

SOUTH PASADENA NEIGHBORS

The Official Community Newsletter ❖ Volume 6, No. 4 ❖ Winter 2001



Your Property Can Be a Movie Star!

You may have seen trucks parked down the block or heard a movie was filming nearby. Have you ever wished a film company would approach you to use your home or business in a film shoot? Having your house featured in a movie, television show or commercial can be fun and bring revenue to both you and the City.

South Pasadena's tree-lined neighborhoods and historically preserved downtown have been used by the film business for decades.

In order for a film company to shoot in our City, they need to comply with the rules of our Film Policy. The first step is finding a location. Many Location Managers drive through our neighborhoods, knock on doors, and deal directly with the home or storeowner. Others, however, call our City's Film Office and request a specific style home, business or street. In order for the City to match a Location Manager's requests with interested property owners, we need your help.

We are putting together a 'locations library' to be kept in City Hall for the sole purpose of matching interested property owners with film companies on a search. In addition, we may also participate in the California Film Commission's database, CinemaScout, which is a popular resource for Location Scouts. If you would like more information on how to participate, please call the City's Film Liaison, Joan Aguado, at (626) 403-7263.



Holidays Are a Time to Celebrate and Share!

It's hard to believe that the holidays are almost here! As in years past, the City of South Pasadena is hosting a number of holiday-oriented programs. Some of them include:

Spark-of-Love Toy Drive. Principal sponsors are the Los Angeles County Fire Department and KABC-TV. Toy collections began on November 22 and end December 24. Any new, unwrapped gift will be accepted. The toy drive also accepts items for teenagers, such as sports equipment, hand-held games, watches, wallets, and purses. The donations can be dropped off at the South Pasadena Fire Department or South Pasadena Police Department. Please call (626) 403-7303 for more information on donations.

Holiday Tales'N'Tunes at the Library. On December 19, from 7-7:30 p.m. in the Library Community Room, storyteller Karen Golden will share Tales and Tunes to Warm Your Holiday Heart. The Friends of the South Pasadena Public Library, Inc., has funded this free winter holiday special program as they have funded the past annual winter specials.

Children of all ages and their families will hear stories and music from Hanukkah, Christmas, and Kwanzaa. Blending her musical talents with saxophone, recorder, ocarina, and the accordion with her storytelling, Golden will entertain her audience with humor and wit.

For more information about upcoming free library programs, visit the library at 1100 Oxley Street or call (626) 403-7358. The South Pasadena Public Library is open on Sundays from 1-5 p.m.; Monday through Wednesday from 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; Thursday and Friday from 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Saturday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Mission West Holiday Open House. Santa Claus will be visiting the District from noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday, December 8. There will be holiday carolers, free rides on a horse-drawn sleigh, and refreshments served in area shops.



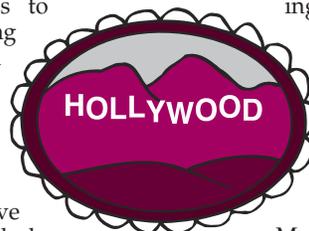
Holiday Social & Cheer. The Community Services Department will be making placemats for the annual holiday luncheon. Make friends, sing songs. December 3rd, 6-8 p.m. For reservations call (626) 403-7360.

Senior Holiday Luncheon. The Senior Center will hold its annual luncheon on December 13 at 11:45 a.m. There will also be a choir performance following the luncheon. For reservations call (626) 403-7360.

South Pasadena Represented at Film Exhibit

Don't miss 'Hollywood Comes to Pasadena,' an exhibit celebrating 103 years of film, acting, theatre, and fashion history in Pasadena, South Pasadena, and other local cities.

South Pasadena is well represented with a large assortment of photos, stills, props and costumes from the many productions that have taken place over the last century includ-



ing *Back to the Future*; *The X-Files*; *The Player*; *The Terminator*; *Liar, Liar*; and *'Seinfeld.'* The exhibit runs through January 6, 2002 at the Pasadena Historical Museum at the corner of Orange Grove and West Walnut in Pasadena. For more information, please call the Pasadena Historical Museum at (626) 577-1660.



