PAJADEN

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Etcetera ... Etcetera

- Check out a poetry book from your neighborhood library during Young People's Poetry Week from April 13 to 18 and get your very own poetry journal while supplies last. 744-4045.
- Learn how to locate legal forms and review court rules, case law and statutes during Introduction to Westlaw on Wednesday, April 15, from noon to 1:30 p.m. at Central Library, 285 E. Walnut St. 744-4066.
- ✓ Crafters from The Quilting
 Circle will demonstrate
 traditional African American
 quilting patterns and styles
 Sunday, April 19, from 2 to 5 p.m.
 at La Pintoresca Branch Library,
 1355 N. Raymond Ave. 744-7268.
- A runoff election for the District 7 council seat is scheduled Tuesday, April 21. 744-4124 or www.cityofpasadena.net/cityclerk.
- Meet at Gate A at the Rose Bowl Stadium the first Wednesday of every month at 7:45 a.m. to get "Up and Moving." Join Pasadena's mayor on the 3.3-mile loop May 6 with guest walker Erica Clark, co-founder, Pasadena: City of Learning Initiative. 831-2980 or www.upandmoving.org.

- ✓ Television writer and producer Martha Williamson will speak at the annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast on Thursday, May 7, 7 to 9 a.m. at the Pasadena Hilton. Get tickets on-line at www.workingfaith.com before May 1. 486-0691.
- ✓ You'll get VIP access at the historic Rose Bowl Stadium during a community open house Saturday, May 16, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Docent-led tours, children's activities and free hot dogs. 577-3105.
- Blair International
 Baccalaureate School presents
 its annual musical revue,
 "Ovations," on Friday and
 Saturday, May 29 and 30 at 8 p.m.
 and Sunday, May 31 at 3 p.m. at
 Pasadena High School. Tickets
 are \$10. 396-5820, ext. 80026 or
 www.blairibmagnet.org.
- American Cancer Society's 5th annual Relay for Life is Saturday and Sunday, May 30 and 31, at Pasadena City College to raise money for research and education. www.relayforlife.org/pasadenaca or 372-9256.

- Looking for something new this spring and summer? The Human Services and Recreation Department provides programs for children, teens and adults, including tennis, swimming, softball, soccer, arts and crafts, music and more. 744-6940 or www.cityofpasadena.net/reserve.
- 🗷 **Before your vacation,** protect yourself and your family with a trip to Pasadena Public Health Department's Travel and Adult Immunization Clinic, one of the most comprehensive, low-cost facilities of its kind, offering immunizations plus professionals who can answer all your questions. The clinic can also <mark>update s</mark>ome childhood immunizations. New, extended hours are Mondays from 1:15 to 4:30 p.m. and Tuesdays through Thursdays from 8:15 to 10:45 a.m. and 1:15 to 4:30 p.m. Appointments aren't necessary during walk-in hours. www.cityofpasadena.net/ publichealth or 744-6121.
- 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.

Bicycling in Pasadena: Tell Us What You Think



IDING A BIKE IS A GREAT WAY TO EXERCISE and save on gas while getting a closer look at our beautiful city. More bike riders also help Pasadena meet its green

goals, sparing us traffic and smog.

By updating its "Century of Bikes" bicycle master plan this year, the city's Transportation
Department wants to make
Pasadena one of the most bikefriendly communities in the nation, and you can help! Whether you ride regularly, would like to ride more or plan on becoming a rider in the near future, take a minute to fill out a simple, eight-question survey at www.cityofpasadena.net/
transportation.

All input will be reviewed by the Bicycle Master Plan Advisory

Committee – a group of local cyclists, advocacy groups, bike shops and city commissioners with a goal of updating the plan by December 2009.

We've made lots of progress since the plan was first created in 2000. Sixty lane-miles of bike routes have been created citywide, and a bike map promotes routes, parking and safety. More than 500 bike racks line the city's major streets and hundreds more can be found at retail areas, schools, parks, community centers, libraries, the Rose Bowl Stadium, shopping centers and Metro stops, including a new storage area at the Allen Avenue Gold Line Station. Pasadena's Green Building Ordinance encourages developers to include bike racks and showers in their designs.

Even with these successes, more can be done! The team is now looking for more innovative ideas for helping beginning and experienced bike riders feel more visible, safe and well connected with the regional bike network.

Get involved! For more information call 744-7254.

Celebrate Bike Week on Two Wheels

Pedal your way to a party during Bike Week Pasadena, May 11 to 16. Now in its third year, the fun citywide event promotes bike riding as a

viable, healthy and sustainable transportation choice.

