PAJADEN

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Published by the City of Pasadena Public Affairs Office aertman@cityofpasadena.net (626) 744-4755
City web site: www.cityofpasadena.net
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Etcetera ... Etcetera

- Robinson Park offers free afterschool homework help, tutoring and recreation on school days for kids in first through eighth grades every Monday through Thursday from Sept. 21 to May 28. Register at www.cityofpasadena.net/reserve Sept. 14 through Oct. 10. 744-7501.
- ✓ Hear fresh perspectives about green ecology at the free 7 p.m. Community Dialogue series at Pasadena Central Library, 285 E. Walnut St. Speakers include Ed Begley Jr.'s wife Rachelle Carson Sept. 23 and United Nations Association's Sherry Simpson-Dean Oct. 28. 795-0376.
- # Follow the 11 a.m. Latino
 Heritage parade down Los Robles
 Avenue to the Jamaica/community
 fair at La Pintoresca Park on
 Saturday, Oct. 3, with free arts and
 crafts, entertainment, exhibits and
 food until 4 p.m. 791-7421 or
 www.latinoheritageparade.org.
- Comment on Americans with Disabilities Act plans for public facilities Tuesday, Oct. 6, at 3 p.m. in basement room S038 at Pasadena City Hall. (The meeting was originally scheduled for Sept. 1.) You may also mail comments to ADA Transition Project Manager, 100 N. Garfield Ave., Room N306, Pasadena CA 91109 or email them to cathychang@cityofpasadena.net.

- Copies of the draft plan are available for viewing at Pasadena Central Library, City Clerk's Office (City Hall room S228) and www.cityofpasadena.net/adaransitionplan. Email rgorski@cityofpasadena.net or call 744-4782 for alternate
- District 1's Family Night at Kidspace Children's Museum is Tuesday, Oct. 6, from 4 to 8 p.m. celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month. www.kidspace.org or 449-9144.
- ✓ Join Pasadena's mayor and Fire Chief Dennis Downs on a three-mile walk around the Rose Bowl Loop Wednesday, Oct. 7, 7:30 a.m. Meet at Gate A. 831-2980 or www.upandmoving.org.
- ✓ Learn about the city's lowincome home maintenance program (MASH) and City Resources Against Substandard Housing (CRASH) at the Code Enforcement Commission meeting Thursday, Oct. 8, at 6 p.m. at the Permit Center, 175 N. Garfield Ave. (enter through the Ramona Street door). 744-7545.
- Craftsman Weekend on Oct. 16 to 18 celebrates the Arts & Crafts Movement in the western U.S., with bus and walking tours,

exhibits, shopping and more. 441-6333 or www.pasadenaheritage.org for tickets.

- ✓ YWCA Pasadena-Foothill's 2009

 Women for Racial Justice
 breakfast is Monday, Oct. 19, 7:30
 to 9:30 a.m. at Pasadena Hilton

 Hotel. Marge Wyatt will receive the
 Racial Justice Award; Dr. Joy
 DeGruy is keynote speaker.

 www.yvca-pasadena.org or
 296-8433 for tickets or more
 information.
- Explore the global, religious and ethnic origins of folk and fairy tales, legends and myths told by local storytellers at Pasadena's branch libraries in November. www.cityofpasadena.net/library or 744-4066.
- ✓ Candy, prizes, fingerprinting, games, a costume contest and more will be at Pasadena Police Department's free Halloween festival Wednesday, Oct. 28, from 6 to 9 p.m. at police headquarters, 207 N. Garfield Ave. 744-7650.
- 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.

Are You Ready to Rock and Roll?

N Aug. 18 There was a small earthquake, but are you prepared for The Big One?

