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[aeriman@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:aeriman@cityofpasadena.net) (626) 744-4755  
 City web site: [www.cityofpasadena.net](http://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

• **Watch free movies based on books** Wednesdays at 1 p.m. at Pasadena Central Library, 285 E. Walnut St. Upcoming films include "Dreamer: Inspired by a True Story" Dec. 10 and "The Christmas Caper" Dec. 17. 744-4066.

• **A Natural History Museum official will share** news of recent archaeological digs for dinosaur bones and fossils Wednesday, Dec. 10, 4 p.m. at Hastings Branch Library, 3325 E. Orange Grove Blvd. 744-7262.

• **Friday, Dec. 12, is the final day to file nomination papers** for the March 10, 2009, consolidated Pasadena City Council and PUSD Board of Education election. [www.cityofpasadena.net/cityclerk/elections](http://www.cityofpasadena.net/cityclerk/elections) or 744-4124.

• **Ninety percent of child car seats are used incorrectly.** Learn the correct way to keep your child safe Saturday, Dec. 13, 10:30 a.m. at Santa Catalina Branch Library, 999 E. Washington Blvd. 744-7272.

• **Operatic soprano Jamie Chamberlin will perform** a free recital Sunday, Dec. 14, 3:30 p.m. at Caltech's Dabney Lounge, 320 S. Michigan Ave. 395-4652 or [www.events.caltech.edu](http://www.events.caltech.edu).

• **Teens will perfect their illusions during a free** three-day magic workshop Dec. 15 to 17, 3 p.m. at La Pintesca Branch Library, 1355 N. Raymond Ave., then show off at the grand finale. 744-7268 for a reservation.

• **Help your child with disabilities take part in preschool storytimes** by learning tips from the Family Resource Center on Tuesday, Dec. 16, 11 a.m. at Lamanda Park Branch Library, 140 S. Altadena Dr. 744-7266.

• **Students from Amadeus School of Music and Art** will perform in a free recital Sunday, Dec. 21, 1:15 to 5:15 p.m. in the Donald R. Wright Auditorium at Pasadena Central Library, 285 E. Walnut St. 744-4066.

• **The 120th Rose Parade will march down Colorado Boulevard** starting at 8 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 1, with the theme "Hats Off to Entertainment." Later that day, the country's top two college football teams will square off at the 95th Rose Bowl Game starting at 2 p.m. For event tickets, memorabilia, more news and volunteer opportunities, visit [www.tournamentofroses.com](http://www.tournamentofroses.com) or call 449-4100.

• **Learn more about how you can help protect our natural environment** and its resources by taking free training at [www.cityofpasadena.net/greencity](http://www.cityofpasadena.net/greencity) (click on Green Training Program).

• **The city of Pasadena and Pasadena Unified School District** have a number of partnerships ranging from safety to facilities. Learn more at [www.cityofpasadena.net](http://www.cityofpasadena.net) (look under What's New).

• **The city's MASH (Maintenance Assistance and Services to Homeowners) program** provides window repairs, house painting, rodent proofing, yard cleanup, wheelchair ramps, general maintenance and more. It's free to qualified seniors and residents with disabilities; MASH+ is available to all homeowners for a reasonable fee. 744-7627 for more information, estimates and job training.

• **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.

