

117 E. Colorado Blvd. P.O. Box 7115 Pasadena CA 91109-7215



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 aerdman@cityofpasadena.net (626) 744-4755
 City web site: www.cityofpasadena.net
 Mayor: Bill Bogaard. Councilmembers: Joyce Streater, Paul Little,
 Chris Holden, Steve Haderlein, Victor Gordo, Steve Madison, Sid Tyler

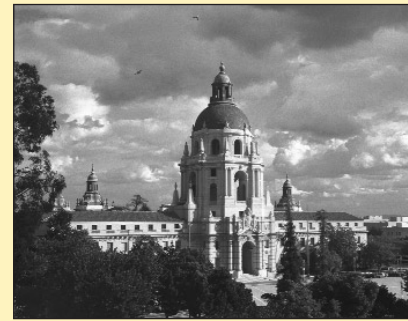
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Etcetera . . . Etcetera

- ✦ **Martin Klein**, former editor of the Collected Papers of Albert Einstein, will discuss the scientist's discoveries on the properties of light Thursday, March 17, 8 p.m. in Caltech's Beckman Auditorium. Free. www.events.caltech.edu or 395-4652.
- ✦ **Free parent and caregiver** conference sponsored by Day One Saturday, March 19, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at John Muir High School, 1905 N. Lincoln Ave. 229-9750 to register.
- ✦ **Cherry Blossom Festival** is April 2 and 3, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Rose Bowl. Free. Entertainment, kids craft and fun zone and more. www.pasadenacherryblossom.org or 683-8243.
- ✦ **Rebuilding Together Pasadena** has helped restore more than 120 homes for low-income, elderly and disabled homeowners in Pasadena and Altadena. To volunteer for this year's work weekends on April 30, May 7 and October 22 visit www.pasadena.rebuildingtogether.org or call 798-6176.
- ✦ **Pasadena Police Department** will honor local heroes at the 34th annual Police & Citizens Awards Luncheon Thursday, May 19, 11:30 a.m. at the Ritz-Carlton Huntington Hotel. \$40. Call 744-4551.
- ✦ **Volunteer at Kidspace** Museum and give children a fun, interactive and exciting experience. www.kidspace.museum.org or 449-9144, ext. 5215.
- ✦ **Stroll through** six gracious homes during the Pasadena Historic Highlands 11th annual home tour Sunday, May 29, noon to 4 p.m. \$12.50. www.historichighlands.com or 797-1910.
- ✦ **The city website** has been updated to include rainstorm and mudslide resources. www.cityofpasadena.net (click on emergency preparedness) or 744-7276.
- ✦ **Watch the Mayor's** State of the City event on 55 KPAS Mondays at 9:30 a.m., Tuesdays at 11 a.m., Wednesdays at 5 p.m., Thursdays at 9:30 p.m., Fridays at 11:30 a.m., Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. and Sundays at 10 p.m. It's also online at www.cityofpasadena.net (click on City News) and available at Central Library and Neighborhood Connections. 795-5556.
- ✦ **Children can enjoy fun**, free and safe spring break activities through Day One. 229-9750.
- ✦ **American Red Cross** says Southern California's blood supply is in critical condition. All blood types are needed! Call Huntington Hospital's Blood Donor Center at 397-5422 to make an appointment.
- ✦ **Go to** www.cityofpasadena.net and click on "City Council/55KPAS Online" to watch previous city council meetings. Use the "Jump To" menu bar underneath the video image to view specific discussions. (Click on the down-arrow to scroll through a list of agenda items) or 744-4124.
- ✦ **Note:** All dates and times listed in *Pasadena In Focus* are as of the publication date. Call the numbers listed to confirm information. All phone numbers are in the (626) area code unless otherwise noted.

Work Begins On City Hall Overhaul

PASADENA'S CITY HALL will be encircled in chain-link fence this spring as its long-awaited, multimillion dollar overhaul begins. Crews worked quietly inside this winter, doing asbestos removal and other prep work. The City Council recently awarded a \$79.8 million contract to Clark Construction Group, the firm that will carefully restore our most beloved city landmark from top to bottom.



© Tavo Olmos, photographer. All rights reserved.

Over the next 2 ½ years, Clark Construction will complete a seismic retrofit that includes a "base isolation" system that will buffer the building during quakes. Crews will also restore the

building's historic features, repair and replace infrastructure, add new safety systems and make accessibility improvements. Work is scheduled to be completed in time for a grand reopening celebration in summer 2007.