Join millions of other Californians as they "drop,

cover and hold on" Thursday, Oct. 15, at 10:15 a.m. during the

Great California Shakeout. The statewide event – the largest earthquake drill ever – will remind all of us exactly what to do when the ground starts



Protect Yourself. Spread the Word.

shaking: Drop to the floor (ideally under a heavy desk or table), cover your head and hold on to a solid object until the quake stops. More than 5.4 million Californians took part last year. The Pasadena Fire Department is urging all local residents, families, businesses, schools, government agencies, institutions and community-based organizations to follow suit.

Register as a participant, find out how to host a group drill, look at local fault maps and learn how to prepare at www.shakeout.org.

Then sign up for Pasadena Emergency Response Training (PERT) provided by Pasadena Fire personnel. After a major earthquake emergency crews will focus on critical needs first and may not be able to help you and your neighbors right away. PERT gives you the skills you'll need to stay self-sufficient for up to 72 hours – from preparedness to first aid, fire suppression, light search and rescue, and much more.

You can attend a free PERT training Saturday, Oct. 17, from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at La Salle High School, 3880 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., sponsored by District 4's council member (limit 100 people; register at www.cityofpasadena.net/district4 or call 744-4740). Or schedule your own training for a neighborhood group or community organization of 20 or more by calling 744-7276. For complete details, visit www.cityofpasadena.net/fire/pert.asp.

Back to School, Back to Safety

Nothing feels worse than being away from your child during an emergency Roads may be shut

> down and your children may need to stay at school for awhile until you can reach them.

Many Pasadena campuses will ask that you send a

"comfort kit" at the start of the school year to help keep your child calm, safe and fed after a disaster. The Pasadena Fire Department recommends that you stock the kit with extra clothes, a space blanket and small flashlight with batteries, plus non-perishable snacks, bottled water, travel toothbrush and toothpaste. Label everything with an expiration date. Yo<mark>u can</mark> also tuck a reassuring note inside with a family photo and activity books. Don't forget to include a list of medications your child may need plus an index card with emergency information and an out-of-state contact in case phone lines are tied up.

For more tips visit www.cityofpasadena.net/ disaster or call 744-7276.

Noticias En Breve

¿Está preparado?

El 18 de agosto hubo un pequeño terremoto, pero ¿está preparado para El Grande?

Únase a millones de californianos que practicarán "tirarse al suelo, cubrirse y sostenerse" el jueves 15 de octubre a las 10:15 a.m. durante el Gran Temblor de California. Tírese al suelo (idealmente debajo de un escritorio o mesa firme), cúbrase la cabeza y sosténgase de un objeto macizo hasta que el terremoto termine.

El Departamento de Bomberos de Pasadena está invitando a todos los residentes, familias, negocios, escuelas, agencias gubernamentales, instituciones y organizaciones basadas en la comunidad a hacer lo mismo.

Regístrese como participante para obtener información acerca de cómo ser anfitrión de una práctica en grupo, analizar mapas de fallas locales y aprender cómo prepararse en www.shakeout.org.

La Noche Artística ArtNight Pasadena Ofrece Algo para Todos

Más de una docena de las mejores instituciones de Pasadena abrirán sus puertas gratuitamente el viernes 9 de octubre de 6 a 10 p.m. Venga a explorar el Armory Center for the Arts, Art Center College of Design, Norton Simon Museum, Pacific Asia Museum, Pasadena Museum of California Art, Pasadena Museum of History, Pasadena

Se continua adentro . . .

Build Literacy Skills at Your Local Library



SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL LIBRARY CARD SIGN-UP MONTH. Step into your neighborhood branch or visit www.cityofpasadena.net/library to get your very own card and gain access to thousands of books, magazines, DVDs, CDs, e-books,

the Internet, databases, homework help and much more. It only takes a minute!

Residents of Northwest Pasadena and Altadena can build their digital literacy skills this fall through a free workshop series called HOT! (Hands on Technology) sponsored by Flintridge Operating Foundation and Women at Work. Sessions in English and Spanish are scheduled in September and October at La Pintoresca Branch Library to cover computer and Internet basics, e-mail, Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel and how to build a website. Call 744-7268 for more information.

