



SOUTH PASADENA NEIGHBORS

The Official Community Newsletter ♦ Volume 6, No. 2 ♦ Summer 2001

Dedicate A Tree Today!

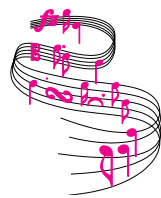
The City's new Dedication Tree Program enables the public to donate funding for the planting of dedication trees on city property, such as parkways, median strips and public parks. Dedication trees can be donated to celebrate the birth of a child, to celebrate a special event, to honor a special person in one's life, and in memory of a loved one.



Mila Renken and her children, Anika, age 6; William, age 4; and Jack, 11½ months, celebrate the planting of a dedication tree to honor Jack's birth.

The cost for a dedication tree is \$195.00, and includes the purchase of a 24" box tree of an approved species, planting, staking, and root barriers (as needed). When a dedication tree is planted, a card of acknowledgment is sent to both the applicant and honoree or honoree's family. Photos of the new tree are taken and posted on the City's Web site. The City has planted seven dedication trees to date and several more plantings are being scheduled.

If you would like additional information, please call the South Pasadena Public Works Department at (626) 403-7240, or go to www.ci.south-pasadena.ca.us/departments/pubworks_treeprogram01.htm.



Summer Concerts Coming to Garfield Park!

Wondering where the year has gone? Does it seem as if you just put away those Christmas decorations? Yes, summer will soon be here and Garfield Park will once again be home to the third annual *Concerts in the Park* series, which kicks off next month and continues through August.

The Parks and Recreation Commission and the Community Services Department are pleased to present this five-concert series on alternating Sundays from 5-7 p.m. in the north end of Garfield Park.

This is a unique opportunity to bring family and friends together for a Sunday afternoon of music and fun. Bring your own picnic or save time and buy dinner at the concert. A local restaurant or organization will be selling dinner each Sunday. For those of you who want to spend a lazy afternoon, grab your lawn chair or blanket, and join us on the lawn in the shade under the park's beautiful sycamore trees. Want to get a little dancing in, too? Then join your neighbors on the wood dance floor.

The concerts are made possible through the financial support of the City Council and many generous sponsors. Last year, the City met its challenge to raise one-half of the costs, which we hope to exceed this year. Our platinum (\$3,000) and gold (\$1,500) sponsors are noted below.

This year, the Pete Jacobs War Time Radio Revue returns to Garfield Park and will kick off the concert series on July 1. The City is also privileged to have Murray Middleman and Park Avenue West again, featuring music from the big-band era and the classic crooners. Newcomers to the series who are sure to please include The Ravelers, featuring rock & roll of the '50s and '60s, and Susan Hansen, bringing the rhythms and sounds of Latin jazz. The series ends August 19 with the return of Pete Jacobs.

So please mark your calendars and join us at Garfield Park from 5-7 p.m. on the following dates:

- July 1st**Pete Jacobs War Time Radio Revue — Swing
Gold Sponsor: Morrow & Holman Plumbing
- July 15th**The Ravelers — Rock & Roll of the '50s and '60s
- July 29th**Park Avenue West — Big Band and Crooners
Platinum Sponsor: AOL Time Warner Cable TV
- August 12th**Susan Hansen — Latin Jazz
- August 19th**Pete Jacobs War Time Radio Revue — Swing
Gold Sponsor: Bristol Farms



Pete Jacobs War Time Radio Revue (above) returns to the Park this year. (left) Murray Middleman and the Park Avenue West Orchestra.



It's Your Downtown!

The Community Redevelopment Agency's (CRA) two workshops in December generated a lot of excitement about how to invest CRA funds to stimulate business in the downtown. This culminated in a CRA meeting on March 7 when the CRA adopted the report and recommendations from the workshops. Businesses and residents at the workshops expressed varied priorities, all geared toward creating a pedestrian-friendly environment and improving business in the downtown.



Staff and consultants are hard at work implementing the CRA's direction. The primary task at this stage is to better understand business and development opportunities and their relationship to parking issues. This involves researching the feasibility of the theater/arts district concept and developing and analyzing potential development alternatives and related

parking opportunities

Improving the physical environment represents a second set of tasks that includes creating a façade improvement program and implementing the pedestrian improvement grant from the Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

A third area is updating our land-use regulations to make sure that they are consistent with the goals of improving the downtown. A revised city-wide zoning ordinance is currently under discussion by the Planning Commission. Part and parcel of each of these task areas is parking. Yes, we will need more of it.

These items will be brought back to the CRA as progress is made.

For further information or if you would like to be on the mailing list, please call the Community Development Department at (626) 403-7220, or email gforbes@ci.south-pasadena.ca.us.