The total budget is \$117 million, mainly due to huge increases in the cost of steel, cement and lumber. After careful studies and recommendations from experts, the City Council decided to go ahead with the plan – not only to preserve a priceless, irreplaceable building but to avoid added costs in the future and to ensure safe, efficient and workable city headquarters. The budget will be covered by a combination of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding, state grants, local tax revenue, donations from individuals and foundations, bond sales and a boost in the percentage of electricity revenue that is transferred from Pasadena Water and Power to the city's general fund each year.

For more news on the project, watch for the latest developments in every issue of *Pasadena In Focus*, visit www.cityofpasadena.net (click on City Hall Project) or call 744-7073.

City Wins Top Honors

Pasadena has won the fourth annual Accessible America Award from the National Organization on Disability, presented annually to one U.S. city that has demonstrated exceptional commitment to offering its citizens with disabilities full and equal access to all areas of the community, from jobs and education to transportation and housing. According to the U.S. Census, more than 18% of Pasadena's 133,936 residents have disabilities.

Pasadena is a model for the nation with the Mayor's Committee for Employment of Persons with Disabilities and the Accessibility and Disability Commission, which ensures equal access to programs including the Rose Parade, historic sites and cultural centers. Pasadena also created a local tram system designed specifically for people with disabilities and pushed for accessible features as part of the new Metro Gold Line system.

Along with the award, Pasadena will receive a cash prize of \$25,000 to fund even more efforts.

For more information or to help plan the community celebration marking the 15th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), call 744-4782.

Noticias En Breve

Comienza El Trabajo de Restauración de la Alcaldía Contra un Evento Sísmico

En los próximos 2 ½ años, la Constructora Clark completará los trabajos de la Alcaldía de Pasadena para que este lista contra un evento sísmico que incluye un sistema que haga amortiguar al edificio durante los terremotos. El equipo también restaurará todas las características históricas del edificio, repararan y remplazaran la infraestructura, y aumentarán un sistema de seguridad y harán mejoras de accesibilidad. El trabajo está programado para estar listo a tiempo para la celebración de su gran reapertura en el verano de 2007.

Para mayores detalles sobre el proyecto, favor de llamar al 744-7073

Cambie Su Reloj y Sus Pilas

Se han reportado muertes en todo el país porque las personas sacaron las pilas del detector de incendios para utilizarlas en juguetes o en el control remoto de la TV- o para parar el "chirriar" de la señal de la pila con poca carga- y luego se descuidaron y no la remplazaron.

Después de que adelante la hora a su reloj el 3 de abril, ¡reemplace las pilas! Esa es una manera fácil de asegurarse que su familia esté segura.

Usted también debe asegurarse que su familia

Se continua adentro . . .

Change Your Clock - Change Your Battery

AFTER YOU SWITCH your clocks forward an hour on April 3, follow the Pasadena Fire Department's advice and change your smoke alarm batteries, too. You might save a life.

Deaths have been reported across the country because people took their smoke alarm batteries out to use in a toy or TV remote -- or to stop the "chirp" signaling a low battery -- then neglected to replace them.

Once you make sure the batteries are fresh and plugged in, test your alarms every month to make sure they're working. A typical smoke detector will work for 10 years; after that, replace it.

You should also be sure to have a family emergency plan in case your smoke alarms go off. Locate all exits and other ways to get out of your home, plan for family members who have special needs (seniors, people with disabilities, children, pets, etc.) and find out where your utility shut-offs for water, gas and electricity are located.

For more tips visit www.cityofpasadena.net/fire/homefire.asp or call 744-4668.



Ease Up on the Pedal

YOU'RE STARING DOWN AT A SPEEDING TICKET wondering, "who makes these rules, anyway?"

Speed limits are based on a state law that calls for a reasonable and prudent speed that won't endanger the safety of people or property. This means different things in different areas, from 55 miles per hour on major arterial streets to 25 mph in residential neighborhoods, depending on conditions.

The city's Transportation Department can set various speed limits based on engineering and traffic surveys, roadway conditions, accident records and the speed at which most drivers travel in a particular zone. These limits make it easier for police officers to spot speed demons and provides them crystal clear justification for writing tickets.

Speed limits that are set unreasonably low, however, are called "speed traps" and they're illegal. Citations issued in these zones are usually thrown out of court. For this reason, every city must clearly document the sound rationale behind their limits. So keep the faith and slow down!

If you have question about traffic laws and speed limits in Pasadena, call the Police Department's Traffic Section at 744-7159.