## Calling All Kids: Holiday Cheer at Your Neighborhood Library

**T**HERE'S NO PLACE LIKE THE LIBRARY FOR THE HOLIDAYS! Bundle up and enjoy these festive events.

- Make some holiday crafts Thursday, Dec. 11, from 3 to 5 p.m. at Hastings Branch Library, 3325 E. Orange Grove Blvd., then settle in for magical holiday stories, treats and tree-trimming Monday, Dec. 15, at 7 p.m. and Wednesday, Dec. 17, at 10:15 and 11:15 a.m. 744-7262.
- Make some ornaments, decorate a tree and enjoy hot chocolate, treats and stories Thursday, Dec. 11, from 3 to 5 p.m. at Lamanda Park Branch Library, 140 S. Altadena Dr. Return on Thursday, Dec. 18, at 3:30 p.m. for holiday stories (with a sign language interpreter), wacky activities and a take-home craft. 744-7266.
- Enjoy carols, hot chocolate and a tree-lighting Thursday, Dec. 11, at 5 p.m. at La Pintesca Branch Library, 1355 N. Raymond Ave. Come back for a Kwanzaa celebration Friday, Dec. 26, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and sample some treats prepared by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. 744-7268.
- Music, refreshments and a tree-lighting are in store Saturday, Dec. 13, at 4:30 p.m. at Allendale Branch Library, 1130 S. Marengo Ave. Return Tuesday, Dec. 16, at 4 p.m., for a sweet and sticky cookie decorating workshop. 744-7260.
- Preschoolers will enjoy quiet stories about winter and snow Saturday, Dec. 20, at 10 a.m. in the Children's Story Room at Pasadena Central Library, 285 E. Walnut St. 744-4066.
- Teens will wrap last-minute gifts Saturday, Dec. 20, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Pasadena Central Library, 285 E. Walnut St., with their hand-made, Japanese-style gift boxes. 744-4066.



## Beat the Holiday Blues

*With so many parties and festivities, the holiday season can be joyful and special, but also overwhelming and stressful.*

*Winter depression, also known as Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD), affects many with feelings of sadness, loneliness and irritability.*

*If you or someone you know seems to be experiencing extended sadness, fatigue, lack of energy or increased abuse of drugs or alcohol during the holiday season, Public Health Department urges you to call a medical or mental health provider right away.*

*There are plenty of local resources to help including Pasadena Healthcare Link, a 24/7 information line at 744-7445 that can help you find health resources and programs. Our Recovery Center, an outpatient drug prevention and treatment program, is also available at 744-6001.*

## Noticias En Breve

### Llamando a todos los niños: Alegría en la biblioteca de su vecindad

No hay ningún otro lugar como la biblioteca para los días festivos! Abréguese y disfrute estos eventos festivos.

Hay muchos eventos divertidos para los niños en las bibliotecas públicas de Pasadena, que incluyen, cuentos, artesanía, podar árboles, regalos y mucho más ¡Los adolescentes también tienen programas especiales para su edad!

Aprenda más llamando 744-4066 o visite su biblioteca de Pasadena más cercana para un horario de los eventos festivos.

### Gánele a la tristeza del los días festivos

¡La depresión invernal, también conocida como Trastorno Afectivo de la Temporada (SAD) por sus siglas en inglés, afecta a muchos con sentimientos de tristeza, soledad y estar sensibles.

Si usted o alguien que conoce pareciera estar pasando por una tristeza prolongada, fatiga, falta de energía o aumento en el uso de drogas o alcohol durante la temporada de los días festivos, el Departamento de Salud Pública lo anima a llamar inmediatamente a un proveedor de salud o salud mental.

Hay muchos recursos locales para que lo ayuden incluyendo la línea de enlace

Se continua adentro . . .

## Pasadena's General Plan: Share Your Ideas About Open Space

A TRAVELING KIOSK WITH TIMELY INFORMATION ABOUT THE OPEN SPACE AND CONSERVATION ELEMENT of the General Plan will make the rounds in December and January at the Villa-Parke and Victory Park farmers markets, parks throughout Pasadena, shopping areas, community centers and branch libraries.

You'll learn about open space in Pasadena and plans for preserving and protecting the environment, plus you'll be asked for your suggestions.

For dates, locations and more information, or to arrange for the kiosk to be at your neighborhood, school or club event, visit [www.cityofpasadena.net/planningcomments](http://www.cityofpasadena.net/planningcomments) or call 744-6767.

Future events related to the Open Space and Conservation Element include a community fair in early 2009.

To receive email updates, contact [ldahl@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:ldahl@cityofpasadena.net) or call 744-6767.