Step into the world of social networking with "Facebook for Grown-ups" Friday, Sept. 25, at 1 p.m. at La Pintoresca Branch Library. This free workshop will explain what Facebook is, how it works and how to create your own page. Call 744-7268 to sign up.



A Fresh City Website is Easier to Use

FIND SOMETHING FUN TO DO, ZAP AN E-MAIL TO AN ELECTED OFFICIAL, schedule a bulky trash pick-up, search the library catalog or register for a tennis class in mere minutes with the new-and-improved www.cityofpasadena.net.



Following up on suggestions from users, the site -www.cityof-pasadena.net — has been revamped to make it much easier to find exactly what you're looking for. The clean new look includes iconic images from throughout the city plus an easy-to-use navigation system.

Click on personalized menus for residents, visitors, businesses or government visitors, check out the latest city news, browse through an interactive events calendar or try quick links to online services and frequently requested information.

Stumped? Try the new, more powerful search box in the upper right corner of every page.

Watch for additional features and functions in the next few months.

ArtNight Pasadena Offers Something for Everyone

BASEBALL CARDS, MOBILES, TOOLS AND DESSERTS will be part of the intriguing artwork on display during ArtNight Pasadena on Friday, Oct. 9, from 6 to 10 p.m.

More than a dozen of Pasadena's finest institutions will take part in the event, which offers free admission and complimentary curb-to-curb shuttles. Come out and explore Alliance Française de Pasadena, Armory Center for the Arts, Art Center College of Design, Norton Simon Museum, One Colorado, Pacific Asia



Museum, Pasadena Central Library, Pasadena City College, Pasadena Museum of California Art, Pasadena Museum of History, Pasadena Symphony and Side Street Projects. Kidspace Children's Museum will be participating for the first time.

Start your journey at any one of the venues and then carpool, take a bus or the Metro Gold Line, join a bicycle tour or walk to nearby venues. Find information on transit options at www.artnightpasadena.org and bike tours at www.cicle.org.

Sponsored by the Pasadena Arts & Culture Commission, ArtNight Pasadena is a partnership of the Cultural Affairs Division of the Planning and Development Department and local cultural institutions.

Continue your experience the next day with ArtWalk in the Pasadena Playhouse District on Saturday, Oct. 10, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (www.playhousedistrict.org/artwalk).

For more information call 744-7887 or visit www.artnightpasadena.org. For accessibility information or requests for written materials in alternative formats call 744-7249.

Today's Ideas are Tomorrow's Pasadena

JUMP into Pasadena's 2009 General Plan update this fall with a full slate of community events.

Share ideas on housing density and affordability; streets, traffic and transit; design and community character; how to share water, energy and other resources; and planning and the marketplace during a thought-provoking speaker series with local experts at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays, Sept. 16 and 30, Oct. 14 and 28 and Nov. 4. There will be time for Q&A.

Explore the community on a self-guided MoveAbout Tour through Sept. 27. Pick up a guidebook from City Hall, the Permit Center, public libraries and community centers or download one at www.cityofpasadena.net/generalplan, then walk, ride, bike, or drive your way through excursions that spotlight some of Pasadena's most challenging issues. Write down your impressions, get your passport stamped at local retailers, then turn your guidebook in by Sept. 28 for a chance to win raffle prizes at a November open house.

Voice your priorities during a community workshop at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 15, at Jackie Robinson Center, 1020 N. Fair Oaks Ave.; Tuesday, Sept. 22, at La Casita del Arroyo, 177 S. Arroyo Blvd.; Wednesday, Sept. 23, at First Church of the Nazarene of Pasadena, 3700 E. Sierra Madre Blvd.; and Tuesday, Sept. 29, at Pasadena Boys & Girls Club, 3230 E. Del Mar Blvd.; or 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 26, in the Conference Building at Pasadena Convention Center, 300 E. Green St.

