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Etcetera . . . Etcetera

- ✓ Pasadena Central Library's free Wednesday 1 p.m. film series continues with "The Express" Nov. 18 and "Chariots of Fire" Nov. 25.
- ✓ Learn how to use your computer on the go with portable apps Wednesday, Nov. 18, 4 p.m. at Hastings Branch Library, 3325 E. Orange Grove Blvd. Bring your USB flash drive, portable hard drive, iPod and your other USB devices. 744-4066.
- Start your holiday shopping at the Buck-A-Bag book sale Saturday, Nov. 21, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Lamanda Park Branch Library, 140 S. Altadena Dr., featuring stacks of gently used titles for kids, teens and
- The Occidental-Caltech Symphony Orchestra celebrates its new season with a free performance of Beethoven and Dvorak Sunday, Nov. 22, 3:30 p.m. in Caltech's Ramos Auditorium.
- ★ Learn about our planet's most precious resource when Blue Water Planet radio host Sandy Fox discusses world water issues as part of the free Community Dialogue series Sunday, Nov. 22, 7 p.m. at Pasadena Central Library, 285 E. Walnut St. 795-0376.

₹ Tour the historic Castle Green Sunday, Dec. 6, 1 to 5 p.m. including Moroccan and Turkish rooms, ballroom, sunroom and grand salon on the main floor as well as several private apartments on upper floors and the coveted penthouse. 99 S. Raymond Ave. Tickets are available at the entrance on tour

day only. \$20; children under 12

577-6765.

are free. www.castlegreen.com or

- ₹ The annual tree-lighting ceremony Tuesday, Dec. 8, 5:30 p.m. at City Hall will include live entertainment, refreshments and more. Pasadena's mayor will flip the switch that lights up the holidays! 744-4755.
- ♥ Volunteer as a Holiday Hotline operator Dec. 29 to Jan. 7 and help callers learn where to park an RV, how to get last-minute parade and game tickets, and more. Call 795-9311 or email jmartinez@visitpasadena.com no later than Friday, Nov. 20, to sign up for a shift. More information about the Jan. 1 Rose Parade and Rose Bowl Game plus the Jan. 7 Bowl Championship Series game is ${\it at } {\it www.tournamentof roses.com.}$ A BCS tailgate party at Paseo Colorado on Tuesday, Jan. 5, from 6 to 10 p.m. will include live

- entertainment (get info and tickets at www.pasadenarose.com or 689-4134).
- ♥Save the date! Join Pasadena's mayor for his annual State of the City event with the theme "Charting a New Course" Thursday, Jan. 28, 7 p.m. at La Salle High School. Look for additional details in the January/February issue of Pasadena In Focus. 744-4311.
- ★ Learn computer basics in your native Spanish during a free series on Fridays from 2 to 4 p.m. at Villa Parke Branch Library, 363 E. Villa St. 744-6510.
- ₹ Eaton Canyon Nature Center, 1750 N. Altadena Dr., offers free children's stories, nature lessons. puppet shows and more every Saturday at 10 a.m. 398-5420.
- ♥ Could your home be the next big movie star and earn you \$5,000 a day or more in tax-free income? Register with the city's Film Office at www.cityofpasadena.net or call 744-3964.
- 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

Share. Learn. Celebrate.

EAR WHAT OTHERS HAVE DEFINED AS PRIORITIES AND MAKE SURE YOUR VOICE IS INCLUDED as we map out Pasadena's future at the General Plan Community Open House Extravaganza!

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2009

PASADENA

The free public event Saturday, Nov. 14, from 1 to 5 p.m. will be indoors and outdoors at 345 S. Lake Ave. (former Stein Mart). Whether you have 20 minutes or the entire afternoon, be sure to join us for a variety of activities.

Live entertainment, art projects, interactive exhibits, round table discussions, speaker sessions, a digital model of Pasadena, children's activities, free child care, raffle prizes and

more will mark the culmination of a months-long effort to gather input about the land use, mobility, and open space and conservation elements of Pasadena's General Plan - the blueprint for our community's future. Thousands of Pasadenans have been mobilized through community meetings, MoveAbout tours, a speaker series, council district workshops, an interactive website and much more.

"Change will be harmonized to

preserve Pasadena's historic character

principles of the General Plan.

During this final celebration, you'll hear feedback from prior events and have one last chance – before the next phase of the update process begins – to voice your opinion on how Pasadena should grow and change over the next decade.