## Warm Up to Holiday Fire Safety

CANDLES AND LIGHTS ARE A BIG PART OF THE HOLIDAY SEASON and are, along with portable heaters, the most common cause of wintertime fires.

Pasadena Fire Department offers these tips for keeping your home and loved ones safe:

- Water your tree daily to keep it fresh. Keep it away from heat.
- If you have an artificial tree, be sure it is fire-retardant.
- Use only flame-retardant or non-combustible materials.
- Make sure your fireplace or wood stove is in working condition. Have your chimney connections and flues inspected by a professional and cleaned, if necessary, before lighting a fire. Burn only chopped wood – never pine boughs, paper or old gift wrap.
- Don't set lit candles near young children or pets; keep matches and lighters out of reach.
- Check decorative lights for burned-out bulbs or frayed cords. Don't overload electrical circuits.
- Always keep a family first aid kit and fire extinguisher on hand.
- When choosing a new space heater, look for ULC/CSA approval on the box. Make sure the heater shuts off automatically if it tips over.
- Space heaters need space! Keep yours at least three feet away from curtains, furniture and other objects.
- Never use a space heater as a drying rack.
- Never use a barbecue or hibachi indoors.

For more fire safety tips visit [www.cityofpasadena.net/disaster](http://www.cityofpasadena.net/disaster) or call 744-4655.

## Budget Update

THANKS TO SOUND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, conservative budgeting practices and a diverse local economy, Pasadena is not experiencing the level of economic uncertainty that many other cities are facing during the current economic downturn.

However, the current recession, coupled with rising operating costs, has led city management to reduce budget estimates for this year. In addition, the recently adopted California state budget further reduces city revenues by nearly \$3.4 million through cuts to our Public Health Department and redevelopment funds. With an ever widening gap projected at the state level and legislators unable to reach a compromise budget deal, additional state raids on local revenues appear likely.

To address this challenge, every Pasadena city department has submitted proposals for cutting five percent of spending without impacting community services.

Considerations include:

- Leave vacant positions unfilled whenever possible
- Reorganize as needed to increase efficiencies
- Delay investments in large replacement purchases such as city vehicles
- Work with vendors to negotiate reduced rates
- Reduce travel costs for conferences and training
- Consolidate redundant services throughout the organization
- Offer voluntary furloughs to enable employees to take time off without pay if they choose to do so

Careful management now will avoid a fiscal crisis in the future. The challenge will be to reduce spending while maintaining service levels and identifying resources for city council priorities. These priorities include a new ice skating center; urgent care center; improvements at parks, community centers, fire stations and libraries; acquisition of open space; and transportation improvements.

The city council and city management have confidence in our fiscal health and operations, and believe Pasadena will weather this current economic storm and continue to enhance the quality of life for all residents.

We welcome your suggestions: Visit [www.cityofpasadena.net](http://www.cityofpasadena.net) and click on Contact Us. For more information visit [www.cityofpasadena.net/budgetupdate](http://www.cityofpasadena.net/budgetupdate) or call 744-4350.

## Breathe a Little Easier

WELL ON ITS WAY TO BECOMING A GREEN CITY, Pasadena is clearing the air! Due to newly strengthened tobacco control laws, smokers throughout the community can no longer light up at outdoor shopping malls, outdoor patios at bars and restaurants, outdoor public gatherings like parades and festivals, or outdoor areas of private smokers' lounges or tobacco shops.

Smoking is also prohibited in or within 20 feet of an outdoor waiting line, such as a bank ATM or movie theater ticket booth, or within 20 feet of a doorway or window of a building where smoking is prohibited.

Pasadena Public Health Department is spreading the word about the new law with public education and new signage. They're also handling enforcement. To report a violation, or for more information, call 744-6014.



del Cuidado de la Salud de Pasadena, una línea de información 24/7 llame al 744-7445 donde lo pueden ayudar ha encontrar recursos de salud y programas. También está disponible nuestro Centro de Recuperación, un programa ambulatorio de prevención de drogas y tratamiento, llamando al 744-6001.