South Pasadena has long been a filmmaker's ideal shooting locale. The City has numerous historic buildings, picturesque houses, and is close to all of the major TV and movie studios — it's no wonder film companies love to shoot here.

You may have seen film trucks in your neighborhood. Perhaps you and your neighbors have even been approached by a film company representative requesting to use your property or to obtain your signature to film in your neighborhood. Please note that film production companies must obtain a film permit from the city.

In order to get a permit, they must obtain

signatures from property owners, and address public safety requirements from the Police, Fire and Public Works departments. In

addition, the film company needs to notify the neighborhood as to exactly what, where, when, and how long it will be filming. The City has a staff member designated to work with residents, businesses, and film companies to ensure that the film company meets the requirements and to make it a positive experience for all.

If you'd like to learn more about filming in South Pasadena, please call Joan Aguado at (626) 403-7263.



New Staff Members

The City's Finance Department has three new members. Josh Betta, Finance Director, comes to the City with many years of local government experience. Josh was previously Financial Services Manager with the City of Monterey Park.

Maggali Correa is the City's new Account Clerk in charge of business licensing. Joan Aguado, formerly a producer in the entertainment industry, has come on board to spearhead the City's film functions as the City's first Film Liaison.

The Public Works Service Facility has three new Maintenance Workers: Jose Nunez in the Street Division; Eric Banuelos, Water Division; and Mark Torres, Sewer Division.

City Has a New Fire Chief

Richard Elliott is the City's new Fire Chief. Chief Elliott fills the post vacated by William Eisele, who retired last October after more than 28 years of service with the South Pasadena Fire Department.



Chief Elliott comes to the City with 23 years of fire experience. He was previously Chief of Operations for the City of Redondo Beach, overseeing 61 of the department's line personnel responding from three fire stations.

"I'm extremely honored to be appointed to this position in a community with such a long history of high quality fire and life safety services," Chief Elliott said. "It's a privilege to join the firefighters who serve the citizens of South Pasadena."

Before going to Redondo Beach in 1994, Chief Elliott was a firefighter and later served as Captain for the Oxnard Fire Department.

Chief Elliott heads a department of 24 firefighter/paramedics and two civilian employees. Have a question for the new chief? E-mail him at relliott@ci.south-pasadena.ca.us, or call the South Pasadena Fire Department at (626) 403-7300.

CITY OFFICIALS

Sean Joyce, City Manager	(626) 403-7210
Gay Forbes, Assistant City Manager.....	403-7210
Michael Berkow, Police Chief	403-7270
Richard Elliott, Fire Chief	403-7300
Josh Betta, Finance Director.....	403-7250
David Watkins, Com. Dev. Director	403-7220
Jim Van Winkle, Public Works Director ..	403-7240
Terri Maguire, City Librarian.....	403-7330
Veronica Dolleschel, Comm. Svcs. Dir. ..	403-7360
Sally Kilby, City Clerk	403-7230



Books and Beyond

The Children's Department of the South Pasadena Public Library is planning a full summer of fun activities for families to enjoy, funded by the Friends of the South Pasadena Public Library, Inc. and other donors.

Storytimes will be offered four times weekly from June 19 to August 10. Family Storytimes for all ages will be held on Tuesday nights from 7:30-8 p.m. Pajama and Preschool Storytimes for 3- to 5-year-olds will be held on Wednesdays from 7-7:30 p.m. and on Thursdays from 10:30-11 a.m. Toddler Storytimes for 1- to 2-year-olds will be on Fridays from 10:30-10:50 a.m.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-3 p.m., volunteer Library Grandparents will be ready to read aloud to children. Offered on a drop-in basis, the **Grandparents and Books program** was established as an intergenerational program to

encourage reading aloud.

Storytellers & Troubadours Unlimited kicks off the Wonderful Wednesdays with **"A Visit to Earth,"** a musical radio adventure show on June 20 at 2 p.m. in the Library Community Room.

Chamber Music Express will present **Fiddle Fireworks** for children of all ages on June 27. The **Junior Arts Center** staff will present a creative arts program, on July 11 at 2 p.m. on the Oxley Street side of the library. L.A. Puppet Professionals will perform **Jackal and Hedgehog**, a puppet program on July 18. Griffith Observatory's **Traveling Telescope** program appears on August 1. Rounding out the medley will be **Storyteller Willy Clafin** and his puppet friends, performing a combination of fractured fairy tales and original stories for children ages 5 years and older on August 8.

Craft Blast Off will be offered on alternate Mondays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., beginning June 25.

Children's Internet Classes will be provided from 10-11 a.m. on two Saturdays this summer, June 23 and July 21, in the Children's Department. Reservations are required, so call (626) 403-7358.

Summer Reading Program sign-ups begin June 11. The Friends of the South Pasadena Public Library have funded the printed calendar newsletter, free plastic bookbag, reading log, and reading lists. These items are distributed to each child, aged 10 years or under who register for "Books and Beyond."

