



# SOUTH PASADENA NEIGHBORS

The Official Community Newsletter ❖ Volume 4, No. 5 ❖ Summer 2000

## Concerts in the Park Kicks Off in July

What better way to spend a summer Sunday evening than by attending a Concert in the Park! The Community Services Department is pleased to present the second annual Summer Concerts in the Park series at Garfield Park. Building on the success of last year, the series has been expanded to five concerts. Join us at Garfield Park every other Sunday from July 2 through August 27 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Mark your calendars for the following dates:

- 🎵 **July 2:** "Yankee Doodle Night" featuring 40th Division Army National Guard Band
- 🎵 **July 16:** "Big Band and Swing Night" featuring Pete Jacobs War-time Radio Revue
- 🎵 **July 30:** "Crooners Night" featuring Park Avenue West
- 🎵 **August 13:** "International Music Night" featuring South American panpipe and tropical calypso music
- 🎵 **August 27:** "Rock & Pop Legends Night" featuring Midwest Coast

Bring the entire family, blanket, and lawn chairs. Come picnic and join us. In addition to the wonderful music and family atmosphere, your kids will have fun playing on Garfield Park's new play equipment and all will enjoy the convenience of our new attractive restrooms.

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## SUMMER'S COMING TO SOUTH PASADENA!

### Everything You Need is Right in Town!

Summer is just around the corner! Soon many South Pasadena residents will be firing up the barbecue on the weekend, getting some well-deserved R&R by the pool, and enjoying their summer gardens.

Chances are that you may also need to stock up on summer-related items like lawn furniture, barbecue equipment, gardening tools, and more. Take it easy — you don't have to do battle on crowded freeways for an hour to get to some congested mall — you can find everything you need right here in South Pasadena!

At Balk's Hardware at 1518 Mission St., and Orchard Supply Hardware, at 452 Fair Oaks Ave., you can purchase everything from gardening tools and supplies to bicycles. Established in 1936, Balk's is one of the City's oldest businesses and has a very broad range of items, including unique seasonal items like grapefruit!

Need things for the kids this summer? You'll find a wide variety of children's merchandise at both the Pleasantville Gift Shop, at 1106 Fair Oaks Ave., and Wonderyear Toys and Video at 1315 Fair Oaks Plaza.

You'll feel like a kid in a candy store when you shop for those summer birthday parties at Family Fair, 1019 Mission St., and Dinosaur Farm, 1514 Mission St. And when your kids ask for ice cream, take them to the Fair Oaks Pharmacy at 1526 Mission St. for old-fashioned sodas, floats and sundaes, or to Jamba Juice, 1101 Fair Oaks Ave., or Frozen Fusion, 456 Fair Oaks Ave., for those popular and healthy fruit smoothies.

For dining al fresco at the concerts in the park, the Hollywood Bowl, or your own backyard, you'll find boxed dinners at Bristol Farms Center at 606 Fair Oaks Ave. and specially packaged French cuisine at Dining with Andre at 1000 Fremont Ave. If you're looking for things for the home and garden, or special gifts like scented candles or soaps, check out Tinato, the new shop at the Bristol Farms Center. You can even take art classes at Studio 13 Limited at 1032 Mission St.

So why fight the traffic and the crowds? It's all right here in South Pasadena. You'll not only find what you want this summer, but you'll also be supporting your local businesses!



*It's all right here in South Pasadena. Businesses pictured are Bristol Farms, Family Fair, Wonderyear and Dining with Andre.*



# Houses Get Spruced Up for Summer



Look around almost every neighborhood in South Pasadena and you'll see a flurry of home renovation and restoration projects underway. Most of this work requires some kind of permit or entitlement approval from the City, and the process provides residents with an opportunity to be informed of and to comment on these projects.

If you live near one of these homes, you can participate in the public approval process:

- ▶ You will be notified by mail of any project in the proximity of your home that requires a public hearing before the Design Review Board, the Cultural Heritage Commission, the Planning Commission, or the City Council.
- ▶ Public hearings are also posted at City Hall and the Library, and are published in our local newspaper, the South Pasadena Review, every Wednesday.
- ▶ You can attend any public hearing to comment on a proposed project.

- ▶ You are welcome to stop by the Community Development Department at City Hall to review all plans being proposed.

## Thinking of making home improvements yourself? As an "owner-builder," here is what you need to know:

- ▶ Prior to beginning your project, contact the Building Department at (626) 403-7220 to determine if you need permits.
- ▶ If anyone other than family members living in your household helps you work on the project, you must submit a Workers Compensation insurance policy to the Building Department.
- ▶ Once you begin work, make sure you contact the Building Department to arrange for the proper inspections.