Back to Nature in the Arroyo Seco

PASADENA'S BEAUTIFUL ARROYO SECO is coming back to life thanks to a forward-thinking master plan and lots of help from the Parks and Natural Resources Division of the city's Public Works Department. Plans are underway to plant hundreds of trees and native plants, welcome back native birds and animals, rebuild trails and create beautiful new amenities for visitors.

The Arroyo Seco is a sometimes-stream that starts high in the mountains and runs to the Los Angeles River. During a five-year community effort, the city created a master plan for Pasadena's six-mile portion. The document calls for preserving the area's natural and historical wonders.

At the top of the Arroyo Seco in Hahamongna Watershed Park, asphalt has been removed. And in keeping with a more natural environment, park designers are preparing plans for improvements to Oak Grove. The 18-hole disc golf course will get new amenities and upgrades will be made to the outdoor amphitheater. An engineering team is currently preparing plans to restore the Flint Wash Bridge trail crossing.

In the Central Arroyo, from the Colorado Street Bridge to Devil's Gate Dam, crews will restore habitat, improve the stream banks and take out all invasive, non-native plants. More than 300 non-native trees have been removed. New plants chosen by a restoration ecologist will encourage native birds and animals to feed, make homes and reproduce. To complete this extensive project, the city is working closely with the California Department of Fish and Game, Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Board and Caltrans, using a \$1 million grant from the California Safe Drinking Water, Clean Watershed Protection and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2000.

In the Lower Arroyo, from the Colorado Street Bridge to the south city limit, teens and young adults from Outward Bound Adventures have removed broken sprinklers and installed irrigation and will finish planting native trees this spring, including coast live oaks.

For more information or to lend a hand, call 744-4321.



Replanting the Arroyo Seco

By Popular Demand: ARTS Bus Improvements

IF YOU'RE ALREADY A PASADENA ARTS BUS LOVER, you've surely noticed a few improvements on the system. As of Feb. 20 the citywide, clean-running shuttle system has expanded hours, better routes, even a new route that connects commuters to the Metro Gold Line.

As always, rides are just 50¢, or 25¢ for children, seniors and riders with disabilities. You can pick up the new route maps and schedules on the buses, at Pasadena Central Library and all branches, in the lobby at 117 E. Colorado Blvd. and at www.cityofpasadena.net/trans (click on Transit Operations).

Here's a quick summary of the changes:

- All ARTS routes now start at 6 a.m. Monday through Friday, and more buses are running along our busiest routes on weekday mornings and afternoons (weekend start times have not changed).
- Routes 10, 31, 32 and 60 have been changed to serve more areas and more commuters who need to get to and from the Metro Gold Line.
- A new Route 70 now connects commuters in southwest Pasadena to the Fillmore Metro Gold Line station on weekdays during peak morning and afternoon hours.
- Route 10 now ends service at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.
- Route 60 now operates from 6 to 10 a.m. and from 3 to 8 p.m.

For more information call 744-4055.

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tenga un plan de emergencia en caso que su alarma no funcione. Localice todas las puertas de salida y otras maneras de salir de su casa, organícese en caso que tenga un familiar que necesite cuidados especiales (ancianos, personas con discapacidad, niños, mascotas, etc.) y localice donde se encuentran las válvulas para apagar el gas, agua, y electricidad.

Para más consejos favor de llamar al 744-4675.

Por Demanda Popular: Mejoras en los Autobuses ARTS

Aquí está un breve resumen de los recientes cambios al sistema de autobuses ARTS de Pasadena:

- Todas las rutas ahora empiezan a las 6 a.m. de lunes a viernes (los servicios aún continúan empezando a las 11 a.m. los fines de semana).
- Las rutas 10, 31, 32, y 60 han sido cambiadas para que sirvan a más zonas y más personas que viajan diariamente quines necesitan llegar a y desde la Línea del Metro Gold.
- Una nueva ruta 70 ahora conecta a las personas que viajan diariamente en el suroeste de Pasadena a la estación de Fillmore durante los días entre semana durante las horas de mayor tráfico en la mañana y la tarde.
- La ruta 10 termina el servicio a las 8 p.m. los viernes y sábados.
- La ruta 60 ahora opera desde las 6 hasta las 10 a.m. y de 3 a 8 p.m.

Como siempre, el pasaje es sólo 50¢ (25¢ para niños o personas con discapacidades). Para mayor información llame al



Prevent an Identity Crisis

IDENTITY THIEVES KNOW how to find "gold." They may steal your mail or your wallet, sort through trash cans or eavesdrop on conversations. Worse, thieves may try to trick you into giving information over the phone or by email, or hijack your unprotected computer.