Youngsters 11 through 18 years may register for the "2001-A Book Odyssey" program.

For more information, please call the Children's Department of the Library at (626) 403-7358.

Home Remodeling Tips

Planning to remodel your home this summer? Here are some helpful steps to make the process a smooth one:

1. Meet with a City Planner when making any modifications to the exterior of your home. Note that this may also include changes to your windows, doors, and exterior finish. Why? The work may require approval from the Cultural Heritage Commission or the Design Review Board.
2. Once planning approvals have been obtained, check with the Building Division to see whether a plan check or a permit is required. Depending on the size of your project, the plan check process may be done over the counter or could take several weeks.
3. After plan check approval, permits will be issued. Almost all building, electrical, mechanical, and plumbing work requires permits. When in doubt, call our Building Division at (626) 403-7224.

• Protect yourself from possible liability and have the contractor obtain the permits. You may obtain an owner-builder permit if you plan to do your own improvements.

• Make sure your contractor works only during construction hours, Mon. to Sat. 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sun. 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

• Make sure your contractor always calls for all necessary inspections. All permits require a final inspection. Note: All permits expire one year from the date of issuance or

from the date of last inspection.

For more information, call the Community Development Department at (626) 403-7220. To request a building inspection, call (626) 403-7226.



E-MAIL YOUR CITY OFFICIALS

Sean Joyce, City Manager

e-mail: sjoyce@ci.south-pasadena.ca.us

Gay Forbes, Assistant City Manager

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Veronica Dolleschel, Community Svcs. Director

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Terri Maguire, City Librarian

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James Van Winkle, Public Works Director

e-mail: jvanwinkle@ci.south-pasadena.ca.us

Martha Van Rooijen, Transportation Manager

e-mail: mvanrooijen@ci.south-pasadena.ca.us

(For questions regarding the 710 & Blue Line.)

SUMMER CALENDAR

LIBRARY EVENTS

JUNE 11

Summer Reading Program (SRP) Registration Begins
For Children and Teens (11-18)
Library - Children's Dept.

JUNE 20

SRP - "Wonderful Wednesday:" "A Visit to Earth" - 2 p.m.
Library Community Room

JUNE 27

SRP - "Wonderful Wednesday:" "Fiddle Fireworks" - 2 p.m.
Library Community Room

JULY 4

City Holiday
SRP - SPPL Space Troopers March in Festival of
Balloons Parade

Families interested in marching should meet at
10:30 a.m. on Diamond Street side of Library.

JULY 11

SRP - "Wonderful Wednesday:" "Junior Arts Center
Creative Arts Program"
Held outside of Library on the Oxley Street side - 2 p.m.

JULY 18

SRP - "Wonderful Wednesday:" "Jackal and
Hedgehog" Puppet Program
Library - Community Room - 2 p.m.

AUGUST 1

SRP - "Wonderful Wednesday:" "Traveling
Telescope" from Griffith Observatory
Library - Community Room - 2 p.m.

AUGUST 8

SRP - "Wonderful Wednesday:" Storyteller Willie
Clafin & Puppets
Library - Community Room - 2 p.m.

AUGUST 20-22

Library closed - computer system upgrade

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPT.

JUNE 1Registration Summer Camp Med
(Orange Grove Park)

JUNE 2Parents Night Out (Senior Center)

JUNE 4 ..Registration Leisure Classes (Senior Center)

JUNE 15Father's Day Breakfast (Senior Center)

JUNE 18Summer Camp Med begins
(Orange Grove Park)

JULY 1Concerts In The Park (Garfield Park)

JULY 3 ..4th of July Lunch Celebration (Senior Center)

JULY 15Concerts In The Park (Garfield Park)

JULY 29Concerts In The Park (Garfield Park)

AUGUST 12 ..Concerts In The Park (Garfield Park)

AUGUST 19 ..Concerts In The Park (Garfield Park)

CITY EVENTS

JULY 4

City Hall and Library closed

JULY 20

City Hall closed - File Cleanout Day

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EVENTS

JUNE 7

Annual Membership Meeting, 6 p.m.

JUNE, 19, JULY 17, AUGUST 21

Network Breakfast, La Fiesta Grande Restaurant, 7:30 a.m.

JUNE 20, JULY 18, AUGUST 15

Legislative Meeting, Gus's Barbeque, 8 a.m.

