



Published by the City of Pasadena Public Affairs Office
 aerdman@cityofpasadena.net (626) 744-4755
 City web site: www.cityofpasadena.net
 Mayor: Bill Bogaard. Councilmembers: Jacque Robinson, Margaret McAustin,
 Chris Holden, Steve Haderlein, Victor Gordo, Steve Madison, Sid Tyler

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Etcetera . . . Etcetera

- **Pasadena City Council and Pasadena Unified School District Board of Education** will conduct a joint meeting Tuesday, Nov. 13, at 6:30 p.m. at Pasadena Senior Center, 85 E. Holly St. City/PUSD partnerships will be among the topics. The meeting will be televised live on 55 KPAS. 744-4124.
- **Pasadena's Environmental Advisory Commission** will discuss a request for proposals for consulting services related to Pasadena Water and Power's 20-year Integrated Resource Plan on Tuesday, Nov. 13, 6 p.m., 175 N. Garfield Ave. 744-4434 or www.pwpweb.com/irp.
- **Improving birth outcomes for African-American women** is the topic of a free lecture series by the Pasadena Birthing Project Wednesday, Nov. 28, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Huntington Hospital and Saturday, Dec. 8, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Fuller Theological Seminary (323)732-1350.
- **Enjoy a 12-foot Christmas tree**, holiday treats and floor-to-ceiling decorations during a holiday tour of the historic Castle Green on Sunday, Dec. 2, from 1 to 5 p.m., rain or shine. \$20 tickets at the door benefit exterior restoration. 577-6765.
- **The city of Pasadena's tree-lighting ceremony** is Thursday, Dec. 6, at 5:30 p.m. in the grand entrance at Pasadena City Hall, 100 N. Garfield Ave. Refreshments, live entertainment, and much more! 744-4755.
- **Help welcome thousands of New Year's visitors** by answering the Pasadena Convention & Visitors Bureau's 24th annual Holiday Hotline Dec. 28 to Jan. 2. Call 795-9311 by Nov. 19 to volunteer.
- **The 2008 Rose Parade on Tuesday, Jan. 1, at 8 a.m.** will be followed by the Rose Bowl Game at 2 p.m. The Showcase of Floats is Jan. 1 from 1 to 5 p.m. and Jan. 2 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. www.touramentofroses.com or 449-7673.
- **Save the date! The free 2008 State of the City event** presented by Pasadena's mayor is set for Thursday, Jan. 17, 6:30 p.m. at Rose Bowl Stadium. 744-4755.
- **The date of the official Pasadena Doo Dah Parade has changed!** Be prepared for plenty of frolic and laughter on Sunday, Jan. 20. www.pasadenadoodahparade.info or 205-4029.
- **Get free help finding assisted living**, Alzheimer's care, a board and care home or skilled nursing home for your loved one at 795-7789 or www.socalseniors.com.
- **To welcome visitors who are blind**, tactile maps of Pasadena City Hall with a navigation narrative in Braille are available from the accessibility issues coordinator. Get tactile maps of city parks on request. 744-4782.
- **District 2 residents can win Rose Parade tickets for free and/or Rose Bowl Game tickets for \$135 each!** Proof of District 2 residency is required. 744-4742 or www.cityofpasadena.net/district2.
- **Recent fires remind us to be prepared.** Call 744-7276 or visit www.cityofpasadena.net and click on Emergency Preparedness.
- **Visit www.pasadenabeautiful.org** for a list of certified arborists and details of Pasadena Beautiful Foundations's projects. 795-9704.
- **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.

Who Needs a Building Permit?

THINKING ABOUT CHANGING OUT YOUR WINDOWS, replacing your water heater or fixing that creaky old fence? Before you start shopping, remember even small home improvements require a city building permit.



The Pasadena Municipal Code requires that if you alter, repair, enlarge, move, improve, remove, convert or demolish any parts of the structures on your property, a permit may be required. While this may sound like red tape, building permits - and the inspections that come with them - help you avoid substandard construction that could hurt your property value and endanger you, your family and neighbors.

If you ever sell your property, buyers will ask to see permits for improvements; if you go without a permit, you're in violation of city codes and you risk having to pay double the permits fees for the work you started. If any of the work doesn't meet building or zoning codes, you may have to undo it and correct it.

