, right and left again until no cars are coming.
    - ◆ If a car is parked where you are crossing, make sure there is no driver in the car. Then go to the edge of the car and look left-right-left until no cars are coming. Keep looking for cars while you are crossing, and remember, walk. Don't run.
    - ◆ Even though you have the right of way in a cross-walk, don't assume the driver will see you and yield.



## CITY OFFICIALS

[www.ci.south-pasadena.ca.us](http://www.ci.south-pasadena.ca.us)

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- Sally Kilby, City Clerk .....403-7230  
skilby@ci.south-pasadena.ca.us

# Library Offering Variety of Programs

## **BARKS AND BOOKS**

Children are invited to visit the library to read animal-related short stories of their choice to dogs from the Pasadena Humane Society Companion Animal Program. Not only does this make reading fun, it also builds a child's confidence in reading aloud. Also, the available books will help children realize that animals experience a range of emotions similar to their own and that they have basic needs too. This, in turn, encourages them to appreciate the importance of treating all animals and people with respect and kindness.

March 26 and April 23

## **VOTING: CALIFORNIA YOUNG READER MEDAL**

The Library will have voting booths set up for children and teens to cast their ballots to select the California Young Reader Medal Award (CYRM) winners. Read the nominees and then visit the Children's Room in the first week of March to vote. Check out the CYRM website at <http://californiayoungreadermedal.org/nominees> to see the nominees.

March 5 - 10

## **ARBOR DAY PROGRAM**

### **ARROYO NATURE PARK FIELD TRIP**

Families interested in attending a field trip to the Arroyo National Park may pick up their field trip tickets and I Spy Nature Bingo game sheets from the Children's librarians.

March 7 - 14

9-10 AM

## **BE KIND TO ANIMALS WEEK ART CONTEST**

To promote the theme of kindness to animals, the South Pasadena Public Library and the South Pasadena Animal Commission invite children between 3-13 years old to participate in the "Be Kind to Animals Week" art contest. Full contest rules are available from the Library's Children's Services. Best entries will be displayed in the Library during the first three weeks of May.

March 26 - April 13

## **NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK**

Children may bring a paperback book to the Children's Room to trade with other kids. Look for the special blue "Kids Book Swap" book cart for trading options.

April 15 - 21

## **TURN OFF THE TV WEEK**

Did you know that the average American child spends more time per year watching television (1,023 hours) than being in school (900 hours)? The South Pasadena Unified School District elementary schools and the South Pasadena Public Library challenge children to turn off the TV for one week and discover many other activities to share with their families with the extra time. Children who do not attend the SPUSD elementary schools may pick up their "Turn Off the TV Guide" from Children's Services in mid-April.

April 23 - 29

For more information about library activities, please call (626) 403-7358 or visit us to pick up a calendar of events. The library is located at 1100 Oxley Street. Hours are: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays 11 AM - 9 PM; Thursdays and Fridays 10 AM - 6 PM; Saturdays 10 AM - 5 PM; Sundays 1-5 PM.

## **THE CHINESE IN AMERICA: AUTHORS FORUM**

Library Community Room  
For teens and adults

Lisa Yee (*Millicent Min, Girl Genius* and *Stanford Wong Flunks Big Time*), Bernadette Shih, (*Ling Ling: The Most Beautiful Giant Panda In The World, Good Friends: Diversity In America, Mao: A Young Man Growing Up In The Yangtze Valley, Love: An Illustrated Novella In Prose and Poetry Concerning The Conflict Of Two Cultures and Love: Leap Of The Heart And A Sweet Tear*) and playwright Judy Soo Hoo (*Solve For X, Texas, 29 - Dreams: Women Walking Through Walls, Twice Told Christmas Tales, Beastly Beauties Of American Monsters*) will serve as panelists addressing the theme of "The Chinese In America." The writers will discuss the influence of their Chinese-American backgrounds on their writings. This program is co-sponsored by the South Pasadena Chinese-American Club and the Friends of the South Pasadena Public Library and is free to the public. It is also supported by Poets & Writers, Inc. through a grant from the James Irvine Foundation. The program is free to the public.