FESTIVAL OF BALLOONS

JULY 4

7:30 a.m.Kiwani's Pancake Breakfast

.....Granite State Bank parking lot

10:30 a.m. ..Opening Ceremonies, Library (El Centro side)

11 a.m.Parade starts

**Immediately following parade,
festivities at Garfield Park:**

5:30 p.m.Gates open at high school

6:30 p.m.Live entertainment, dancing, food, drink

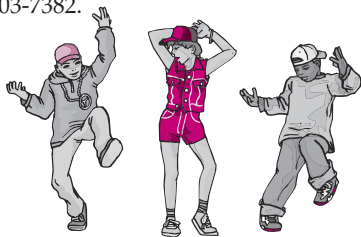
8:45 p.m.Parade awards presented

9 p.m.Fireworks display



Summer of Fun Coming for Kids

If you are in 6th, 7th, or 8th grade, or are about to enter or have just completed these grade levels, then read on. The City is hosting a Summer of Fun series of special events, trips, dances, movies and more — just for middle-school-aged youth. Look for more information in the enclosed Class and Services guide, or call the Community Services Department at (626) 403-7382.



FARMERS' MARKET

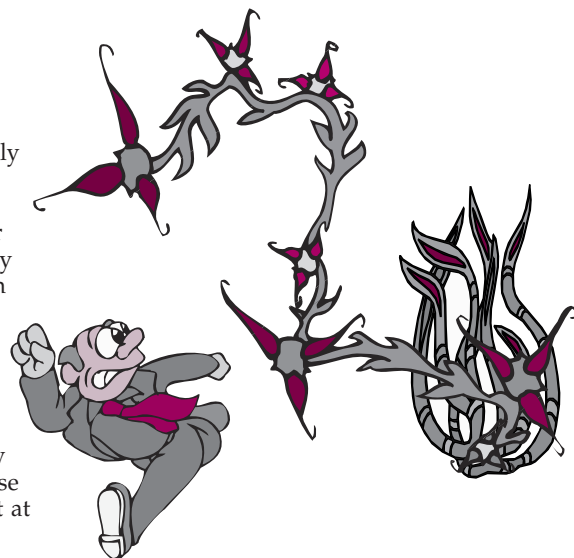


4-8 p.m., Meridian Avenue and Mission Street. Every Thursday, a variety of local businesses in Mission West stay open until 8 p.m. Come visit and support your local merchants!

Spring Rains Mean Weeds

Last winter's abundant rainfall not only brought us lovely green grass and beautiful flowers, but also a lot more brush and weeds. During the summer when the hot Santa Ana winds periodically sweep through the area, this excess growth can be a potential fire hazard.

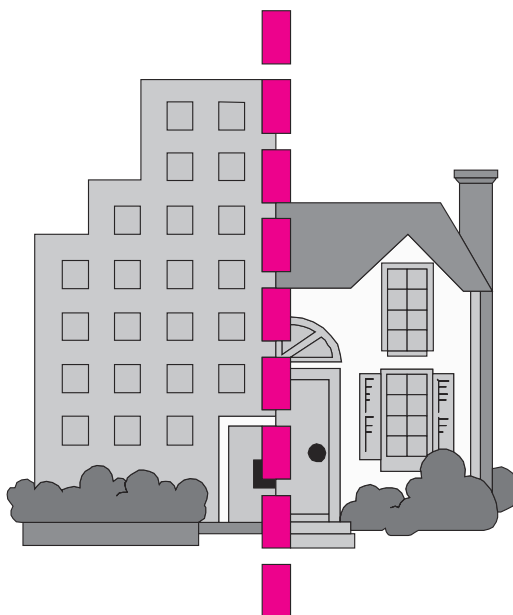
The Fire Department takes a proactive role in weed abatement, patrolling the City each spring to look for any excess vegetation that could lead to a fire. Have any questions on how to control weeds and extra brush? Please call the South Pasadena Fire Department at (626) 403-7303.



Zoning Code Revision

Over the last two months, the Planning Commission has held several public hearings to review the revised Zoning Code, which will implement the General Plan adopted in 1998. The Commission hopes to conclude reviews in July and forward their recommendations to the City Council soon thereafter. The Council will hold public hearings next month and approve the new Zoning Code by the end of the summer.

The draft revised Zoning Code is available for public review at the Community Development Department counter and at the library. If you have questions or are interested in learning more about the new code, please call the Community Development Department at (626) 403-7220.



CITY COUNCIL

David V. Rose, *Mayor*

Harry A. Knapp, *Mayor Pro Tem*

Michael A. Cacciotti, *Councilmember*

Dorothy M. Cohen, *Councilmember*

David Saeta, *Councilmember*

Sally Kilby, *City Clerk*

Victor Robinette, *City Treasurer*

SOUTH PASADENA Neighbors is published by the City of South Pasadena and is distributed as a public service to City residents and businesses. We welcome your comments and suggestions. Please call the City Manager's Office at (626) 403-7210. On the Web: www.south-pasadena.ca.us



SOUTH PASADENA NEIGHBORS

City of South Pasadena

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South Pasadena, CA 91030

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