While you may not be able to protect yourself completely, you can certainly decrease your risk with these tips from the Pasadena Police Department:

- Check your credit reports once a year from the three credit reporting firms: Equifax (800-525-6285), Experian (888-397-3742) and TransUnion (800-680-7289).
- Visit www.privacy.ca.gov/financial/cfreeze.htm to place a security freeze on your credit information.
- Avoid carrying your Social Security card with you and never give the number to anyone unless absolutely necessary.
- Don't have your SSN or driver's license number printed on your checks.
- Watch for people who may try to eavesdrop while you're talking to a sales clerk or bank teller.
- Use a crosscut paper shredder before you throw out any papers with sensitive or identifying information.
- Never provide information to phone solicitors unless you initiated the call.
- Delete any suspicious email requests without replying.
- Use a locked mailbox to send and receive all mail.
- Shred any pre-approved credit card offers you receive. You can reduce this junk mail by calling (888) 567-8688 (they'll ask for your SSN).

If, despite your best efforts, someone steals your personal information, call 744-4501 to report the crime and contact the Federal Trade Commission at www.consumer.gov/idtheft or (877) 438-4338.



PASADENA Water & Power

Celebrate Earth Day April 23

SHOW YOUR LOVE FOR THE PLANET at Pasadena's Greening the Earth Day festival Saturday, April 23, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Memorial Park.

Partly sponsored by Pasadena Water and Power and the Public Works Department, this free family festival will feature dozens of exhibits on nature and the environment, demonstrations, food, music, fun activities and giveaways. Each visitor who brings a grocery-sized bag full of California Redemption Value (CRV) beverage containers will receive a raffle ticket with a chance to win great prizes.

Many thanks go to the festival's additional supporters: California Department of Conservation, Division of Recycling, Patagonia Pasadena and Armory Center of the Arts.

For more information call 744-4721.



Conserve and Earn Cash!

PWP CUSTOMERS ARE CONSERVING more than ever. To thank you for your efforts we're rolling out even more rebates on energy-efficient gear and a new program for residents who live in all-electric homes.

You can now earn rebates of up to \$200 through PWP's EnergyStar program, which offers valuable incentives for buying approved refrigerators, window air conditioners, ceiling fans, compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs), fluorescent torchiere lamps and hardwired lighting fixtures.

To cool off your home before summer hits, check into PWP's Residential Efficient Cooling program that offers great rebates for central air conditioners, whole house fans and solar attic fans, plus EnergyStar programmable thermostats, skylights, light tubes, windows and doors.

For customers who live in all-electric homes (wired to use electricity instead of natural gas for water and space heating), PWP now offers rebates for energy-efficient heat pumps as well as EnergyStar dishwashers, clothes washers and programmable thermostats.

For all of these programs, rebate amounts are even larger for customers who buy their new appliances from Pasadena retailers and for those who have signed up for PWP's green power program.



Sea un Dueño de Perro Responsable

Usted es responsable por el comportamiento de su perro, en o fuera de su propiedad. He aquí una lista de las leyes de la ciudad para mantener a nuestros perritos seguros y contentos:

En cualquier momento que su perro está fuera de su propiedad, debe estar con una correa. Si se encuentra que está corriendo sin ella, el será considerado un perro callejero y podría ser llevado a la Sociedad Humanitaria de Pasadena. Si esto pasa, a usted se le dará una multa y tendrá que pagar todos los gastos de encautamiento y transportación a demás de la multa.

Asegúrese que su perro tenga colgado siempre su registro vigente. Usted puede comprar uno, que es valido de julio a junio, en los servicios municipales en el 280 de la calle Ramona (una cuadra al sur de la calle Walnut) entre las avenidas Garfield y Marengo). Usted necesita mostrar el certificado contra la rabia vigente y pagar \$12.92 si el perro está esterilizado o capado (usted tiene que tener una prueba por escrito de este procedimiento) o \$ 28.52 si el perro no ha sido capado o esterilizado. Recuerde, una licencia vigente con el nombre de su perro es el boleto para regresar a casa si es que es recogido por los oficiales de control de animales de Pasadena. La Sociedad Humanitaria de Pasadena y SPCA tendrá a su perro si es que éste tiene colocado una licencia vigente y harán el intento por comunicarse con usted.

Para mayor información sobre las leyes de perros de la ciudad llame al 744-4124.

Share the Book, Share the Fun

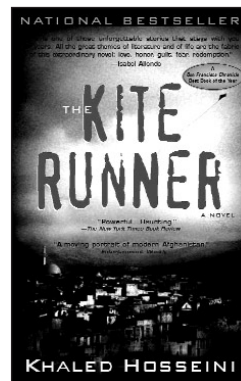
BY NOW, READERS ACROSS PASADENA are enjoying "The Kite Runner," by Khaled Hosseini, Pasadena's 2005 One City, One Story selection.