### Pode los Árboles sin peligro

Un 20 por ciento. Evite los enredos futuros con los cables de electricidad, edificios y tuberías subterráneas plantando de manera inteligente.

Considere la altura del árbol, cuanto se expandirán las ramas, su forma, que tan rápido crecen, frutas u otras tiraderos. Los árboles grandes deben plantarse por lo menos 35 pies alejados de cualquier válvula eléctrica subterránea, edificios u otra estructura y por lo menos 30 pies alejados de un tendido eléctrico aéreo; los árboles medianos deben estar alejados 25 pies de una estructura y 20 pies de un tendido eléctrico; árboles pequeños deben estar alejados por lo menos 10 pies de una estructura y tendido eléctrico.

Deje por lo menos ocho pies libres al frente de, y dos pies alrededor, de cualquier panel de transformador. No plante ningún árbol dentro de los seis pies del medidor eléctrico.

Por su seguridad nunca trate de podar un árbol cerca del tendido eléctrico; llame a un podador especialista de árboles certificado, visite [www.pasadenabeautiful.org/arblist.htm](http://www.pasadenabeautiful.org/arblist.htm) para una lista de podadores certificados en Pasadena.

Para pedir la desconexión temporal de los servicios eléctricos mientras está podando su árbol o para hacer un reporte de un árbol que ha crecido hasta el tendido eléctrico, llame 744-4673.

### Etcétera, etcétera...

El viernes 12 de diciembre, es el último día para someter los papeles para la nominación para la elección consolidada del 10 de marzo de 2009 de la Junta de Educación de PUSD y el Consejo de la Ciudad de Pasadena. 744-4124 o [www.cityofpasadena.net/cityclerk/elections](http://www.cityofpasadena.net/cityclerk/elections).

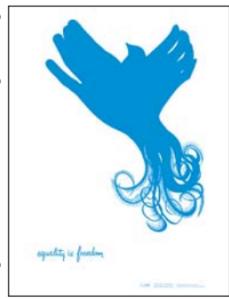
¡Noventa por ciento de los asiento de seguridad para los niños se usan incorrectamente! Aprenda la manera correcta de mantener a su niño fuera de peligro, el sábado 13 de diciembre desde las 10:30 a.m. en la Biblioteca Santa Catalina, 999 E. Washington Blvd. 744-7272.

Las solicitudes para la inscripción abierta de PUSD serán aceptadas desde el 12 de enero hasta el 10 de febrero, para aquellos estudiantes que deseen asistir el próximo año ha una escuela diferente a la de su vecindario. Si un hermano ya asiste a una escuela fuera de su vecindario, la solicitud tiene que ser entregada hasta el 21 de diciembre. [www.pusd.us/oe](http://www.pusd.us/oe) o 396-3600.

El departamento de Salud Pública de Pasadena ofrece clases gratis de cuatro horas para adultos en la comunidad sobre nutrición y ejercicios, Las clases están disponibles durante el día y por la noche en inglés y español. 744-6163.

## Celebrating Six Decades of U.N. Human Rights

©2008 Design by Ani Gevorgian for Designmatters at Art Center College of Design



AT THE END OF WORLD WAR II, FIRST LADY ELEANOR ROOSEVELT convinced the brand-new United Nations to draft a Universal Declaration of Human Rights to promote peace, tolerance and dignity around the globe.

To celebrate the document's 60th anniversary, the city has joined with Art Center College of Design to present special exhibitions.

Pasadena Central Library, 285 E. Walnut St., will display 25 posters by top Art Center students Dec. 10 through Jan. 4. Presented by Designmatters, Art Center's social and humanitarian educational initiative, the posters are a visual interpretation of the declaration, offering vibrant new perspectives on human rights. With support from France Los Angeles Exchange, the collection was recently shown at UNESCO headquarters in Paris.