This year's festivities will include a free presentation on living a car-free life, a community screening of the documentary "Contested Streets," neighborhood bike salons, mini-workshops on shopping by bike, a women's event and the All-Pasadena City Bike Ride. For complete details, visit www.cicle.org or call (323)478-0060.

While you're cycling around town, be sure to park your bike in one of 500 designated racks! If you chain it to a tree, pole or handrail, you run the risk of having it impounded.

To request a bike rack in a public spot, for a referral to a vendor to install a rack on private property, or for bike maps or safety brochures, call 744-7254.

Noticias En Breve

Andando en Bicicleta en Pasadena: Díganos lo Que Piensa

Andar en bicicleta es una buena manera de hacer ejercicio y ahorrar en gasolina mientras mira más de cerca a nuestra hermosa ciudad. Al haber más personas andando en bicicleta también nos ayuda ha alcanzar las metas verdes de Pasadena, librándonos del trafico y el smog.

Usted puede ayudar a hacer de Pasadena una de las comunidades más abiertas al las bicicletas en la nación, tomándose un minuto para llenar una encuesta en español de ocho preguntas al www.cityofpasadena.net/transportation.

Todas las opiniones serán revisadas por un grupo de ciclistas locales, grupos que promueven esta causa, tiendas de bicicletas y comisionados de la ciudad, mientras se preparan para actualizar el plan maestro para andar en bicicleta de Pasadena más adelante este año.

Para mayor información llame 744-7254

Viviendo la Vida Verde

Disfrute de la música, baile, comida y diversión en el Festival Anual del Día del Enverdecimiento de la Tierra

Se continua adentro . . .

Living la Vida Verde

WITH MUSIC, DANCING, FOOD AND MORE THAN 70 EXHIBITORS, you can't help but have fun at Pasadena's annual Greening the Earth Day Festival on Saturday, April 25, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Memorial Park, Raymond Avenue at Walnut Street, and Armory Center for the Arts, 145 N. Raymond Ave. This free, family event will showcase all things "green."

At Memorial Park on the east side of Raymond Avenue between Walnut and Holly streets, browse from booth to booth to learn all about green living, composting, organic foods, hybrid and electric vehicles, alternative energy, green building and more. City staff will also be on hand to promote waste reduction and recycling, collection of household hazardous waste, water and energy conservation, and Pasadena's Green City Action Plan.

Step across the street to Armory Center for the Arts for hands-on art activities, visit the animals at the Wildlife Way Station and Eaton Canyon Nature Center booths, or enjoy an all-day line-up of live performances by local bands, Aztec Dancers and Baile Folklorico.

This year's event also features a bicycle tour led by city arborists and certified cycling instructors, who will guide you along tree-lined streets as you learn about tree maintenance and protection and how you can take advantage of shade trees at home; and a leisurely walk through the Arroyo Seco, led by naturalists from the city and the Arroyo Seco Foundation, to help you discover hidden trails, streams and wildlife under the 134 Freeway and the Colorado Street Bridge.

Pick up a free copy of the Arroyo Seco Trails Guide, which will make its debut there. (Watch for it later at public counters and www.cityofpasadena.net/publicworks/PNR/ArroyoSeco.)

Sponsored by the city of Pasadena in cooperation with Armory Center for the Arts, Arroyo Seco Foundation, Buy Local Pasadena and Metro, the festival attracts more than 5,000 revelers annually.

For more information, call 744-4721 or visit Greening the Earth Day 2009 on Facebook.



Pasadena General Plan: Get Engaged

NEXT MONTH WILL MARK THE KICK-OFF OF THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM for the General Plan Uupdate. We will soon be considering how our land use and mobility elements will shape the future of Pasadena, so it's essential that residents participate in creating that vision.

This program will include opportunities to learn about critical issues surrounding land use and mobility, share thoughts or ideas about the future of our community and engage in discussions about how to achieve these goals.

Priorities include outreach to populations that don't typically participate in civic discussion, inclusion of teenagers and young adults, and use of new media to reach broader audiences.

Look for a schedule of events and activities in the May/June issue of *Pasadena In Focus*. For more information visit www.cityofpasadena.net/generalplan or call 744-4009.