City Becomes a Certified Local Government

The City of South Pasadena became the 47th city in California to become a 'Certified Local Government (CLG)' on Sept. 6. The CLG is a national program designed to encourage the preservation of cultural resources by promoting a partnership among local governments, states, and the National Park Service, which is responsible for the National Historic Preservation city program. The many benefits of being a CLG member include:

- Eligibility for federal grants administered by the State Office of Historic Preservation (SHPO);
- Direct participation in the nomination of

historic properties to the National Register of Historic Places;

- Opportunity to review and comment on development projects in compliance with federal environmental regulations, thereby expediting the review time;
 - Receive special technical assistance and training from SHPO; and
 - Potential for participation in the review process of building rehabilitation plan for federal investment tax credits.
- CLG status enhances the ability of the City to fund and promote historic preservation programs.



Planning Commission Finishes Zoning Code Review

The Planning Commission has completed its extensive review of the Zoning Code and has forwarded their recommendations to the City Council. The City Council is tentatively scheduled to begin their deliberations on the new code at their regular meeting on January 16, 2002.



Tom Lim, Commissioner; Phillip Dubé, Secretary; Robert Kwan, Chairman; Michael Burch, Vice-Chairman; and Karen Durfee, Commissioner.

The City's Planning Commission began public hearings on the new Zoning Code in April. The new code is designed to implement the city's General Plan, adopted by the South Pasadena City Council in October 1998. State law requires that a city's zoning code be consistent with and implement the city's General Plan.

Burch, Phillip Dubé, Karen Durfee, Tom Lim and especially to Chairman Robert Kwan, who agreed to serve several months beyond the end of his term in order to complete the project.

Salutations and much gratitude go out to the five intrepid Planning Commissioners who presided over meetings to see the Zoning Code revision through. South Pasadena residents and property owners are indebted to Commissioners Michael

City Adopts Automated Water Meter Readings!

Maintenance worker John Carrera has been walking the streets of South Pasadena for over 15 years, stopping without fail at every water meter box on his daily route.



With the skill of a seasoned veteran, he lifts the box cover, reads the water meter, and records the usage. John no longer carries a pack of spare pencils or makes repeated trips back and forth to the office to verify a "read" and, as is often necessary, the inevitable "reread" of a discrepant meter.

The City, in an effort to improve its water billing system, has purchased a handheld water meter reading system that makes use of portable digital equipment to gather water usage reads and transfer the data to the Finance Department's computer system for processing.

Previously, meter reading was accomplished by first making handwritten tallies into meter books and then re-entering them by hand into the Finance Department's billing system. Now data is input directly to handheld units and discrepancies in consumption, when encountered, are automatically identified in the field where technicians can resolve the problem.

Initial assessments made by John and other Public Works Department meter readers have been very positive. They are experiencing a decrease in the amount of time spent reading the meters. This gives John and the rest of the crew more time to fix meter leaks and provide additional general maintenance to the water system equipment.

Youth Commission Update

Last year, the Youth Commission comprised eight returning commissioners plus three new members. The commission included one 7th grader, two 8th graders, two high school freshmen, four high school juniors and two high school seniors.

Key Youth Commission activities included:

- Three Middle School Dances held at the War Memorial Building and at Oneonta Church attended by 200 students each.
- Middle School Movie Night held at the High School Auditorium and attended by 25 students.
- July 4th games at Garfield Park.
- Assisted with posters and set-up for the Summer Concerts Series.

The Youth Commission raised about \$3,000 from these activities. The Youth Commission also reviewed and commented on several City programs and proposals. Two members are currently on the skate park task force. The Commission offered suggestions to the Community Facilities Task Force regarding the proposed Library expansion and interest in a Teen Center.

The Youth Commission also contributed ideas, recommendations and support to the newly implemented Summer-of-Fun Program for Middle School students, which had a successful 7-week run this past July and August.

For 2002, the Youth Commission plans to offer three Middle School Dances, three Movie Nights, the return of the Talent Show, short outings for the youth, and a joint meeting with the Parks and Recreation Commission to collaborate on ideas and goals. The Commission will also create lunch-time activities at the Middle School, generate a stronger relationship with the Middle School Leadership Program, establish a Mission Statement to help guide future Youth Commissions, and offer continuous support of and revision to the Summer of Fun Program, Skate Park Task Force, Community Task Force, July 4th Committee, and to the City Council.