For more information call 744-4066.



## Art Livens up Police Lobby

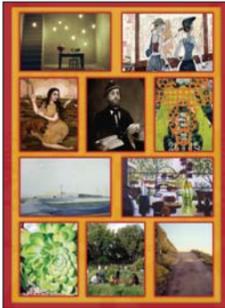
EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED IN THE LOBBY OF PASADENA police headquarters at 207 N. Garfield Ave.

Ten Pasadena artists will exhibit their works in this new non-traditional gallery, providing a more welcoming, cultural experience to visitors. The inaugural exhibition, featuring colorful paintings, photography and mixed media, will be celebrated with an opening reception Friday, Dec. 12, from 6 to 8 p.m. You can visit the exhibit through April.

The works were recommended by a panel of arts professionals who selected the talented artists. Police Department administrators chose the finalists.

The exhibition is part of an ongoing effort to provide more opportunities for Pasadena-based artists as part of Cultural Nexus, the city's cultural master plan.

For more information visit [www.cityofpasadena.net/arts/nexus.asp](http://www.cityofpasadena.net/arts/nexus.asp) or call 744-7062.



## Tips for Surviving Holiday Feasting

COOKIES AND EGGNOG AND PIE – OH MY! 'Tis the season for loosening our belts. Live it up and protect your health with these tips from the Pasadena Public Health Department.

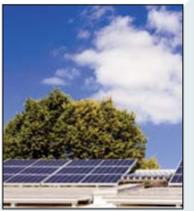
- Ditch the elastic waistbands and wear snug-fitting clothes. They'll start to feel uncomfortable when you've eaten enough.
- Never go to a party hungry, when you're more likely to overeat. Have a light meal or snack before going out.
- Bring a healthy dish to that holiday party. Sample some of your favorites in modest amounts rather than trying everything you're offered.
- Avoid high-calorie drinks, including alcohol, which can increase your appetite and chip away at your will power. Soda, punch bowls and eggnog are loaded with sugar.
- Go light on chips, dips and sauces. Calories and fat add up quickly!
- Include some fresh veggies, fruit and lean meats on your plate and, when you're finished, walk away from the buffet table. Build a healthy plate so you can enjoy dessert later!
- Eat slowly. It takes 20 minutes for your brain to tell your stomach you're full.
- Go easy on holiday treats. Candies, cookies and cakes will be abundant. Treat yourself to very special desserts, making your enjoyment worthwhile.
- Don't feel guilty. If you overindulge, just eat lightly the next day and get back on track. Visit [www.mypyramid.gov](http://www.mypyramid.gov) for your personalized food guide.
- Stay active. Fitness experts recommend 30 to 60 minutes of exercise each day. Staying healthy and fit is one of the best gifts you can give yourself and your family all year round.

The Public Health Department offers a free four-class nutrition and fitness course to adults in community, church and social groups. Classes are available day and evening, in English and Spanish; visit [www.cityofpasadena.net/publichealth](http://www.cityofpasadena.net/publichealth) or call 744-6163 for details.

## What Goes Up Must Come Down

PWP'S OFFERS SOLAR REBATES THAT ARE AMONG THE HIGHEST IN THE NATION. They'll decrease on Jan. 1 but if you apply by Dec. 19 for solar installations you're planning in 2009, you'll lock in the lower 2008 rates!

Visit [www.cityofpasadena.net/solar](http://www.cityofpasadena.net/solar) to learn about the Pasadena Solar Initiative and the new 30 percent federal tax credit for home installations. When you take advantage of local as well as federal incentives, you can save up to 75 percent on your system cost. Click on Clean Power Estimator to see what your future electric bill may look like after going solar.



## The Pasadena Power Diet

SOME FOODS, LIKE CARBOHYDRATES, ARE CHEAP AND ABUNDANT but not so good for you if you indulge too much. Fruits and vegetables cost a bit more, require a trip to the market and aren't always in season but they're great for your health.