Here's a list of common improvements that require permits or zoning approvals:

- building or replacing a fence and/or wall
- reroofing
- paving in your front yard
- installing or replacing a heating and/or air conditioning unit
- installing or replacing a water heater
- changing out windows
- electrical, plumbing or mechanical upgrades or alterations
- garage conversions
- stucco
- tool sheds, playhouses or gazebos
- portable spas

Visit the Permit Center at 185 N. Garfield Ave. Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or Friday from 8 a.m. to noon. If you're ever in doubt, play it safe and visit www.cityofpasadena.net/permitcenter or call 744-4200.

Follow Yard Sale Rules

Yard sales are a great way to recycle your stuff and make a little extra cash. But before you tack up signs and lay your goods out on the lawn, be sure to pick up a city yard sale permit.

A city ordinance requires permits to help prevent excessive yard sales at any one house, cut down the clutter of signs and keep neighbors from displaying old furniture or other sale items for weeks on end. The result is safer, happier and more beautiful neighborhoods for all of us.

The yard sale permit fee is just \$20; you're allowed a maximum of two sales per year and each permit is good for up to three consecutive days. You can get your yard sale permit at the Permit Center, 175 N. Garfield Ave., Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Fridays from 8 a.m. to noon. Visit www.cityofpasadena.net/permitcenter or call 744-4200 for more information.

Noticias En Breve

Se Requiere un Permiso para Hacer Arreglos de Remodelacion en la Casa

Antes de que empiece cualquier remodelación, recuerde que aunque el proyecto sea pequeño se requiere de un permiso para construir.

Esta es parte de una lista parcial de algunas de las remodelaciones comunes que requieren de un permiso:

- Construcción o reemplazo de una barda y/o pared
- Volver a poner el techo
- Enladrillar el frente de la casa
- Instalar o reemplazar el aire acondicionado/ calefacción
- Instalar o reemplazar el calefón de agua
- Cambiar ventanas
- Actualizar o alterar la electricidad, plomería o mecánico.
- Convertir un garaje

Visite el centro de permiso en el 175 N. Garfield Ave. De lunes a jueves de 8 a.m. a 5 p.m. o los viernes de 8 a.m. hasta el medio día (si está contratando a un contratista

Se continua adentro . . .

Prevent the Flu - Get Immunized!

THE 2007 FLU SEASON IS HERE and the illness is more than just a mild inconvenience! Pasadena Public Health Department (PPHD) reports influenza causes 200,000 hospitalizations and 36,000 deaths in the U.S. each year. It is caused by a virus that attacks the entire body and it can result in pneumonia, dehydration and other serious health conditions for people with congestive heart failure, asthma or diabetes.

Doctors agree the best way to prevent it is with an annual flu shot. The vaccine is especially recommended for adults 50 and older, women who are or will be pregnant during flu season, anyone with a chronic medical condition or weakened immune system, household contacts of those at high risk for complications, health care workers, household contacts and caregivers of children who are less than 6 months, and children ages 6 months to 59 months.

PPHD's Children's Immunization Clinic at 1845 N. Fair Oaks Ave. offers free and low-cost flu shots for eligible children by appointment, while supplies last. Call 744-6136.

A community clinic for eligible adults is scheduled for:

- Tuesday, Nov. 13, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Villa-Parke Community Center, 363 E. Villa St.

Adults can also get low-cost flu shots at the Travel and Adult Immunization Clinic, 1845 N. Fair Oaks Ave. For hours, call 744-6128.



Warm Up for Winter

WITH A CHILL IN THE AIR, YOU MIGHT BE FIRING UP YOUR HEATER OR FIREPLACE for the first time this season. Follow these tips from the Pasadena Fire Department to keep your family warm and safe:

- When choosing a new space heater, look for ULC/CSA approval on the box and make sure the heater automatically shuts off if it tips over. Follow instructions carefully.
- Space heaters need space! Keep everything at least three feet away and never use a space heater as a drying rack.
- Teach children never to play near space heaters.
- Don't use extension cords; unplug heaters when not in use.
- Have a qualified service technician regularly check and maintain your furnace, water heater and fireplace.
- Have your chimney inspected yearly for cracks and other defects.
- Make sure your chimney flue and external exhaust vents are clear of insulation and debris.
- Never light a barbecue or hibachi indoors.
- For more tips or if you have questions, call 744-4655.

Crack Open Some Fun During Children's Book Week

CELEBRATE CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK ALL MONTH LONG with fun, giveaways, magic shows, story times and movies at Pasadena Central Library and all branches! As an added bonus, children can have their overdue book fines forgiven and their lost library cards replaced for free through the end of November.

