



SOUTH PASADENA NEIGHBORS

The Official Community Newsletter ❖ www.ci.south-pasadena.ca.us ❖ Vol. 16 #7 ❖ Winter 2008

Annual "Holiday in a Basket" Drive

As the holiday season approaches, it's important to remember that some members of our community live alone and perhaps do not have the ability to drive or get into the spirit of the season.

The South Pasadena Senior Center wants to make a difference with the annual "Holiday in a Basket" drive. Over the last seven years, the Senior Citizens and Youth Commissions have collaborated to implement this special program.

Gift baskets are put together for older adults by Commissioners and will be delivered the week of December 22. Therefore, please make sure your donated canned and jarred items weigh eight ounces or less. Donate items in their sealed factory packaging.

Example of items needed:

- Low fat & low sodium, canned meats, vegetables, fruit. Small packages of cookies, dried fruit, nuts, soy milk, variety of non-acid juices, small packages of rice & pasta and teas & coffee
- Sundries such as hand lotion, shampoos & conditioners, etc.
- Large size strong & sturdy baskets
- Financial contribution made to the Senior Citizen's Foundation of South Pasadena, Inc. and they will purchase gift cards to be included in the baskets.

Collection of healthy non-perishable small food items or other contributions will be accepted December 1-12 at the following locations:

Senior Center, 1102 Oxley Street, weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Orange Grove Recreation Center, 815 Mission Street, weekdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information on how you can get involved or if you know of someone who would benefit from this service, please call Liliana F. Torres, South Pasadena Senior Center Supervisor, at (626) 403-7360.

Christmas Tree Safety Tips from the South Pasadena Fire Department

The South Pasadena Fire Department wishes you a happy and safe holiday season. Although Christmas trees add a special touch to the holiday season, they can be a hazard. Here are some helpful hints to reduce the risk of fire:

- Check your tree lights for broken or frayed wires.
- Replace non-working light bulbs.
- Do not decorate your tree with candles.
- Use only UL-listed lights.
- Avoid using multiple extension cords.
- Give your tree plenty of water. A 6' tree uses one-half gallon per day.
- Don't place the tree near a heat source.
- Always unplug your lights when you leave the house or go to bed.
- Install a smoke detector and have a fire extinguisher nearby.

The most important tip of all is to never try to burn your tree in the fireplace – the results can be tragic. A dry tree is like a bomb and can fully ignite within seconds. To see how fast a tree fire can happen, visit this website: www.archive.org/details/tree_fire.

Have a wonderful and safe holiday!



Proper Disposal of Large Items

When you have large, bulky items that require special disposal, please call Athens Services at (888) 336-6100. Athens will charge approximately \$25 for the first item and slightly less for additional items. Items should be placed in a readily accessible backyard location for pick up. Items should never be left at the curb.

When an item is left at the curb it is considered "illegal dumping." The City does not pick up these items. When the City is notified of the dumping of an item in the public right-of-way, a notice is sent to the adjacent property owner asking that the item be removed within 72 hours in accordance with City Municipal Code Section 16.2. The homeowner is responsible for having the item removed.



The Public Works Department would like to thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at (626) 403-7240.

Breakfast with Santa

Gather your family and friends for an unforgettable morning as Santa Claus is coming to town. Participating elves will get the chance to meet with Santa Claus to share their Christmas wish list. Also, you will enjoy a delicious breakfast buffet, live entertainment, participate in holiday arts & crafts, and of course, a picture with Santa making memories to last a lifetime.

Location: War Memorial Bldg, 435 Fair Oaks Ave.

When: Saturday, Dec 13, 9-11:30 a.m.

Fee: \$15/each, children under 2 free

Space is limited. Pre-register by Dec. 5th at the Recreation Office at 815 Mission Street, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. To register or for more information, please call (626) 403-7380.



Christmas Tree Recycling 2008

The Holiday Season is just around the corner and the City's Public Works Department and Athens Services are busy making plans to recycle Christmas trees in your neighborhood.

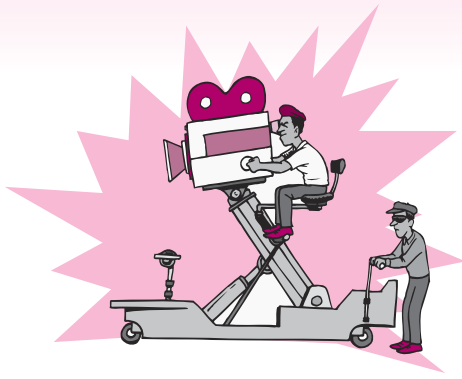
Residents in single family homes, or a duplex, may place Christmas trees next to regular trash barrels for convenient backyard pick up. After the holidays, Athens Services will pick up Christmas trees for recycling on any regularly scheduled trash collection day.