Stamping Out Neighborhood Nuisances

LEARN ABOUT PROGRAMS INTENDED TO KEEP YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD SAFE and clean at a community meeting Thursday, April 16, at 6 p.m. at Jackie Robinson Center, 1020 N. Fair Oaks Ave. Hosted by the Code Enforcement Commission, the event will include updates on city-sponsored programs. There are three main items on the agenda:

- Pasadena's Deemed Approved Ordinance was adopted by city council to enable city officials
 to monitor liquor stores that were established before conditional use permits were required.
 If any of these non-CUP establishments violates state or local laws, conditions can be placed
 on them ranging from prohibiting the sale of single containers of alcohol of 12 ounces or less
 to providing security in the parking lot.
- The city's MASH program (Maintenance Assistance and Services to Homeowners) hires local residents to provide safe and affordable home repairs at no charge to qualified seniors and people with disabilities. (Services are also available for a reasonable fee to all homeowners.) While providing vital job training, the program also helps reduce broken windows, falling-down fences, overgrown yards and other signs of blight in Pasadena neighborhoods. (Call 744-7627 for details.)
- The graffiti abatement program removes ugly scrawls from public and private property within 48 hours after a call is made to the hotline at 744-7622.

For more information on the community meeting, call 744-4633.

Restore Your Historic Home and Reduce Costs

PERSONALITY, CRAFTSMANSHIP, AN OLD-FASHIONED PORCH. These are just some of the benefits of owning a historic home. Apply this month and you may also qualify for a property tax reduction.

Through the city's Historic Property Contract Program, governed by the state's Mills Act, you may qualify for a reduction of your property tax bill by as much as 75 percent for agreeing to restore and maintain your historic building. The program is open to properties that are designated landmarks or historic monuments, in landmark and historic districts, works of the architects Greene & Greene, or listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places.

Applications for the 2009 program in English and Spanish are at www.cityofpasadena.net/millsact and at the Permit Center, 175 N. Garfield Ave. The deadline to file is Monday, May 4.

The rules have changed a bit in 2009. Single-family homes with an assessed value of \$1.5 million or less are eligible, except for works of Greene & Greene, designated monuments and properties listed individually in the National Register. (One exception to this rule per year may be granted for special circumstances.) You must also submit a plan for future rehabilitation of your property; if the work's already been done, or if the property doesn't need work, you don't qualify. Up to 20 homes and six commercial properties will be approved, based on priority criteria approved by the city council.

For complete details, check the website or call 744-4009 and ask for a member of the Design & Historic Preservation staff in the Planning and Development Department.

Quick Tip for a Greener, More Sustainable Pasadena

What you can do:

Recycle and reuse paper, plastic, aluminum and glass, and invest in reusable containers. In 2001, every American threw away an average of 4.4 pounds a day. Recycling one ton of aluminum saves as much electricity as a typical American household uses over a 10-year period.

How we can help:

The city of Pasadena provides bins of various sizes for recycling and lawn clippings so that you can reduce the amount of household waste that goes to landfills, Visit www.cityofpasadena.net/publicworks and click on Trash and Recycling or call 744-4087.

se continua . . .

de Pasadena el sábado 25 de abril, desde las 10 de la mañana hasta las 4 p.m. en el Parque Memorial (en la avenida Raymond entre la Walnut y Holly) y a lo diagonal de la calle en el Centro para las Artes de Artillería.

Aprenda todo sobre el abono, alimentos orgánicos y vehículos eléctricos, energía alternativa, edificios verdes y mucho más. El personal de la ciudad también estará disponible para dar información sobre la reducción de la basura y reciclamiento, la recolección de desperdicios peligrosos del hogar, conservación de agua y energía, y el Plan de Acción de la Ciudad Verde de Pasadena.

También habrán actividades artes y manualidades, exposiciones especiales y entretenimiento al

Para mayor información llamar al 744-4721.

Mantenga un Extinguidor de Incendios a la Mano

Su cena de pronto se vuelve un incendio. ¿Qué debe hacer? El Departamento de Bomberos de Pasadena está urgentemente solicitando a todos que mantengan un extinguidor de incendios en la casa y aprendan como usarlo y a darle el mantenimiento apropiado.

Un extinguidor de incendios en manos de una persona adulta, capacitada para usarlo puede salvar la vida y la propiedad, pero también requiere del buen juicio. Utilice el extinguidor de incendios solo:

- · Si ha alertado a los otros que se encuentran con usted y si alguien ha llamado al 9-1-1
- Si el fuego es pequeño y se limita a un solo objeto, como el bote de la basura
- Si usted está fuera de peligro de los tóxicos del smog producido por el fuego
- · Si usted ha identificado la manera de escapar y el fuego no se interpone entre usted y su ruta de
- · Si sus instintos le dicen que no corre peligro al usar el extinguidor.

El departamento de bomberos ofrece capacitación gratis para grupos de veinte o más. Llame al 744-7276 para información de clases o al 744-4668 para preguntas sobre extinguidores.