# NEW BUSINESSES IN TOWN

A host of new businesses have debuted in South Pasadena. If you're in the mood for food, check out Fish Mama, Fanta-Sea Grill, Baja Fresh or Jamba Juice, all located along Fair Oaks Avenue.



*Fish Mama is one of the new businesses that have recently opened in town.*

Stop by Out of the Closet, a new thrift shop at Fair Oaks and Monterey. Experience Dining with Andre, a "Provencal Takerie," (takeaway dining) and Present Perfect, an art gallery, both located in the Fremont Centre at Fremont Avenue and El Centro. And, just in time for summer, the Tanning Company has opened up at Fremont Avenue behind Fashion Dry Cleaners.



## UNDERSTANDING CEQA

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires that the environmental impact of a project be identified and studied. All new City development must comply with CEQA.

A key feature of CEQA ensures that the public has the opportunity to know about and comment on projects. There are two ways to find out about proposals and public hearings before the Planning Commission, Cultural Heritage Commission, and Design Review Board:

- The City's Community Development Department publishes notices of projects every Wednesday in the "Legal Notices" section of the South Pasadena Review.
- The Community Development Department also sends public-hearing notices to property owners within a 300-foot radius of the project site (see related story – "Houses Get Spruced Up for Summer").

To learn more about CEQA, log on to <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/env/resource/laws/ceqa.htm> or visit the Government Publications section at the South Pasadena Public Library, 1100 Oxley Street.

# TIME TO TRIM WEEDS AND BRUSH

As the weather warms up, weeds will soon become dry and unsightly and can pose a significant fire hazard. The City of South Pasadena is taking a number of proactive steps to ensure that weeds and brush are properly trimmed.



Weed-abatement flyers will be sent to all residents with their water bills. City firefighters will also be driving around neighborhoods to check for weed problems.

The South Pasadena Fire Department is asking everyone to cooperate — you can avoid receiving any notices by cutting and clearing excess brush. If you have any questions, contact the Fire Department at 626-403-7300.

# NEW DROP SERVICES FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

If you have driven by City Hall lately, you may have seen a green box sitting near the corner of Mission and Mound. The Finance Department



has placed a payment box near the street to make things a little more convenient for people who come by after hours.

The drop box is accessible from both the sidewalk and street. Finance Department staff will collect the contents of the box daily, with the exception of weekends and holidays.

*The drop box is convenient for people who need to make payments after hours.*

The City discourages cash payments in the drop box. If you prefer to make a payment at City Hall, the office is open from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday and 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday.

## FREE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE ROUNDUP

Do you have containers of old paint, turpentine, pesticides, cleaners containing acid or lye, car or household batteries, or used motor oil lurking in the dark corners of your garage? If so, then Saturday, July 22, might be a good time to place these items in a sturdy box and bring them to the Household Hazardous Waste Roundup at Santa Anita Race Track, Gate 6 on Colorado Place in Arcadia. Hazardous waste materials will be accepted from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Explosives, live ammunition, or waste from businesses will not be accepted.

For information on this and other hazardous waste events held each month in Los Angeles County, call 1-888-CLEAN LA (253-2652).

## DISCOVER YOUR POLICE DEPARTMENT -ONLINE!

Want to learn more about the South Pasadena Police Department (SPPD)? Simply log on to <http://www.sppd.org>.



You'll find a wealth of information at your fingertips. Some topics include:

- ★ A message from Police Chief Michael Berkow
- ★ The history of your Police Department
- ★ Employment opportunities
- ★ Latest press releases



Chief Berkow

For people moving into South Pasadena, there is a handy section containing local laws and ordinances. Be sure to check the Crime Statistics Map, which is updated monthly. Another section allows residents to download forms and get information on how to contest a parking citation, request a police report, ask for extra police patrol in an area and advise the Police Department that they're going to be away on vacation.

Have any suggestions or questions? E-mail the SPPD at [sppd@sppd.org](mailto:sppd@sppd.org).

## NEW CITY WEB SITE DEBUTS THIS SUMMER

The City's new Web site is under development and will be up and running by summer. The address will remain the same: [www.ci.south-pasadena.ca.us](http://www.ci.south-pasadena.ca.us). Watch for more information in future issues of *Neighbors*.

## BOOKS NEEDED!



Donations of hardcover and paperback books are urgently needed by the Friends of the South Pasadena Public Library Bookstore. This is the chief money-raising operation that supports the summer reading program for the communi-

ty's children and many other activities at the library.