PWP is considering a comparable scenario this winter as we plan Pasadena's power supply "diet" for the next 20 years, also known as the Integrated Resource Plan or IRP. Coal provides Pasadena with affordable, reliable power that has helped keep rates low. Green power sources like geothermal, landfill gas, solar and wind are more expensive and harder to get but better for the environment.

At a community meeting in October, a presentation highlighted various power mix scenarios and the tradeoffs that come with high environmental goals, low rates and the need for reliability. Now you can help answer a more specific question: How much are Pasadenans willing to pay – through higher electric rates – for greater reductions in carbon emissions?

Share your ideas at the next IRP meeting Wednesday, Dec. 17, at 6:30 p.m. at Pasadena Senior Center, 85 E. Holly St. If you can't attend, visit [www.cityofpasadena.net/IRP](http://www.cityofpasadena.net/IRP) to submit your comments or questions, join the IRP mailing list, review documents or watch video of the meetings.



## Switch Off and Over



OVER THE SUMMER PWP SENT TWO ENERGY-SAVING LIGHT BULBS to every household in Pasadena – 52,958 to be exact. We hope you received yours and have made the switch. Energy-saving bulbs are simply the fastest, most economical way to cut your energy use by 10 to 20 percent – \$500 or more off your electric bill over the lifetime of the new bulbs.

If you haven't taken advantage of the \$75 coupon for additional energy-saving bulbs, Jan. 31 is the deadline! There's no need to scramble for the original order form that came in the package; visit [www.cityofpasadena.net/CFL](http://www.cityofpasadena.net/CFL) and have your electric utility account number handy.

While you're on that web page, learn about the recycling program for light bulbs of all kinds and pledge to take the "Power of 10 Challenge" by switching 10 old incandescent bulbs for energy-saving ones. Then tell 10 Pasadena friends to do the same. Together we can cut 10,000 tons of carbon emissions every year.



## Trim Trees Safely



SHADE TREES CAN REDUCE YOUR COOLING COSTS BY 20 PERCENT. Avoid future tangles with power lines, buildings and underground pipes by planting wisely.

Consider the tree's height, canopy spread, shape, growth rate, and fruit or other droppings. Large trees should be planted at least 35 feet away from any underground power vaults, buildings or other structures and at least 30 feet away from overhead power lines; medium trees should be 25 feet from structures and 20 feet from power lines; small trees should be at least 10 feet away from structures and power lines.

Leave at least eight feet of clearance in front of, and two feet around, any pad-mounted transformers. Do not plant trees within six feet of your electric meter.

For your safety, never try to prune a tree near power lines yourself. Visit [www.pasadenabeautiful.org/ArbLst.htm](http://www.pasadenabeautiful.org/ArbLst.htm) for a list of certified arborists in Pasadena.

To request a temporary service disconnection while your tree is being trimmed or report a tree that has grown into power lines, call 744-4673.



## When it rains...

EXPERTS SAY EVEN A VERY WET WINTER WON'T COME CLOSE to replenishing our water sources after so many years of drought. The Metropolitan Water District (MWD), which supplies 60 percent of Pasadena's water, is strongly hinting at shortages and rationing in 2009.

That's why it's extremely important to squeeze every last drop out of every last drop! Watch weather reports for rain and shut off your sprinkler system a few days ahead of time so your soil will be ready to absorb the rainfall. Keep your sprinklers off for at least three days after it rains to conserve water on a lawn that has had the good fortune to be irrigated naturally.

Visit [www.cityofpasadena.net/savewater](http://www.cityofpasadena.net/savewater) for more tip.

**CORRECTION:** In the November issue of Pasadena In Focus we incorrectly stated that SB 1399 requires property owners to notify neighbors before installing solar panels. The legislation states that property owners "may" inform neighbors. Learn more at [www.cityofpasadena.net/solar](http://www.cityofpasadena.net/solar).