Etcétera, etcétera...

Usted tendrá pases de acceso VIP al estadio histórico del Rose Bowl durante una celebración de puertas abiertas el sábado 16 de mayo desde las 9 de la mañana hasta la 1 de la tarde. Disfrute del Tour, las actividades para los niños y hot dogs gratis. 577-3105.

Reúnase en la puerta A en el estadio del Rose Bowl el primer miércoles de cada mes a las 7:45 a.m. para "Arriba y Moviéndose" con el alcalde de Pasadena e invitados especiales. 831-2980.



Back to the Workforce

PASADENA PUBLIC LIBRARY CAN HELP YOU GET BACK ON YOUR FEET after a job loss with a range of free services, training programs and resources.

First, check out the shelves of books that can help you find openings, make career changes, write resumes and cover letters, and prepare for civil service exams and interviews.

Central Library at 285 E. Walnut St. is a great source for job openings from state and city governments, Caltech and other local schools. You can also thumb through the latest issues of Jobs Available and California Job Journal. Every Pasadena library also has computers with Internet connection and word processing software to help you search job-listing sites or type up resumes and cover letters. Or bring your own laptop and use the library's free wireless Internet connection.

You can also tap into electronic resources from home. At www.cityofpasadena.net/library/jobs.asp you can find popular job-search sites and career information. Www.cityofpasadena.net/ library/e-resources.asp offers practice tests and more. Go to http://pas-gdl.lib.overdrive.com to listen to career books with a portable device or read them from a computer.

For more personal help, come to "Get Back on the Job Track," a free workshop by Women at Work on Tuesday, April 14, at 11 a.m. at Hastings Branch Library, 3325 E. Orange Grove Blvd. Women at Work also help job seekers - men as well as women - through programs at La Pintoresca Branch Library, 1355 N. Raymond Ave. On Fresh Start Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., you can talk one-on-one with a career counselor. Call 744-7268 for an appointment. With La Pintoresca's monthly Job Prep 101 workshop, you'll build basic job-hunting skills such as writing a resume, reading a want ad, finding a job on the Internet and preparing for an interview. The next session is Tuesday, April 28, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

You can also join the Professional Job Club Network at La Pintoresca Branch Library every Friday from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Call 744-4066 for more information.



Weigh in on New Design Guidelines

A FIRST DRAFT IS READY FOR THE CITY'S NEW DESIGN **GUIDELINES** for commercial centers and multifamily homes. Give us your opinions at the Design Commission meeting Monday, April 13, at 6 p.m. at Pasadena Senior Center, 85 E. Holly St.

The new guidelines, for neighborhood commercial areas and multifamily projects with three or more units, were developed by city staff and other experts using community input from two September public meetings. During the April 13 meeting, you'll have the opportunity to comment on the draft. Another community meeting will be scheduled in June to receive input before the final draft is presented to the city council for approval this summer.

Find information on the project, including a map of affected areas, at www.cityofpasadena.net/guidelines. The draft guidelines will be posted no later than April 2.

You can also submit comments online, call 744-7806, fax to 396-7259, email kevinjohnson@cityofpasadena.net or drop a note to the Planning and Development Department at 175 N. Garfield Ave., Pasadena CA 91101. Have a say in your neighborhood's appearance.



Keep an Extinguisher Handy

YOUR DINNER HAS SUDDENLY CAUGHT FIRE. What to do? Pasadena Fire Department urges everyone to keep fire extinguishers at home and learn how to use and maintain them properly.

When choosing your model, remember that different fires – a grease fire vs. an electrical fire, for example – require completely different extinguishers. Look on the extinguisher for symbols showing the kind of fire it is meant for. There are also multi-purpose fire extinguishers, such as those labeled "B-C" and "A-B-C," that can be used on two or more different kinds of fires.

A fire extinguisher in the hands of a trained adult can save life and property but it also requires sound judgment. Use a fire extinguisher only if:

- You've alerted other occupants and someone has called 9-1-1
- The fire is small and contained to a single object, such as a wastebasket
- You're safe from the toxic smoke produced by the fire
- You've identified a way to escape and the fire is not between you and the escape route
- Your instincts tell you it's safe to use an extinguisher Call 744-7276 for class information or 744-4668 for questions about extinguishers.

Budget Update

PASADENA IS FACED WITH THE GREATEST CHALLENGE OF THIS **DECADE:** a significant budget shortfall over the next 12 to 24 months caused primarily by the economic downturn and a \$42 billion state budget shortfall.