Donations may be brought to the library, 1100 Oxley Street, or arrangements may be made for pick-up by calling the bookstore at (626) 441-5294. CD's, audiotapes and selected magazines are also accepted. Please check with library staff at (626) 403-7350 for needed titles. The bookstore is on the second floor of the library, accessible by elevator.



## PROTECT YOUR PET!

Humans love the 4th of July. Dogs, cats and birds, however, are often frightened by loud fireworks. Here's a useful checklist that will make sure your furry or feathery family member is protected:

- ✿ Make sure your pet is wearing current ID tags.
- ✿ Keep your pet inside, preferably in a windowless area. Turn on your radio or TV (at low volume) to diffuse the sounds of fireworks.
- ✿ Do not take your pet with you to watch firework displays. Dogs are particularly subject to heat stroke and may bolt and run if off a leash.
- ✿ If your pet is missing, check with the Pasadena Humane Society (or other nearby shelters) as quickly as possible. Cats usually stay in hiding for several days.
- ✿ Heat stroke and dehydration are common ailments for pets during the July 4th holiday. Check their gums. Saliva should be watery, not thick. Take the skin along your pet's spine and gently pull it away from the body and then let go. It should snap back immediately. If it slowly goes back down, your pet is dehydrated.
- ✿ Never leave your pet in the car even with the windows slightly opened.
- ✿ If you go camping or to the beach, call ahead and ask if pets are allowed.

The Pasadena Humane Society will be open July 5th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. only to take in strays and return animals to their owners. The shelter is located at 361 South Raymond Avenue, (626) 792-7151.

## LIBRARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT PROGRAMMING

**JUNE - AUGUST**  
SUMMER READING PROGRAM  
JUNE 12-AUGUST 12

"Library Kids Lead the Way"

Registration for children from birth through 5th grade begins June 12. Participants receive a free book bag, reading record, bookmark, game board, newsletter, and certificate. They can then check out books and read throughout the summer.

**JUNE 12**

"Bookscape 2000" Teen Reading Program

Registration for 6th-12th graders begins June 12. By reading, participants earn opportunities to win fabulous prizes donated by the community.

**JUNE 20-AUGUST 11**

"Storytimes"

Family Storytimes (all ages), Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.-8 p.m.  
Pajama Storytimes (ages 3-5 years), Wed., 7 p.m.-7:30 p.m.  
Preschool Storytimes (ages 3-5 years), Thurs., 10:30-11 a.m.  
Toddler Storytimes (ages 1-2 years), Fri., 10:30-10:50 a.m.

**JUNE 21-AUGUST 11**

Grandparents and Books Read-Alouds

(All ages) Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, 1-3 p.m.

**JUNE 20-AUGUST 8**

Terrific Tuesdays

Funded by the Friends of the South Pasadena Public Library, Inc., weekly 2 p.m. programs are offered free to Summer Reading Program participants.

June 20 - Teatro de los Puppets presents "Read, Read, Read!"  
June 27 - Asha's Baba presents "Storytelling for the Eyes, Ears and Soul"

July 4 - Fourth of July parade (kids meet on the Diamond Street side of the library at 10 a.m.)

July 11 - Junior Arts Center bookmaking workshop

July 18 - Craig Newton performs "America's Multi-cultural Music"

July 25 - Wilderness survival presentation

August 1 - Ocean Adventures presents "The Australia Great White Shark Expedition"

August 8 - Rudy's Radical Science

Craft Craze

Summer Reading Program participants and their parents or caretakers are encouraged to drop in between 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. to create crafts or to pick up their craft package to make at home with their families.

**Mondays** - June 26, July 10, July 24, August 7

**Saturdays** - July 1, July 15, July 29, August 12

### CHILDREN'S INTERNET CLASSES

11 a.m. - noon. For children ages 7-14 years old. Pre-registration required. Call (626) 403-7358 to register.

June 24 (pre-register by June 9)

July 22 (pre-register by July 7)

## NEW BOOK DROP

As you pass by the entrance to the South Pasadena Public Library at 1100 Oxley Street, take note of the new shiny and bigger book drop on the curb. It matches your library card now, too!

## FARMERS' MARKET

Farmers' Market celebrates its one-year anniversary! Open 4-8 p.m., local businesses are open every Thursday until 8 p.m. On July 13 there will a treasure hunt for children. A Hawaiian theme on

Aug. 3 celebrates Farmers' Market Awareness Month - Hawaiian music, dancers, even an exotic-bird parade. So come celebrate and also support your local businesses!