Don't miss magician Rafael performing mind-boggling tricks with a pirate's flair, sponsored by Friends of the Library. Performances are Nov. 13 at 3:30 p.m. at La Pintoresca Branch; Nov. 14 at 11 a.m. at Lamanda Park Branch; Nov. 14 at 3:30 p.m. at Allendale Branch; Nov. 15 at 3:30 p.m. at Villa-Parke Branch; and Nov. 17 at 10 a.m. at Central Library.

We'll roll out the red carpet for a special visitor who loves bananas and is very curious during special story times Nov. 13 at 10:30 a.m. at Lamanda Park Branch; Nov. 14 at 10:15 and 10:45 a.m. at Santa Catalina Branch; and Nov. 15 at 10:30 a.m. at Linda Vista Branch.

Sit down with some popcorn and enjoy the latest family movies (no pricey ticket required!). Screenings include "The Last Mimzy" Nov. 14 at 4 p.m. at Hill Avenue Branch; "Surf's Up" Nov. 13 at 4:30 p.m. at Villa-Parke Branch; "Meet the Robinsons" Nov. 15 at 3:30 p.m. at La Pintoresca Branch; and "Shrek the Third" Nov. 16 at 3 p.m. at Hastings Branch and Nov. 20 at 3:30 p.m. at Linda Vista Branch.

Every child attending special story times, programs or movies can pick out a free book to take home courtesy of Friends of the Library.

For more information visit www.cityofpasadena.net/librarykids or call (626) 744-4066.



Library isn't Just for Books

FOUR NEW INTERNET TOOLS WILL MAKE YOUR LIFE EASIER courtesy of Pasadena Public Library. Use your Pasadena library card to get access from your home computer, as well as to use a free onsite computer or the free onsite wireless network at Pasadena Central Library or any branch.

Start by going to www.cityofpasadena.net/library and clicking on E-Resources. The new Auto Repair Reference Center offers clear, concise repair information for professionals and do-it-yourselfers. Created by the publishers of Chilton's Auto Repair Information, the database covers repair procedures, service bulletins, recalls, wiring diagrams and labor cost estimates for almost any make or model. Auto Repair Reference Center is also available remotely using home computers.

Working on your family tree? Ancestry Library Edition gives you access to U.S. Census information; birth, marriage and death records; ship passenger lists; military logs; church records and much more. (Ancestry Library Edition is only available using the onsite wireless network or onsite computers.) HeritageQuest Online combines digital, searchable images of U.S. Census records with other unique research materials dating back to the late 1700s. (HeritageQuest is also available remotely using home computers.)

History buffs will love the *Los Angeles Times* historical database, offering digital reproductions from the newspaper's early days. Covering the years 1881 to 1986, the database is searchable by keywords, authors' names, articles or dates, or you can browse an entire issue for photos, graphics and ads. Pages can be printed or downloaded in PDF format. This historical database is only available using the onsite wireless network or onsite computers.

Check out our new tools online or call 744-4066, option 7.

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para que le haga el trabajo, el contratista tiene que solicitar los permisos.) si tiene una duda actué seguro y llame al 744-4200.

Prevenca el Resfriado - ¡Vacunese!

¡La temporada de gripe ya llegó! La mejor manera de prevenir el virus de gripe es con la vacuna anual contra la gripe. La vacuna es recomendable especialmente para los adultos de 50 años o mayores, mujeres que están o van a estar embarazadas durante la temporada de gripe, cualquier persona con una enfermedad crónica, con el sistema inmunológico débil, o personas en la familia que están en contacto con alguien con alto riesgo de complicaciones, trabajadores de la salud, familias y personas que cuidan a niños que tienen menos de 6 meses, y niños de 6 meses a 59 meses.

La Clínica de Inmunización para Niños del Departamento de Salud Público de Pasadena está ubicada en el 1845 N. Fair Oaks Ave. , y ofrece vacunas gratis o a bajo costo para los niños que califican, sólo se atiende a personas con citas y mientras hayan vacunas disponibles. Para información o hacer una cita, llame al 744-6136.

Una clínica de la comunidad para los adultos que califican estará disponible el martes 13 de noviembre de 10 a.m. a 2 p.m. en el Centro de Villa-Parke, 363 E. Villa St. O, usted puede vacunarse en nuestra Clínica de Inmunización para Adultos walk-in Travel en 1845 N. Fair Oaks Ave. durante horas regulares de trabajo.

Para mayores detalles, llame al 744-6012.