CITY OFFICIALS

Sean Joyce, City Manager	(626) 403-7210
Gay Forbes, Assistant City Manager.....	403-7210
James Anthony, Interim Police Chief	403-7270
Richard Elliott, Fire Chief	403-7300
Josh Betta, Finance Director.....	403-7250
David Watkins, Planning Director.....	403-7220
Jim Van Winkle, Public Works Director ..	403-7240
Terri Maguire, City Librarian.....	403-7330
Veronica Dolleschel, Comm. Svcs. Dir. ..	403-7360
Sally Kilby, City Clerk	403-7230

Mills Act Agreement Approved



The City Council followed a recommendation from the Cultural Heritage Commission and approved a Mills Act agreement for restoration work proposed at 909 Lyndon Street on October 3. The modified Queen Anne/shingle-style residence was built in 1896-97 and was part of the original Wynyate Estate in South Pasadena. It was designated Historic Landmark #43 by the City Council and is eligible for property tax credit under the Mills Act program. This is the third project in South Pasadena to take advantage of the Mills Act program for the renovation and preservation of local historic landmarks since its inception in 1998. The program provides for a reduction in property taxes to cover the restoration work of cultural resources.

Mission District Loft Project Proposed

DECOMA Industries is proposing to develop the 'Mission District Loft Project' within the walls of the existing vacant storage building at 812 Fremont Avenue. The adaptive re-use of the structure would include ground-floor retail facing Fremont and about 17 residential loft units. The proposal also includes semi-subterranean parking to the north of the building. An informal presentation by DECOMA to neighborhood residents was made in early August and the project is currently moving through the City's entitlement process and will be reviewed by the Design Review Board and Planning Commission.



Mixed-Use Project Being Reviewed

The Environmental Impact Report for the Mission and Meridian mixed-use project has been completed and is being reviewed by City Boards and Commissions. The project requires approval from the Cultural Heritage Commission, the Design Review Board, and the Planning Commission. Creative Housing Associates is proposing to develop about 4,500

square feet of retail, 67 residential units, and 142 public parking spaces on the vacant land immediately south of Magnolia Street and west of Meridian Avenue. The project is designed around open courtyards with a craftsman identity typical of South Pasadena. It would also provide for needed parking near the future Blue Line station.

Kentucky Fried Chicken Relocated

A commercial project is being proposed at the northwest corner of Huntington Drive and Fremont Avenue, identified as a 'focus area' of the City's General Plan.

Referred as 'Huntington Plaza,' the project at 1318 Huntington Drive would consist of a new 6,641-square-foot, one-story commercial building with 37 parking spaces. It includes a non-drive-through Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant (proposed to be re-located from 710 Fair Oaks Avenue) and retail uses.

The proposed project is currently being reviewed by the City, and still requires review by the Design Review Board and a Conditional Use Permit from the Planning Commission. If you have any questions regarding this project, please call Associate Planner Lisa Louie Flores at (626) 403-7228.

South Pasadena Police Take Delivery



The photos show the newest addition to the fleet of vehicles operated by the South Pasadena Police Department. The "Emergency Response Vehicle" is custom built into a 2001 Ford pickup truck. The vehicle houses state-of-the-art emergency-response equipment including digital radios that enable the Police Department to communicate with all surrounding

law-enforcement agencies, telephones, less lethal weaponry, protective ballistic shields, and numerous other items needed in critical incidents. Also installed is a complete command center that will allow personnel to effectively manage tactical situations in the field.



CITY EVENTS

DECEMBER 8

Mission West Holiday Open House
Noon - 4 p.m.
South Pasadena High School Tiger Run
8-11:00 a.m.

DECEMBER 25

Christmas Day
City Hall, Library, Community Services Closed

JANUARY 1

New Year's Day
City Hall, Library, Community Services Closed

JANUARY 21

Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday
City Hall, Library, Community Services Closed

FEBRUARY 18

Presidents' Day
City Hall, Library, Community Services Closed

LIBRARY EVENTS

DECEMBER 19

Children's Winter Holiday Program
Library Community Room, 7-7:30 p.m.
Call (626) 403-7358 for more information.