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## CITY HALL CLOSED ON 4TH OF JULY

### JUNE 1-JULY 7

- Registration  
Leisure Classes  
Senior Citizens Center
- Registration  
Summer Camp  
Community Kids Center

### JUNE 16

- Father's Day Celebration  
Senior Citizens Center

### JUNE 19

- Summer Camp begins  
Community Kids Center

### JUNE 22

- Open House for  
Leisure Classes  
Senior Citizens Center

### JULY 2

- Concerts in the Park  
"40th Division Army  
National Guard Band"  
Garfield Park

### JULY 10

- Summer Session  
Leisure Classes begin  
Senior Citizens Center

### JULY 16

- Concerts in the Park  
"Pete Jacobs Wartime Radio  
Revue," Garfield Park

### JULY 30

- Concerts in the Park  
"Park Avenue West"  
Garfield Park

### AUGUST 3

- Senior Citizens Night Out  
Senior Citizens Center

### AUGUST 13

- Concerts in the Park  
"International Night"  
Garfield Park

### AUGUST 21

- Summer Camp ends  
Community Kids Center

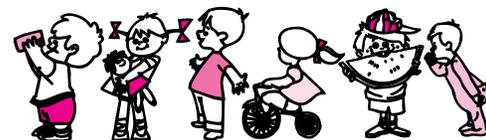
### AUGUST 27

- Concerts in the Park  
"Mid West Coast," Garfield Park

### AUGUST 30

- Spaghetti Feast & Bingo  
Senior Citizens Center

## CAMP MED STARTS JUNE 19



Hey parents! Looking for a great place to bring your kids this summer? The City of South Pasadena invites kids from 5 to 12 years of age to enjoy 10 weeks at our popular Camp Med summer day camp program, which kicks off on June 19.

The program is geared toward sports, arts & crafts, indoor/outdoor games, swimming twice a week, and weekly field trips. Some planned trips include the Los Angeles Zoo, Children's Museum, Raging Waters, and Knott's Berry Farm. Children are served two snacks per day, so all you need to provide is their lunch and drink.

Campers are placed in a fun-filled, well-organized, safe and supervised environment at Orange Grove Park. The Community Services Coordinator and the Camp Director supervise the program, supported by 12 highly trained and enthusiastic recreation leaders.

Now is also the perfect time to settle your school-year childcare needs by enrolling your child in our after-school program with new extended hours. Spaces are limited so make sure your child is on the roster.

For more information or to register, please give us a call at (626) 403-7380 or 403-7382.

**Location** .....Orange Grove Park  
815 Mission Street

**Ages** .....5-12

**Days** .....June 19 until August 25  
Monday through Friday

**Time** .....7 a.m. - 6 p.m.

**Fees** .....1-3 days \$68 (per week)  
Includes Camp T-shirt  
4-5 days \$93 (per week)  
Includes Camp T-shirt

10% discount for each additional child.

## Recreation and Leisure Classes Expanded

Have you taken advantage of the expanded number and types of recreation and leisure classes offered by the Community Services Department? If not, you and your children are missing out on a great opportunity to have fun, stay (or get!) in shape, learn a new skill or hobby, or socialize and enhance your life, right here in your own backyard. Classes are available for all ages, from tiny tots to seniors. They are offered on a quarterly basis with classes starting the first Monday of every July, October, January, and April.

Look for the Community Services Department's *Class and Services Guide* inside every quarterly *Neighbors* newsletter. It's filled with updated information on other community and special events.

Registration can be done by phone, mail or in person, and we accept VISA/MasterCard payments. For more information call (626) 403-7360.

Want to teach a class? We are always looking for new and interesting classes to offer the

community. Please call us if you have a skill or hobby, or maybe even a career-related topic that you would like to offer your community.

## RECREATION CLASSES OPEN HOUSE

Please join us on Thursday, June 22, from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the South Pasadena Senior Center at 1102 Oxley St. for an open house. You'll meet the instructors, learn more about the recreation classes, Camp Med and other Community Services Department activities, and you'll be able to register. For more information, refer to the *Class and Services Guide* insert. Classes start July 3.

## CITY COUNCIL

Dorothy M. Cohen, *Mayor*  
David Rose, *Mayor Pro Tem*  
Harry A. Knapp *Councilmember*  
David Saeta, *Councilmember*  
Paul Zee, *Councilmember*

Jeannine Gregory, *City Clerk*  
Victor Robinette, *City Treasurer*



## SOUTH PASADENA NEIGHBORS

City of South Pasadena  
1414 Mission St.  
South Pasadena, CA 91030

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