Residents in apartments or condominiums may place trees near the parkway or curb, in front of their homes for convenient curbside service. Athens Services will pick up trees in January according to the Christmas tree collection schedule*.

Please remember to remove all Christmas tree decorations, tree stands and shake off loose flocking on flocked trees to make the recycling process efficient.

For more information, please contact Public Works Assistant Diana Harder at (626) 403-7243.

*The Christmas tree collection schedule will be mailed to all residents by mid-December. Thank you for recycling!



Filming in South Pasadena

How do production companies find locations for their commercial, television show, or feature film? The answer is many different ways! Oftentimes, location scouts "cold scout" our neighborhoods - they drive around looking at exteriors and contact homeowners directly if they are interested in pursuing the home further. Another popular way scouts look for locations is through the City's location library—files containing both interior and exterior photos of properties.

The requests for filming locations vary. Scouts have called asking for everything from traditional homes with open floor plans to scary run down older homes to modern interiors. Is your home in a neighborhood where someone else hosts film shoots? You can also participate by offering your driveway or yard for catering purposes or any other needs they may have.

If you would like to join the free "location library" or have any specific questions about hosting a film shoot or filming in general, please call or email Film Liaison Joan Aguado at jaguado@ci.south-pasadena.ca.us or (626) 403-7263.



The Gardener Did It

On January 22, 2009, the South Pasadena Public Library and the Friends of the South Pasadena Public Library will host an Author Night and book signing event with nationally known writer, Naomi Hirahara. The free event will be held in the Library Community Room at 1115 El Centro Street. Books will be available for purchase and no tickets or reservations are necessary.

Hirahara was born and raised in Southern California and graduated from South Pasadena High School. She is the Edgar Award-winning author of the Mas Arai mystery series (*Summer of the Big Bachi*, *Gasa-Gasa Girl*, and *Snakeskin Shamisen*), all featuring a Japanese American gardener and atomic-bomb survivor.

A previous editor of The Rafu Shimpo newspaper, Hirahara has also produced nonfiction books on horticulture and Asian American history. Her short stories are featured in *Los Angeles Noir*, *A Hell of a Woman*, and *The Darker Mask*, while her middle grade book, *1001 Cranes*, was released in August 2008 by Delacorte. She is currently working on the fourth Mas Arai mystery.

During her presentation she will reveal why she selected an aging Japanese American gardener as her crime fighting protagonist and visually share some of the many artifacts of her publishing journey, including some choice rejection letters.

The Elliott Caine Trio will open the evening with a set of "Blue Note" style jazz. Elliott has performed and/or recorded with Teddy Edwards, Ernie Andrews, O. C. Smith, Wycliff Jean, Beck, and the Beastie Boys, among many others. He was also an integral part of the renowned Latin-ska group, Jump With Joey, for three tours of Japan and the U.S., and a performance at Capitol Records' 50th Anniversary celebration. A South Pasadena resident, Elliott also received a platinum record for his work with the rock group, Filter.

Children's and Youth Orchestras Perform at Library

Members of the award-winning South Pasadena Children's Orchestra (ages 5-11) and South Pasadena Youth Orchestra (ages 11-high school) will perform international music, including Jamaican, Japanese, Chinese, and Jewish, at 7:15 p.m. on December 9 at the South Pasadena Public Library Community Room, 1115 El Centro Street. Also on the program will be the world premiere of "Irish Washerwoman," arranged by celebrated local composer Dr. Vernon Leidig.

The orchestras, under the auspices of the South Pasadena Strings Program, have been featured on local and national television. Susan Pascale will conduct the Children's Orchestra, and Damian Berdakin will conduct the South Pasadena Youth Orchestra. Next spring the Children's Orchestra will also make its debut at New York City's Carnegie Hall. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the South Pasadena Public Library.

The South Pasadena Public Library is located at 1100 Oxley Street in South Pasadena. Call (626) 403-7358 or check the Library website at www.cityofsouthpasadena.us/library for more information. The Library is open on Sunday 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.; Monday through Wednesday 11 a.m. – 9 p.m.; Thursday and Friday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.