Etcétera, etcétera...

Latinas Mejor Salud es nuestro lema de la conferencia gratis para las mujeres de bajos ingresos el sábado 10 de noviembre a las 9 a.m. hasta las 3 p.m. en el Centro Comunitario de Villa-Parke, 363 E. Villa St. chequeos de salud, vacuna de contra la gripe y se incluirá información sobre asuntos médicos. 744-6530.

Un permiso para una venta de objetos usados sólo cuesta \$ 20. 00. A usted se le permite tener dos ventas por año y cada permiso es bueno hasta por tres días consecutivos. Visite el Centro de Permiso, 175 N. Garfield Ave., de lunes a jueves desde las 8 a.m. hasta las 5 p.m. y viernes desde las 8 a.m. hasta el medio día. Llame al 744-4200 para mayor información.



A Green City in Action

THIS SEPTEMBER MARKED THE ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY of the city council's endorsement of the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement and the United Nations Urban Environmental Accords. That historic day, we unveiled Pasadena's first Green City Action Plan, a vital document that lays out our goals for addressing global warming, conserving energy and water, reducing waste, protecting natural habitats, improving transportation options and boosting community health.

What a year it has been! Great progress has been made and innovative changes will help benefit the earth for years to come.

Our Environmental Advisory Commission is up and running, meeting monthly to address environmental issues and involve the public. The commission meets the third Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. in the hearing room at the Permit Center, 175 N. Garfield Ave.

photo courtesy of Tom Paiva



The Northwest Innovation Center received LEED Gold certification in 2006

To promote green building practices and design, we presented eight public workshops and a tour of Pasadena's existing green buildings. The series received the 2007 American Planning Association Award for Public Outreach. (Watch highlights at www.cityofpasadena.net/greencity.) During a green technology summit held in Pasadena, we were named one of the top five "CleanTech" cities in the nation for our use of innovative, environment-friendly technology.

Pasadena residents and business owners pitched in by dropping off more than 178,000 pounds of electronic waste during special round-up events, helping to keep harmful elements out of local landfills.

And now the work continues. To join the effort to create a sustainable environment for generations to come, visit www.cityofpasadena.net/greencity or call 744-7546 and ask for the Sustainability Section.



Photo courtesy of Steven A. Heller / Art Center College of Design

The Tricom building is one structure that has met "Green" standards

Pasadena stepped up and volunteered to measure, certify and report greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to the California Climate Action Registry and the public. To demonstrate clean-air technology, we boosted our city fleet to include 45 green vehicles including hybrids, all-electric and compressed natural gas (CNG) models. A CNG fueling station is being installed at the City Yards on Mountain Street to power the fleet.



Keeping Pasadena Picture-Perfect

STAY INFORMED AND WORK WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS AND FAMILY members to keep Pasadena looking beautiful!

LARGE, BULKY TRASH ITEMS - When you want to have appliances, mattresses, furniture and other bulky items hauled away, be sure to call 744-4087 first to schedule an appointment! (If you place the items on your curb without scheduling a pick-up first, you may be cited and fines can be expensive.) Pasadena households in single-family homes and in small apartment complexes can receive up to two free pick-ups annually. Once your pick-up has been scheduled, set your items next to your trash cans on your regular trash day no later than 7 a.m. Sorry, this service is not available to apartment dwellers in complexes of five units or more.

SHOPPING CARTS - Shopping carts are the property of supermarkets and should not be removed from the premises under any circumstances. When you call the hotline at 744-8227 to report abandoned shopping carts in your neighborhood, you'll leave detailed information in voicemail and the carts will be picked up in a day or so.

UNKEMPT YARDS - Overgrown yards and accumulations of junk are fire hazards as well as havens for rats and other vermin, and are therefore prohibited by the Pasadena Municipal Code. So are non-working vehicles in driveways, any vehicles on front lawns or other landscaped areas, roofs in disrepair, broken steps or windows, dilapidated porches, etc. To report a code violation. 744-4633.

GRAFFITI - The city of Pasadena has a zero tolerance policy for graffiti and is committed to removing graffiti within 24 hours of it being reported. Call any time, day or night, to give the address or location, a description of the graffiti and other information. 744-7622.

LITTER - When you're away from home and need to throw something away, don't toss it on the ground, even if it's a small scrap. Instead, look for nearby trash containers. If there's no container handy, stash your trash in a pocket or shopping bag until you can throw it away properly. 744-4158.