Saturday, Sept. 26, in the Conference Building at Pasadena Convention Center, 300 E. Green St. Many of the community's hopes, dreams and priorities will be fine-tuned during workshops in every city council district from Oct. 1 to 21.

Finally, don't miss the big wrap-up at a community open house Saturday, Nov. 14, from 1 to 5 p.m. at a location to be announced. With interactive presentations, displays, entertainment, food, children's activities and on-site child care, the event will give all Pasadenans a chance to organize thoughts and prepare for the next step – drafting the new General Plan.

Learn more at www.cityofpasadena.net/generalplan or call 744-4009.

se continua . . .

Symphony, Side Street Projects, Kidspace Children's Museum jy mucho más!

Inicie su recorrido en uno de estos sitios y luego proteja al medio ambiente compartiendo auto, tomando un autobús o la línea Metro Gold Line, uniéndose a un recorrido en bicicleta o caminando a los sitios cercanos. Encuentre información acerca de opciones de tránsito en www.artnightpasadena.org y acerca de recorridos en bicicleta en www.cicle.org.

Aumente sus Conocimientos Tecnológicos

Los residentes de la región Noroeste de Pasadena y Altadena pueden aumentar sus conocimientos digitales este verano por medio de una serie de talleres gratuitos llamados "HOT!" (Hands on Technology, Tecnología Práctica) patrocinados por Flintridge Operating Foundation y Women at Work. Hay sesiones en inglés y en español programadas para septiembre y octubre en la biblioteca La Pintoresca Branch Library para cubrir los aspectos básicos de las computadoras e Internet, correo electrónico, Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel y cómo crear un sitio web. Llame al 744-7268 para mayor información.

Involucre a Sus Hijos en la Seguridad

El Departamento de Policía de Pasadena está inscribiendo a estudiantes de primaria de 6 a 12 años de edad (y a sus padres) en la tercera Academia Anual de Seguridad para Niños del 3 de octubre al 14 de noviembre de 9 a.m. al mediodía. Las clases cubrirán extraños peligrosos, seguridad en incendios, preparación para desastres, protección ambiental, habilidades acuáticas, seguridad en bicicleta y mucho más. Reserve un lugar llamando al 744-7659 o enviando un mensaje de correo electrónico a aramos@cityofpasadena.net

El Programa de
Exploradores de la Policía de
Pasadena invita a los
adolescentes y adultos jóvenes
de 14 a 20 años de edad a
explorar carreras en seguridad
pública. Después de una
academia sabatina de 18
semanas, los reclutas se
reúnen dos veces al mes.
Llame al 744-7653 o envíe un
mensaje de correo electrónico a
gthompson@cityofpasadena.net
para obtener detalles.

Etcétera, etcétera...

Robinson Park ofrece ayuda gratuita para después de la escuela, sesiones de tutor y recreación para niños de primero a octavo grados de lunes a jueves del 21 de septiembre al 28 de mayo. Regístrese en www.cityofpasadena.net/reserve del 14 de septiembre al 10 de octubre. 744-7501.

Disfrute de admisión gratuita y conozca a sus vecinos en la Noche Familiar del Distrito 1 en el Kidspace Children's Museum el martes 6 de octubre de 4 a 8 p.m. en la celebración del Mes de la Herencia Hispana. www.kidspace.org o 449-9144.

Disfrácese para ganar dulces, premios, tomar huellas digitales, jugar juegos, participar en un concurso de disfraces y más en el festival gratuito de Halloween del Departamento de Policía de Pasadena el miércoles 28 de octubre de 6 a 9 p.m. en la estación general de policía, 207 N. Garfield Ave. 744-7650.



Be a Neighborhood Crime Fighter

YOU DON'T HAVE TO WEAR A BADGE TO JOIN THE PASADENA POLICE DEPARTMENT in fighting crime!