Book discussions have been planned through March 28 throughout Pasadena. Special discussions just for teens are set for Wednesday, March 16, at 3:30 p.m. at Allendale Branch Library and Saturday, March 26, at 3 p.m. at Central Library.

Bring a kite to Area H near the Rose Bowl on Saturday, March 12, at 11 a.m. for a fun kite-flying festival. Prizes will be awarded for best of show, most creative and fiercest kites.

On Friday, March 18, at 7:30 p.m. in the Forum at All Saints Church, 132 N. Euclid Ave., you'll have the chance to meet the author himself. (The event will be videotaped and replayed on 55 KPAS.) Earlier that day, he'll talk with Pasadena teens at 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. in Central Library's Donald Wright Auditorium. Space is limited, so teens should call 744-4766 for a reservation.

For a complete list of upcoming events and book discussion topics, or to volunteer as a discussion leader, visit the website at www.onecityonestory.com or call 744-4066, option 6.



Be a Responsible Dog Owner

PET OWNERS ARE RESPONSIBLE for their dogs' behavior, on and off their own property. Here's a quick rundown of city laws that help keep our local pooches safe and happy:

Any time he's off your property, he must be on a leash. If your dog is found running around, he'll be considered a stray and may be taken to the Pasadena Humane Society and SPCA. You'll have to pay impound and boarding fees in addition to a fine.

Be sure your dog is wearing a current license tag at all times. You can buy one from Municipal Services at 280 Ramona St. (one block south of Walnut Street between Garfield and Marengo avenues). You'll need a current rabies certificate and \$12.92 for a spayed or neutered dog (you must have written proof of this procedure) or \$28.52 for a dog that hasn't been spayed or neutered. Call 744-4166 (press 3) for more details. Remember, a current license tag is your dog's ticket home if he is picked up by an animal control officer. For more information check out the Pasadena Municipal Code at www.cityofpasadena.net/cityclerk/municode.asp or at Pasadena Central Library.

Let Your Savings Take Root

PLANTING A LEAFY GREEN SHADE TREE is one of the easiest, prettiest and cheapest ways to keep your home cool all summer. Learn how to choose the best one for your yard at a free workshop sponsored by PWP Saturday, May 7, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at Victory Park or Saturday, June 25, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at Villa Park.

A certified arborist will give you tips on finding the perfect spot, choosing, planting and maintaining your tree, then you'll move outdoors for a tree-planting demonstration. You'll also learn more about PWP's Cool Trees program, which offers rebates of up to \$50 per tree (limit 10 trees) for your choice of 37 varieties. Rebates are even higher for PWP's green power customers.

Reserve your spot today!



Cleaning Up our Water Wells

HELP IS ON THE HORIZON for five PWP wells that fed into Sunset Reservoir for many years. Water from these wells, located in the northwest area of Pasadena, was supplied to Sunset Reservoir where it was blended with imported water from the Metropolitan Water District before being distributed to consumers.

The oldest of these wells began operating in 1924. In the late 1990s the California Department of Health Services began issuing new regulatory standards for perchlorate, a component of rocket fuel, fireworks, explosives and road flares. PWP shut down four of the five wells because their perchlorate levels were too high to meet state standards.



Sunset Reservoir Well

PWP recently hired Stetson Engineers Inc. to design a new treatment system for the three wells with the highest levels of perchlorate. In the meantime, PWP has been pumping primarily from wells on the east side of town.

In addition to the Sunset Reservoir project, work is moving forward to bring even more wells back into operation: A treatment plant is removing volatile organic compounds from Jet Propulsion Laboratory's soil; a recently constructed NASA-sponsored treatment plant will remove contaminants from the groundwater directly beneath Jet Propulsion Laboratory (see the January/February Pasadena In Focus); and a treatment plant in the planning stages will clean the water in four wells in Pasadena's Monk Hill basin, which runs under Hahamongna Watershed Park and near JPL.

A community meeting hosted by NASA is scheduled for Tuesday, March 29, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Eliot Middle School, 2184 N. Lake Ave. in Altadena. During the meeting, which is free and open to the public, officials will provide updates on NASA's groundwater cleanup project beneath and near JPL. For more information visit <http://jplwater.nasa.gov> or call (818) 393-0754.

For more information, visit www.PWPweb.com or call the PWP AnswerLine at 744-6970