For more information, visit www.cityofpasadena.net and click on Lookin' Good Pasadena or call 744-4000.

PASADENA Water & Power

Efficient Home Earns Pasadena Resident Acclaim



Donna Sider stands on the porch of her model home

PASADENA RESIDENT DONNA SIDER DIDN'T HAVE FAME IN MIND when she began restoring her 1920s bungalow in East Pasadena. She was glad to have a chance to share her story when her home was featured as a model of "green living" in the Los Angeles Times.

With a modest budget and rebates from Pasadena Water and Power, she is steadily restoring her two-bedroom home while championing the environment and reducing her utility bills along the way.

Since 1999, she has made over her front yard with drought-tolerant plants, efficient irrigation and shade trees. Cotton-fiber insulation and energy-efficient, dual-pane windows help keep the house warm in winter and cool in summer. Inside, she switched to compact fluorescent light bulbs, a dual-flush toilet and an Energy Star refrigerator.

On the roof are 12 low-profile solar panels that help power her home. With a rebate from Pasadena Water and Power and a \$2,000 federal tax credit, she paid about half the retail price. Any excess energy that her system generates registers on her meter as credit, which she uses at night or on a cloudy day.

You can make a difference by going green! Visit www.pwpweb.com or call the PWP AnswerLine at (626) 744-6970 for rebate information and tips for greening your own home.



Water Awareness 101: Lawn Care

WATER SUPPLIES ARE TIGHT THROUGHOUT SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. Pasadena's mayor has asked all residents to use 10 percent less water, which is easier than you think when you follow these simple lawn care tips from Pasadena Water and Power:

- If you have a sprinkler system, fix leaks, broken heads or blocked sprays to save up to 500 gallons every month.
- Check for sprinkler overspray on sidewalks and patios, which can waste up to 25 gallons daily.
- Time your watering for the early morning or after 6 p.m. to reduce evaporation.
- Allow time for water to seep into the ground. Rotating spray heads can help apply water more slowly and evenly.
- Consider investing in a smart irrigation controller, which automatically adjusts your watering schedule based on plant needs and weather conditions.
- Don't over-water! Experts say many of us over-water by 50 percent, which suffocates the lawn and promotes shallow root growth and less hardy turf.

Visit www.pwpweb.com for more tips and rebates on water-saving equipment for the home.



Longer Days Add Up to Less Energy Use

IF YOU GET THE FEELING THAT THE SUN HAS BEEN SETTING LATER longer this year, you're right! The Energy Policy Act of 2005 extended Daylight Saving Time by four weeks, beginning in 2007. DST now begins the second Sunday in March and ends the first Sunday in November.

The California Energy Commission explains that with fewer hours between sunset and bedtime, we're able to keep our lights off longer. And with longer daylight hours and beautiful sunsets to enjoy, we're more likely to head out for evening walks, barbecues and sporting events, leaving no one home to use lights, TVs and other appliances. While you may not see a big difference on your own electric bill, the energy saved throughout the community, the state and the nation adds up.



Community Pride Blooms at Arlington Garden



Charles and Betty McKenney in Arlington Gardens

PASADENA IS RENOWNED FOR ITS BOTANICAL GEMS. As we reported last year in Pasadena In Focus, Arlington Garden is a water-wise demonstration garden planted and nurtured with love by local residents.

Located near Pasadena Avenue and Arlington Drive, the Caltrans-owned property lay vacant for more than 40 years before neighbors worked together to transform the lot. Today, thanks to a city lease agreement, a \$5,000 grant from Metropolitan Water District and a huge volunteer effort spearheaded by Charles and Betty McKenney, the lot is planted with more than 2,000 California-friendly plants, shrubs and trees including an orange grove, stately palms, an olive allée, fragrant lavender, trellised roses, bougainvillea and lemon trees.

Inviting chairs, tables, benches and umbrellas have been installed using donated funds, and a solar-powered fountain is soon to come. More plans are in the works including plant identification signage and brochures plus an efficient irrigation system.

Supporters include Pasadena Water and Power, the Parks and Natural Resources Division of the Pasadena Public Works Department, Pasadena Beautiful Foundation, the Mediterranean Garden Society and several local businesses. Donations are welcomed, payable to the non-profit Arlington Garden in Pasadena, 295 Arlington Dr. Pasadena 91105. The garden is open for self-guided tours from dawn to dusk. To volunteer, call 441-4478.

Visit www.cityofpasadena.net/waterandpower or call the PWP AnswerLine at 744-6970