March 12  
7 PM

## Understanding the City's Municipal Code

The City of South Pasadena's Municipal Code was established to benefit both residents and businesses. Here are a few important codes that you may find helpful. If you witness any violations, you may report them to the Community Improvement Coordinator at (626) 403-7225 or by email at [aerfigen@ci.south-pasadena.ca.us](mailto:aerfigen@ci.south-pasadena.ca.us).

1. Garage Sales: (S.P.M.C. 36.410.050) A permit with a fee of \$6.00 must be obtained from the Planning and Building Department before the commencement of a garage sale. Please note that garage sales are limited to two times per year per residence, for a maximum of two consecutive days each year. Any signs/flyers used to advertise the garage sale must be removed within 24 hours after the end of the sale. Signs/flyers are not permitted on public utility poles, or any other public pole/structure. Stapling signs/flyers on public trees is strictly prohibited.

2. Banners: (S.P.M.C. 36.320.80 B) A permit with a fee of \$6.00 must be obtained from the Planning and Building Department before posting a banner at a commercial location. Banners can be displayed on a temporary basis only, for a maximum of 30 consecutive days and no more than 90 cumulative days per calendar year. Only one banner per business shall be permitted for display at any given time.

## SPRING CALENDAR

### LIBRARY EVENTS

#### **MARCH 5 - 10**

"Voting: California Young Reader Medal"  
Call (626) 403-7358 for more information.

#### **MARCH 7 - 14**

"Arbor Day" Program  
Call (626) 403-7358 for more information.

#### **MARCH 12**

"The Chinese in America: Authors Forum"  
Library Community Room - 7 PM  
Free - Call (626) 403-7358 for more information.

#### **MARCH 18**

Restoration Concert: Linda Wang - Violin Recital  
Library Community Room - 4 PM  
Call (626) 799-6333 for ticket information.

#### **MARCH 26-APRIL 13**

"Be Kind to Animals Week Art Contest"  
Call (626) 403-7358 for more information.

#### **APRIL 7**

"Egg-Stravaganza," Garfield Park Noon - 2 PM  
Call (626) 403-7380 for more information.

#### **APRIL 8**

Easter - Library Closed

#### **APRIL 15 - 21**

"National Library Week"  
Call (626) 403-7358 for more information.

#### **APRIL 22**

Restoration Concert: New Hollywood String Quartet  
Library Community Room - 4 PM  
Call (626) 799-6333 for ticket information.

#### **APRIL 23 - 29**

"Turn Off the TV Week"  
Call (626) 403-7358 for more information.

#### **APRIL 27**

"Author Event: Al Young, State Poet Laureate"  
Library Community Room - 7 PM  
Free - Call (626) 403-7350 for more information.

#### **APRIL 28 - 29**

Mission West Spring Festival  
Mission Street & Fremont Ave., 10 AM - 5 PM

#### **MAY 17**

"Carnegie Libraries Program"  
Library Community Room - 7 PM  
Free - Call (626) 403-7350 for more information

#### **MAY 28**

Memorial Day Holiday - Library Closed

## New Businesses Open in South Pasadena

There are new businesses in South Pasadena!

- ★ **Gin Goei D.D.S, dental office**  
1730 Huntington Dr. Suite 202, (626) 441-4339
- ★ **Natural Vita LLC, glucose management and raw food lifestyle**  
630 Mission St., Suite A (626) 403-0701
- ★ **Pansky & Markle, law office**  
1010 Sycamore Ave. #101, (213) 626-7300
- ★ **Puff, cosmetic boutique and art gallery**  
1005 A Mission St., (626) 799-2864
- ★ **U.S.A. Funding, Inc., mortgage & real estate brokerage**  
1936 Huntington Dr. Suite #212

## FARMERS' MARKET

Open 4-8 PM



Meridian and Mission. Every Thursday, a variety of local businesses in the Mission West stay open until 8 PM. Come visit and support your local merchants.