DECEMBER 22

Friends of the Library Holiday Tea
Library
Call (626) 403-7350 for more information.

FEBRUARY 3

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

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPT.

DECEMBER 3

Registration for Winter Leisure Classes (Senior Center)
Holiday Social & Cheer (Senior Center)

DECEMBER 7

Holiday Workshop (Senior Center)

DECEMBER 13

Holiday Luncheon (Senior Center)

DECEMBER 14

Winter Parent's Night Out (Senior Center)

DECEMBER 24-JANUARY 4

Winter Day Camp (Orange Grove)

DECEMBER 28

Birthday Celebration (Senior Center)

JANUARY 25

Birthday Celebration (Senior Center)

FEBRUARY

Tax Assistance (Senior Center)

FEBRUARY 8

Valentine Parent's Night Out (Senior Center)

FEBRUARY 14

Valentine's Celebration (Senior Center)

FEBRUARY 22

Birthday Celebration (Senior Center)

MARCH 11

Health Fair (Senior Center)

TOURNAMENT OF ROSES ASSOCIATION EVENTS

DECEMBER 29

Tournament of Roses "Crunch Time Party"
6-9:30 p.m.
El Centro Street (near float site)

It's Your Downtown



Watch for a facelift on Mission Street! In response to the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)'s newly created Façade Improvement Program, two business-property owners are planning to submit applications for funds to renovate their façades.

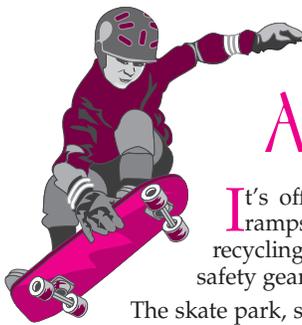
During the holidays, cable stations such as A&E, Lifetime and Nickelodeon will air the first special advertisement featuring South Pasadena businesses.

Proposed and coordinated by the Ultimate Outlet and other local businesses, and funded by the City's Business Improvement Tax (paid by all South Pasadena businesses), the cable advertisement is the City's first foray into television marketing and will attract new customers to South Pasadena. For more information, contact the Planning Department at (626) 403-7220, or email gforbes@ci.south-pasadena-ca.us.

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!



Skate Park Coming to Arroyo Park

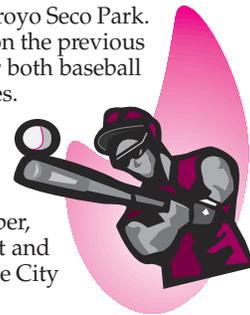
It's official! A 10,000–12,000-square-foot skate park with quality modular ramps is coming to South Pasadena's Arroyo Park on the site of the former recycling center. This will be a free public skate park. Registration forms and safety gear will be required, and skaters will be monitored by on-site staff.

The skate park, slated to open next spring, will be located next to the new commercial batting cages (due to open early next year). To be added to the mailing list or for more information, call (626) 403-7360.

Batting Cages are Coming to Town

The South Pasadena Batting Cages will open by January 2002 in the Arroyo Seco Park. It is a public and family-friendly facility located at 660 Stoney Drive on the previous site of the recycling center. There will be six automated batting cages for both baseball and softball, two manual batting cages, and two pitching/training cages. There will also be an outdoor facility for birthdays and private parties. Prices will be competitive with other area batting cages.

This project is located on City-owned land, but will be constructed and operated by a private vendor. Dave Herald is an experienced operator who currently runs the Monrovia Grand Slam facility. Last September, the City Council approved a 10-year lease for Herald, who will construct and operate the facility and pay the City a percentage of the gross revenue. The City will own the facility at the end of the 10-year lease.



Christmas Tree Recycling

The Christmas Tree Recycling program will operate as it has in years past. If you live in a house or duplex, simply place your Christmas tree next to your trash containers and your tree will be recycled along with your green waste. Apartment and condo dwellers will receive a tree-recycling schedule in the mail. For more information, contact the Public Works Department at (626) 403-7240.

CITY COUNCIL

David V. Rose, *Mayor*

Harry A. Knapp, *Mayor Pro Tem*

Michael A. Cacciotti, *Councilmember*

Dorothy M. Cohen, *Councilmember*

David Saeta, *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



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City of South Pasadena

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