Look for free parking at the Corporate Center on the west side of South Lake Avenue between Cordova Street and Del Mar Boulevard; or take the Metro Gold Line to the Lake Avenue Station, then hop a Pasadena ARTS or Metro bus heading south.

The second phase of the General Plan update will begin next year when we'll fine-tune priorities and discuss alternatives and tradeoffs for bringing the community's ideas to life. Later, a draft General Plan will be prepared for presentation to the community, city advisory commissions and, finally, the city council.

Stay involved! For the latest news, call 744-6807 or visit www.cityofpasadena.net/generalplan.

A Little Piece of Heaven

The General Plan calls for a healthy, walkable hometown with active residents and careful growth that preserves Pasadena's charm.

> If any area exemplifies these values it's Bungalow Heaven, recently named one of the 10 Great Places in Åmerica by the American Planning Association.

> Less than a half-mile square, the neighborhood features 800 bungalows built from 1905 to 1920. More than its architecture, the neighborhood showcases thoughtful planning and community involvement.

and environment" is one of the guiding Homes were built with garages in back and porches in front, making it easy for neighbors to visit. A simple grid of narrow, tree-lined streets has slowed down traffic and invited walking and biking. At the center of it all, McDonald Park calls out for picnics and play.

> When a bungalow was demolished in 1985 and replaced with a stucco-faced apartment building, neighbors rallied to create Pasadena's first historic landmark district. An active association was formed that -tothis day - plans events, builds community and preserves the neighborhood's special qualities. A great place, indeed! For more information visit www.bungalowheaven.org.

To learn more about historic preservation in Pasadena, visit www.cityofpasadena.net/ historicpreservation or call (626) 744-4009.

Noticias En Breve

Usted está invitado

¿Ya se dio a escuchar? Asegúrese de que su voz cuente mientras planificamos el futuro de Pasadena en la gran fiesta de puertas abiertas a la comunidad del Plan General!

El evento gratis será el 14 de noviembre de 1 p.m. hasta las 5 de la tarde en los interiores y exteriores del 345 S. Lake Ave. (anteriormente Stein Mart).

Música al vivo, proyecto de mural comunitario, presentaciones de multimedia. exhibiciones interactivas, conversaciones de mesa redonda, sesión de oradores, modelo digital del paisaje urbano de Pasadena, actividades para niños, cuidado de niños y más marcaran la culminación de meses de esfuerzo para actualizar el uso del terreno, movilidad, y espacio abierto y los elementos de conservación del Plan General de Pasadena - plan para el futuro de nuestra comunidad.

Durante esta celebración final, usted escuchará las reacciones de los eventos y actividades anteriores, y tendrá la última oportunidad de hacer escuchar su opinión sobre como debería crecer y cambiar Pasadena en la próxima década

Habrá estacionamiento gratis en el Centro Corporativo del lado oeste de la avenida Lake entre la calle Cordova y el Boulevar Del Mar; o tome el Metro Gold Line hasta la estación de la avenida Lake, luego tome el autobús ARTS o Metro de Pasadena hacia el sur. Incluso puede montar la bicicleta a la gran fiesta, donde habrá el servicio de

Se continua adentro . . .

Celebrate ADA Progress



HELP MARK THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES

ACT in 2010! The Accessibility and Disability Commission invites residents and community groups to plan activities throughout next year in celebration of this important legislation that ensures access for everyone.

Here in Pasadena, the commission has advised the city council about accessibility for 18 years, resulting in curb ramps and accessible crosswalk signals at intersections, improvements in taxi service, Dial-A-Ride and Pasadena ARTS Buses, and easier access to library materials for people with sensory impairments.

Pasadena has become a model for other communities, and there's more work to do! For more information call 744-4782 or visit www.cityofpasadena.net/Accessibility_Disability_FAQ.



Taking Stock of Historic Homes

PASADENA IS A TREASURE TROVE OF HISTORIC **ARCHITECTURE.** Thanks to a new state grant, we're documenting some of the oldest buildings and you can help.

The California Office of Historic Preservation recently awarded Pasadena a grant to study homes built between 1881 and 1904. For the next five months city staff will be driving through neighborhoods and carefully recording information, snapping photos and evaluating



the historic significance of homes built during this pre-Craftsman era. The properties will be added to a database of historic properties at www.cityofpasadena.net/chrid. As part of this project, Pasadena will nominate two historic districts and 10 individual homes for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

The study should be completed by September 2010. To monitor progress or submit comments, questions or suggestions, or if you can provide copies of historical photos from this period, visit www.cityofpasadena.net/planningcomments. You can also call 744-7806, send a fax to 396-7259, email kevinjohnson@cityofpasadena.net or send submissions to 175 N. Garfield Ave., Pasadena CA 91101-1704.