Announcing the Raising Abilities Project

Amalia Starr, writer of the instructive and inspiring memoir, *Raising Brandon: Parenting My Son to Live Successfully with Autism, Epilepsy, and Learning Disorders*, will appear for an Author Night speaking appearance on February 12, 2009 at 7 p.m. in the South Pasadena Public Library Community Room.

The free program is presented by the South Pasadena Public Library, the Friends of the South Pasadena Public Library, Kiwanis Club of South Pasadena, and The Institute for the Redesign of Learning, popularly known in the community as the Almansor Center. The event is also sponsored by Poets & Writers, with financial support from the James Irvine Foundation.

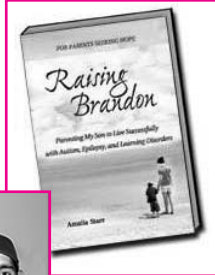
Amalia Starr is a motivational speaker and family consultant who conducts workshops and seminars. Her primary focus is providing successful resolutions for parents with children with limitations. First and foremost, she is a mother who has devoted more than 34 years developing the skills to empower her son who has been successfully living on his own and enjoying his independence for more than 11 years.

The South Pasadena Public Library Community Room is located at 1115 El Centro Street. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. No tickets or reservations are necessary. Refreshments will be provided and copies of *Raising Brandon* will be available for purchase.

The Amalia Starr Author Night is only the beginning of a new project called Raising Abilities, a partnership of the Library, the Friends, Kiwanis, and the Institute, a nonprofit organization. Last fall the Institute (www.redesignlearning.org) opened a new school in South Pasadena for individuals with autism spectrum disorders.

The Raising Abilities project will improve the South Pasadena Library's collection of checkout books on autism and other developmental disabilities disorders. The collection consists of a broad assortment of titles for all ages. Each book is affixed with a special project bookplate and listed in the descriptive Raising Abilities brochure. During February the South Pasadena Public Library will feature a special project display in the case just inside the Oxley Street entrance.

The Kiwanis Club of South Pasadena meets on Wednesdays at noon in the Calvary Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall at 1050 Fremont Avenue. Their lunch meetings, open to the community, feature a guest speaker at 1 p.m. During their February meetings, the Kiwanis Club will present a speaker series focusing on autism. For further information call Jeff Graham at (626) 403-9500.



New South Pasadena History Book by Jane Apostol

1989 marked the appearance of the first of Jane Apostol's 13 widely acclaimed history books: *South Pasadena: A Centennial History 1888-1988*, is a book fundraising effort for the South Pasadena Public Library. The handsome tome was the first full-length history of South Pasadena and remains unequalled, both for its scope of coverage and depth of information.

The book is also unsurpassed for its ability to communicate to a broad audience. All 3,000 copies of the award-winning book sold briskly and it has been a scarce and pricey collector's item for years. Those in the know have been clamoring for a republication of the hardback whose pages are printed on fine paper.

By popular demand the Friends of the South Pasadena Public Library and the South Pasadena Public Library have answered the call and in the process have expanded and updated the book, adding a new chronology covering the last 20 years as well as many more rare and fascinating photos.

South Pasadena: A Centennial History 1888-1988, Second Edition with Chronology, 1988-2008, is available at last, but only at the South Pasadena Public Library and in the Friends Book Store, which is open seven days a week upstairs. Copies are only \$44.95 each and all proceeds from the limited edition benefit the Library.

South Pasadena: A Centennial History 1888-1988, Second Edition with Chronology, 1988-2008 by Jane Apostol is not to be missed by those interested in the City's illustrious history. It can be enjoyed by readers of all ages and will make a uniquely wonderful heirloom for any family. It makes a great gift too!



WINTER CALENDAR

CITY EVENTS

DECEMBER 9

7:15 p.m.
South Pasadena Strings
Children's and Youth Orchestra Concert
Library - Community Room

DECEMBER 13

9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Breakfast with Santa
War Memorial Building - 435 Fair Oaks Ave.
\$15 per person, children under 2 free

DECEMBER 16

12 noon - 2:30 p.m.
City Employee Holiday Luncheon
City Hall, Library & Recreation Dept. Closed

DECEMBER 25

Christmas Day
City Hall, Library, Community Services Closed

DECEMBER 26

City Hall, Library, Community Services Closed

JANUARY 1

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

JANUARY 2

City Hall, Library, Community Services Closed

JANUARY 19

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

FEBRUARY 16

Presidents' Day
City Hall, Library, Community Services Closed

LIBRARY EVENTS

DECEMBER 9

Children's Program - SP Strings Concert
Library Community Room - 7:15 p.m. - Free

DECEMBER 24

Christmas Eve
Library Closes @ 2 p.m.