As the city council prepares for final adoption of the budget in June for the fiscal year beginning July 1, Pasadena residents are encouraged to provide opinions about potential service impacts and other issues. Public hearings are scheduled April 13, 23 and 27; and May 11 and 18. All meetings will be in the council chamber (S249) at Pasadena City Hall and will start at 4 p.m. with the exception of April 27 (3 p.m.)

Visit www.cityofpasadena.net/budget or call 744-4336.

PASADENA Water&Power

Making Every Drop Count

WITH SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FACING ONE OF THE BIGGEST WATER SHORTAGES IN YEARS, Dan and Maya Sharp from Northwest Pasadena wanted to be water-wise when washing their solar panels. With just \$45 in materials and a few hours of labor, they made their own rain barrel to capture the runoff.

The barrel collects quite a bit. A typical roof gutter can siphon off about 200 gallons from a mere quarter inch of rainfall. The Sharps now connect a hose to the rain barrel to irrigate their vegetable garden and deep water their fruit trees.



The barrel was a practical idea that supported their approach to living: Even small changes can lead to big differences for the environment. One of the most important benefits of this do-ityourself project, the Sharps say, is that it has taught their children about the value of water and how capturing and conserving it must not be taken for granted. Watch a how-to video at www.cityofpasadena.net/savewater and learn how you can reduce, reuse, and recycle water.



Spectacular Display of Spring Colors



THE RECENT RAINS HAVE NOT ENDED CALIFORNIA'S DROUGHT or the need to conserve water – but they are bringing a brilliant show of wildflowers to the hillsides around Diamond Valley Lake in Riverside County. A short trail, open only for wildflower season, will guide you through a multicolored display of California poppies, lupine, brittlebush and owl clover. The color will peak in early April but should last throughout the month.

Gaze beyond the carpeted hillsides and you'll have a first-hand look at the drastically low level of our reservoir. Most Pasadena

residents don't realize that Diamond Valley Lake is responsible for a significant portion of the water PWP provides.

Plan a walk through the wildflowers this month! It might inspire your own native plant gardening and remind you to be water-wise year round. Call 1-800-590-5253 for details and directions.



Ahh, Spring!

IF THE SCENT OF JASMINE AND THE SOUND OF MORNING SONGBIRDS don't inspire you to do some spring cleaning, here's a quick and painless plan to clean up waste in every room in your house. Take part in this annual ritual in a fresh, new way!

Set your thermostat to 78 degrees in the summer, change your air conditioner's filter and turn it off when you are away all day and during the night. Open windows at night for natural cooling and fresh air.

Close drapes and blinds by late morning to prevent direct sunlight from turning your evening retreat into a stifling green house. Your air conditioner won't have to work as hard to keep you cool and comfortable.

Turn your refrigerator setting to 37 degrees or above, clean the coils regularly and turn off spare fridges that are nearly empty. An over-worked fridge can add 10 percent or more to your energy bill.

Stick a reminder note on your clothes washer, dryer and dish washer: "Full loads are heaven, before noon, and after seven."

Set your hot water heater to 120 degrees or "low." It's hot enough for most needs, and who needs a boiling hot shower in the summer anyway?

Replace old outdoor lighting with energy-saving compact fluorescents, which now come in a wide range of sizes, hues and functions for whatever your lighting needs may be.

Go to www.cityofpasadena.net/rebates for savings on plenty of low-cost efficiency upgrades for your home.



Taking Inspiration from Native Beauty

WHEN JEFFREY BENNETT BOUGHT HIS HOME IN 2006 his first priority, even before moving into the steep-sloped property, was to replace the dated, water-hungry landscaping. From hiking in the local mountains, he already knew that "droughttolerant" didn't have to mean cacti and succulents.

A rickety wooden staircase shot straight up from the street, flanked on both sides by 1950s-era African ivy. Jeffrey installed solid concrete steps with interest-adding boulders, landings and retaining walls. Working with a landscape architect friend on a new plan, he became passionate about using California native plants. The final design weaves together a tapestry of textures and colors for a naturalistic effect, with massed drifts of sage, manzanitas and ceanothus. Several redbud trees and an Englemann oak add height and variety. Native grasses, including deergrass and wild rye, dot Jeffrey's hillside, as do many native flowering perennials.

He has inspired many of his neighbors to do their own California native landscaping, and even brought together neighbors and city officials in discussions to replace the dying pine trees on his street (infected with pine bark beetles) with native oaks.

Native plants take time to establish, but Jeffrey's patience will be rewarded with a beautiful native landscape and lower irrigation bills. Learn more at www.bewaterwise.com.



Before native landscaping



After native landscaping