Spinning Tales at Local Libraries

EVERY CULTURE HAS ITS OWN UNIQUE FOLK TALES, legends, history and myths. Before books and computers, travelers once carried these special stories to distant lands, bringing back exciting tales to pass along to new generations.

Treat your little ones to the joy of storytelling during Children's Book Month at your local library. Here are just a few of the special programs planned in November:



· With his dramatic style and playful humor, Jim Cogan presents classic American folktales Thursday, Nov. 12, at 3:15 p.m. at Villa-Parke Branch Library, 363 E. Villa St.

· Children's book author Alidz Agbabian shares the centuries-old Armenian tales of her childhood Tuesday, Nov. 17, at 11 a.m. at Lamanda Park Branch Library, 140 S. Altadena Dr.

- Born and raised in the Painted Desert of Arizona, Navajo storyteller Geri Keams presents Native American tales Tuesday, Nov. 17, at 4 p.m. at Hastings Branch Library, 3325 E. Orange Grove Blvd., sponsored by Hastings Associates.
- Storytelling troupe Flights of Fantasy presents "Tales from Around the World" on Wednesday, Nov. 18, at 4 p.m. at Allendale Branch Library, 1130 S. Marengo Ave.
- Alina Mendez shares Mexican folktales Thursday, Nov. 19, at 3:30 p.m. at Hill Avenue Branch Library, 55 S. Hill Ave.

For the complete list, visit www.cityofpasadena.net/library or call 744-4066.

Immunizations Available for Two Flu Strains

AS WE HEAD INTO FLU SEASON, the Pasadena Public Health Department reminds us of the two most prevalent strains this year.

The "seasonal flu" is a respiratory infection that attacks mostly in winter and spring. A vaccine is available from physicians' offices, pharmacies, the Pasadena Public Health Department's Immunization Clinic at 1840 N. Fair Oaks Ave. and other locations.

The second strain, "pandemic H1N1 flu" (previously known as "swine flu"), is a new virus that also causes respiratory infection. Since it first appeared last spring, H1N1 has caused large outbreaks in many parts of the world. Because most Americans don't have immunity, it may impact us in the coming months.

At press time, the new H1N1 flu vaccine had been federally approved for distribution nationwide through public health departments and select local health providers. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has prioritized groups that are more at-risk from the H1N1 flu, including pregnant women, adults ages 25 to 64 who have chronic health disorders or compromised immune systems. people who live with or care for babies younger than 6 months, workers in the health care and emergency medical fields, and children and young adults ages 6 months to 24 years old.

For the latest updates, go to www.cityofpasadena.net/publichealth/H1N1_Info or www.flu.gov, or call 744-6012.

As always, the best prevention of each strain of flu is good health habits such as washing your hands, covering your coughs and sneezes with your sleeve or a tissue, and avoiding others when you're sick and feverish.

se continua . . .

valet gratis para las bicicletas. Para información de último momento llame 744-6807 o visite, www.cityofpasadena.net/ generalplan.

Combata la Gripe

La "gripe de temporada" es una infección respiratoria que ataca por lo general en el invierno y primavera. Las vacunas están disponibles en la oficina de su doctor, farmacias, la clínica de vacunas del Departamento de Salud Pública de Pasadena en el 1840 N. Fair Oaks Ave. Y otros lugares.

"La gripe Pandémica H1N1" (conocida anteriormente como la gripe porcina) es un nuevo virus que también causa infección respiratoria. Desde que el H1N1 se manifestó por vez primera, ha causado un gran brote en muchas partes del mundo. Debido a que la mayoría de los estadounidenses no tienen inmunidad, podría impactarnos en los próximos meses.

El gobierno federal aprobó la distribución de la vacuna contra la gripe H1N1 a través de los departamentos locales de salud pública.

Para información de último momento, llame 744-6135 o visite www.cityofpasadena.net/publichealth/H1N1_Info.

Como siempre, la mejor prevención para frenar la gripe es tener buenos hábitos de salud, tales como lavarse las manos, toser en sus mangas o en un pañuelo, y evitar el estar cerca de otras personas cuando está enfermo.

Consejos de seguridad para las compras de los días festivos

El Departamento de Policía de Pasadena le brinda algunos consejos aquí para hacer su excursión de compras de regalo un poco más segura.