DECEMBER 31

New Year's Eve
Library Closes @ 2 p.m.

JANUARY 22

Library Author Night: Naomi Hirahara
Library Community Room - 7 p.m. - Free

JANUARY 25

Restoration Concert Series:
New Hollywood String Quartet
Library Community Room - 4 p.m.

FEBRUARY 12

Library Author Night: Amalia Starr
Library Community Room - 7 p.m. - Free

FEBRUARY 22

Restoration Concert Series:
Robert Edward Thies - Piano
Library Community Room - 4 p.m.

For more information about purchasing tickets for the Restoration Concert Series, please call (626) 799-6333.

For more information about upcoming Children's Services programs, please call (626) 403-7358. For Adult Services programs, please call (626) 403-7350.

City of South Pasadena At Your Service

Animal Control – Pasadena Humane Society	(626) 792-7151
Business & Animal Licensing	(626) 403-7257
Community Improvement	(626) 403-7225
Dial-A-Ride & Gold Link Shuttle.....	(626) 403-7368
Facility Reservations.....	(626) 403-7321
Filming	(626) 403-7263
Fire Dept. (Emergency Only)	911
Fire Dept. Administration/Ambulance Billing	(626) 403-7300
Fire Prevention	(626) 403-7304
Graffiti Removal Hotline	(626) 403-7249
Library	(626) 403-7330
Personnel Services	(626) 403-7312
Planning & Building Dept.	(626) 403-7220
Banner Permits for Businesses, Building Permits, Plan Checks	
Police Dept. (Emergency Only)	911
Police Dept. (Non Emergency - Dispatch)	(626) 403-7297
Police Dept.– Detective Bureau	(626) 403-7280
Police Dept. – Citations, Parking Permits, Records & Reports.....	(626) 403-7270
Public Works Dept. - Engineering, Block Party Permits	(626) 403-7240
Public Works Dept. - Service Facility, Street Repair & Maintenance, Water Quality....	(626) 403-7370
Recreation Division	(626) 403-7380
Leisure Classes and Day Care, Park, Field, Picnic Area Reservations, Special Events	
Refuse/Trash Services & Street Sweeping - Athens Services	(888) 336-6100
Senior Center	(626) 403-7360
Transportation	(626) 403-7236
Mission Meridian Parking Garage – 805 Meridian Ave.	
Tree Trimming/Tree Removal Permits	(626) 403-7243
Utility Billing	(626) 403-7259
City Clerk’s Office.....	(626) 403-7230
City Records Requests, Claims Against City	
City Manager’s Office	(626) 403-7210
Mayor and City Council Message Center	(626) 403-7218
Chamber of Commerce	(626) 441-2339
South Pasadena Farmer’s Market	
Every Thursday from 4 – 8 p.m. at Mission & Meridian	(626) 799-1327

New Businesses Open

There are new businesses in South Pasadena!

- ★ **Alma Contreras/Alma’s Little Lambs Family Daycare**
1712 Raymond Hill Rd #1
(626) 403-9420
- ★ **Beauty Swe, M.D., Inc., medical office**
630 Mission St. Suite A
(626) 356-4000
- ★ **Great Match Consulting employment service**
1510 Oxley St. Unit G
(626) 403-5652
- ★ **Independent Booking Network provides comedians for Ice House Comedy Club**
711 Fair Oaks Ave. Suite G
(626) 403-6591
- ★ **Mission Ten Eleven hair salon**
1011 B Mission Street
(626) 403-6652
- ★ **Richard B. Williams, Ph.D, M.D., medical office/internal medicine**
630 Mission St. Suite A
(626) 799-3616
- ★ **Yaping Lu piano studio**
1315 Fair Oaks Ave., #205
(626) 242-3508



CITY COUNCIL

David Sifuentes, **Mayor / CRA Chair**
Richard D. Schneider, M.D., **Mayor Pro Tem / CRA Vice-Chair**
Michael A. Cacciotti, **Councilmember**
Philip C. Putnam, **Councilmember**
Michael Ten, **Councilmember**
Sally Kilby, **City Clerk**
Victor Robinette, **City Treasurer**
Lilian Myers, **City Manager**

City Council meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday of the month at the Amedee O. "Dick" Richards, Jr. City Council Chambers located at 1424 Mission Street.

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. This issue is also available on the City website: www.ci.south-pasadena.ca.us



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

PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PASADENA CA

South Pasadena Postal Customer
South Pasadena, CA 91030