# Coping with Neighborhood Construction

Neighborhood construction can be disruptive—hammers, saws, trucks, dumpsters, dust and debris are common. Noise and inconvenience are inevitable, but temporary. It is strongly encouraged, for the betterment of the community and local builders, that neighbors do their best to work together to ensure that these interruptions are brief and don't violate any laws established by the City of South Pasadena Municipal Code.

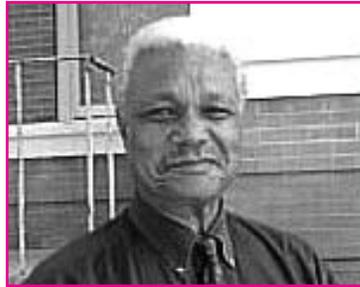
Many times this approach is all that is required to resolve neighborhood construction issues. However, if the situation doesn't improve, contact your Community Improvement Coordinator at (626) 403-7225. The Community Improvement Coordinator is the sole point of contact for all Code Enforcement-related matters, and this person can refer your concerns to the appropriate department when needed. If it is during off hours for City Hall staff, you may report the violation to the Police Department at (626) 403-7297.



## State Poet Laureate to Appear at Library

The South Pasadena Public Library and the Friends of the South Pasadena Public Library are proud to present California State Poet Laureate Al Young. Join us for this free, fun Author Night Program on April 27 at 7 PM in the Community Room of the South Pasadena Public Library. The California Poet Laureate's role is to publicize the art of poetry and encourage literacy and learning in the state.

The appearance immediately follows his "Top to Bottom" tour of the Golden State. No tickets are necessary and during April, a display of some of Al Young's many books can be seen at the Library. His latest book is **Coastal Nights and Inland Afternoons**. Coincidentally, April is both National Poetry Month and National Jazz Month.



Young is well known for his distinctive style and performances with jazz artists. His extensive publishing record includes novels, poetry, essays, memoirs, and anthologies. He has been a poet, writer, teacher, and lecturer throughout his literary career. As a screenwriter, Young has worked with Sidney Poitier, Bill Cosby, and Richard Pryor.

Poets & Writers, Inc. also sponsors the program with funding from the James Irvine Foundation. Special thanks to the California Arts Council.

## How to Avoid Becoming an Identity Theft Victim

Identity theft is a huge problem and growing each day. The South Pasadena Police Department is providing a presentation on how to avoid identity theft on Wednesday, April 18th at 10 AM at the South Pasadena Senior Center, 1102 Oxley Street.

Come hear and learn about the fastest growing crime in the nation, and what preventive measures you can use to avoid becoming a victim. Unfortunately, most victims do not know they are victims until 30-90 days after! Many may not know that their perfect credit rating no longer exists, and worse is the time spent to clear up the dispute. Everyone is a potential victim of identity theft, so come and hear what preventive measures you can take to lessen the chances of becoming a victim. For more information contact the Senior Center at (626) 403-7360.



## The Filming Location Library

The City has a free "Location Library" to match interested home/business owners with film companies. More than 600 residents/property owners have registered their properties but not all have sent in photos. Please remember to get your information and pictures in so that your property may be "shown" to film company scouts.

If you haven't called to sign up and are curious about filming at your property, please leave your name, address, and phone number with 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). Recent requests from film companies have included: all-American homes, homes with large rooms and an open floor plan, empty storefronts and re-done traditional kitchens.



## CITY COUNCIL

Philip C. Putnam, **Mayor**  
Michael A. Cacciotti, **Mayor Pro Tem**  
David L. Margrave, **Councilmember**  
Michael Ten, **Councilmember**  
Odom Stamps, **Councilmember**

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

You may leave a recorded message at any time of day or night for the Mayor or a Councilmember by dialing (626) 403-7218. Recorded prompts will assist you in reaching the appropriate member of the Council.

**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)

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