- Vaya de compras con amigos o familiares, especialmente por la noches.
- Escoja el estacionamiento cerca de áreas iluminadas con bastante vista a las tiendas y los compradores.
- Solo lleve las tarjetas de crédito esenciales, efectivo e identificación para minimizar el riesgo de robo de identidad.
- Si alguien le roba la cartera o billetera, nunca trate de resistir o perseguirlo. No vale la pena que le hagan daño por cosas que se pueden remplazar. En vez de eso haga mucho ruido, grite "ayuda ratero" señálelo y trate de agarrar una descripción completa del sospechoso, del vehiculo y hacia donde se dirige.
- Si no hay nadie a su alrededor, vaya a un lugar seguro y llame al 9-1-1.
- Programe en su celular el número directo 744-4241 del Departamento de Policía de Pasadena. Esto le ahorra tiempo, ya que la mayoría de las llamadas al 9-1-1 de teléfonos celulares tienen que ser redirigidas a la agencia apropiada.

Etcétera

Si está teniendo problemas financieros. El departamento de Agua y Energía está aquí para ayudarlo. Los clientes de bajos recursos que califican podrían recibir hasta \$ 7.50 de crédito por mes en su factura mensual de electricidad. Infórmese más y solicite ayuda en 744-6970 o www.cityofpasadena.net/wecanhelp.

Aprenda lo básico de computación en español durante la serie de cursos gratis cada viernes de 2 a 4 p.m. en la biblioteca de Villa Parke, 363 E. Villa St.



Safety Tips for Holiday Shopping

THE HOLIDAYS ARE RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER! With so many places to shop and things to do, the Pasadena Police Department has a few tips to make your holidays a little safer.

- Shop with a friends or family member, especially at night, to discourage would-be criminals. The "buddy system" helps ward off would-be criminals.
- Park near lighted areas and in plain view of shops and shoppers. Criminals don't like surveillance cameras, so park near a camera if possible. Don't linger. Have your keys in hand and be ready to unlock, enter, and lock your doors quickly. If you're approached by someone before you arrive at your car, return to the store or where other shoppers are.
- Be alert and observant. Before exiting your vehicle or leaving a store, take the time to look around. If you see someone or something that makes you uneasy report it to police, store security or other employees. Trust your instincts!
- When in doubt, ask for a store employee or security guard to escort you to your car. There's no shame in asking for help and most stores are happy to do it.
- Only carry essential credit cards, and limit cash and ID to minimize potential loss and risk of identity theft. If you carry a purse, wear it high on the shoulder or, when possible, underneath a jacket or sweater.
- If someone does take your property, never fight over it or give chase. Your belongings can be replaced. Instead, make lots of noise, scream and yell "Help, thief!" Point in his or her direction and try to provide police with a complete description of the suspect, vehicles and direction of travel. If there's nobody around, go to a safe place and call 9-1-1.
- Program the Pasadena Police Department's direct line 744-4241 – into your cell phone. This will save time, since most 9-1-1 calls from cell phones must be rerouted to the appropriate agency.



The Magnificent Transformation of Arlington Garden



Now CELEBRATING ITS
FOURTH ANNIVERSARY,
Arlington Garden has matured into a beautiful refuge overflowing with drought-tolerant trees and hundreds of plants.
Conceived by Pasadena residents Betty and Charles McKenney in

2005, and built and maintained with support from Pasadena Water and Power, the Public Works Department and dozens of donors, the one-time vacant lot at Pasadena Avenue and Arlington Drive showcases a remarkable collection of species that are native to Southern California or otherwise suited to our semi-arid climate.

It's worth a visit any time of year: In autumn watch the leaves of sycamores, Chinese pistache, cottonwood and western redbud trees turn yellow, orange and red; Washington navel orange trees pop in winter with more than 1,000 oranges; spring brings a magnificent show of California poppies, yellow tidy tips, California sunflowers and goldenrods, blue lupine, pink and magenta clarkia, bright red Shirley poppies and multicolored succulents; and summer coaxes blossoms from orange trees, buckwheats and budleyas as well as an explosion of pink blooms from 21 crape myrtles. Benches, tables, meandering paths and fountains invite visitors to stay a while.

For more information visit the garden's homepage at www.arlingtongardeninpasadena.org.



Pedestrians Get a Leg Up

PASADENA CHILDREN WILL SOON BE SAFER WALKING TO SCHOOL thanks to \$364,000 in government grants.

The city's Transportation Department recently secured \$250,000 from the federal Safe Routes to School Program to beef up enforcement of traffic laws near Pasadena's elementary schools with the goal of promoting safer, slower driving.

A \$114,000 grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration will be used to create an educational campaign to promote pedestrian safety at signalized intersections.

The grants will complement the city's existing pedestrian safety programs, including Suggested Routes to School and Safe Strides and Rides, which has featured bicycle rodeos, a pedestrian safety video and targeted enforcement aimed at aggressive drivers and motorists who run red lights.

For more information about pedestrian programs or transportation in Pasadena, call 744-8747.

PASADENA Water&Power

A Glass Half-Full



THE RAINY SEASON MAY HAVE BEGUN, BUT SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA'S WATER SUPPLY SITUATION IS STILL CLOUDY as pumping restrictions and long-term drought remain a challenge. PWP is optimistic, however, because your tremendous water conservation efforts are as clear as day.

Net water usage from July 1 through Sept. 30 was 12 percent less than this same period last year, 19 percent less than in 2007 and also less than any other summer since at least 1994.

Weather has been about average since July, so much of the reduced water usage can be attributed to PWP customers' vigilant conservation. Thank you, Pasadena!

Pasadena will avoid paying expensive high-use fees to our main supplier, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD), which is requiring a 10 percent reduction in water consumption over the next year.

PWP urges its customers to continue following mandatory water shortage procedures

We can't lose momentum now! If we can keep up this conservation trend through June 2010,

PWP urges its customers to continue following mandatory water shortage procedures established by the city council and take extra measures wherever possible. You can review the ordinance online at www.cityofpasadena.net/savewater. Here are some key prohibitions regarding watering your lawns and gardens:

- Cooler weather is here so watering by automatic sprinkler systems is allowed only one day per week from Nov. 1 through March 31 (choose the one day that is most convenient to you).
- Do not water during periods of rain (check the weather!).
- Do not water between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m., when heat evaporates much of the water.

You can also call the Water Shortage Hotline at 744-8888 to learn more about water shortage procedures or report water waste.



Rebates are Back!

AFTER A BRIEF SUMMER VACATION, MWD HAS RESTORED FUNDING for its popular water-saving rebate programs, which are offered in partnership with and co-funded by PWP.

Pasadena residential customers can once again apply for rebates on smart irrigation controllers (\$150) and rotating sprinkler heads (\$5 each) for outdoor water savings, plus high-efficiency toilets (up to \$50) and washing machines (\$100) through MWD's SoCal Water\$mart



program. Residential customers may now apply for rebates on synthetic turf at 60¢ per square foot. The latest models offer the look and feel of real grass with very low maintenance, weather resistance, durability in high-traffic areas, year-round color and, best of all, zero water needs.

Reservations for residential customers are no longer required but funding is limited and rewarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Visit www.cityofpasadena.net/savewater or call (888) 376-3314.



Water Quality and Your Safety



IF YOU EVER SEE PWP FIELD CREWS ON THE STREET opening fire hydrants and releasing water into storm drains, don't be alarmed. As much as it pains us to see water go down the drain, fire hydrant flushing is necessary for two main reasons.

The Pasadena Fire Department requires flow tests to make sure every hydrant is ready in case of emergency and to ensure adequate pressure in building sprinkler systems; and the California Department of Public Health requires water distribution system flushing when nitrite levels exceed 25 parts per billion or when water samples test positive for coliform bacteria. Flushing is also used to release "dead-ends" (stagnant water) from the distribution system, which prevents deterioration of water quality.

With the emphasis on water conservation that the entire community is embracing, PWP's water quality team and the Fire Department are reviewing the flushing program and investigating ways to minimize the amount of water being flushed and how to recapture it. If you have questions about the program, send an e-mail to wpd_answerline@cityofpasadena.net.



Utility Assistance Program Gets a Boost

IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS STRUGGLING FINANCIALLY, PWP is here to help. Benefits for the Electric Utility Assistance Program (EUAP), Cares and Cares Plus were recently increased to help low-income customers. Qualifying customers now receive a \$7.50 credit per month – up from \$5 – on their electric bill.

Created in 2006 and funded by the Public Benefits Charge on electric bills, the programs are open to customers whose maximum income for a single-person household is \$27,750, increasing in increments of \$4,000 for each additional person. Participants in the Pasadena Medical Assistance Program for people with energy-hungry medical equipment receive the same \$7.50 monthly benefit regardless of income level.

Learn more and apply for assistance by visiting www.cityofpasadena.net/wecanhelp or calling 744-6970.

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