Protect Your Home.

During warmer weather, many residents leave their windows and doors open to catch a breeze. That's an open invitation to thieves! Always lock up when you're not home; when you are home, consider using wooden dowels or window stops to leave a narrow opening big enough for ventilation but too small for a person.

Always use your peephole or a window before responding to a knock at the door. Leave the porch light on at night. Never open the door to a stranger. If you're uncomfortable with the person outside, call the police and give a description.

Get Involved in Neighborhood Watch.

By starting your own group and working with local police, you can get to know your neighbors, learn how to recognize suspicious activities and become more assertive about reporting crimes. To find or start a Neighborhood Watch group in your area, call 744-4551.



Get your children involved!

The Pasadena Police Department is enrolling elementary school students ages 6 to 12 (and their parents) for the third annual Kids' Safety Academy every Saturday from Oct. 3 to Nov. 14 from 9 a.m. to noon. Classes will cover stranger danger, fire safety, disaster preparedness, environmental stewardship, water skills, bike safety and much more. Reserve a seat by calling 744-7659 or e-mailing aramos@cityofpasadena.net.

The Pasadena Police Explorer Program invites teens and young adults ages 14 to 20 to explore careers in law enforcement. After an 18-week Saturday academy, recruits meet every second and fourth Wednesday at 6 p.m. plus participate in local competitions, march at ceremonies, volunteer at city events and enjoy field trips to local attractions. E-mail gthompson@cityofpasadena.net or call 744-7653 for details.



Be a Great Neighbor



NEIGHBORHOODS BRING TOGETHER PEOPLE OF MANY BACKGROUNDS AND INTERESTS who want to live where it's safe and pleasant. With our busy lives, being neighborly doesn't mean what it used to, but being considerate is always in style!

Here are a few tips from Neighborhood Connections, a division of the Human Services and Recreation Department:

- Treat others as you would have them treat you. Everyone wants to be respected and recognized as an equal.
- If you're the shy type, at least get out occasionally. Sit on your porch and wave to passersby, or walk down the block. Chat with neighbors about the weather, compliment their yards or pets, or ask what's new in their lives.
- Invite your neighbors over for coffee, afternoon tea or a glass of lemonade.
- Find out details about recent police activity and prevention tips, and then relay the information to neighbors.
- Report any suspicious activities at your neighbor's property to your neighbor as soon as you can, with as much detail as possible.
- Be quieter in the evenings and on weekends.
- Give your neighbors plenty of notice if you're having a party that may be loud.
- Exchange phone numbers for emergency situations.
- Over time, develop trust so you feel comfortable letting some of your neighbors know you'll be away, or who will be house sitting or checking up on your home.
- Help coordinate a block party once a year.
- Organize Pasadena Emergency Response Team (PERT) training from the Fire Department or a Neighborhood Watch program through the Police Department.
- Find out if there's a neighborhood association you and your neighbors can join. If not, consider organizing one for a stronger voice in city decision-making.

For more tips, visit www.cityofpasadena.net/humanservices and click on Neighborhood Connections, call 744-7290 or stop by the office at 1384 E. Walnut St. Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. or alternating Fridays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

PASADENA Water&Power

Water Shortage Declared

Ongoing concerns about Pasadena's dwindling water supply prompted the city council to declare a Level 1 water shortage in July. Outdoor watering is now restricted to Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays between Apr. 1 and Oct. 31 and to just Saturdays between Nov. 1 and March 31; malfunctions and leaks in sprinkler and plumbing systems must be repaired within 72 hours of notice. If supply conditions worsen, the city council could declare a higher level shortage -- up to Level 4.

The Level 1 restrictions are in addition to the city's permanent water waste prohibitions that took effect in July. These include no outdoor watering between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m., no watering when it's raining, no excessive water runoff from sprinklers, and no hosing down driveways and pavement.

The city's Water Shortage Procedures Ordinance is enforced with written warnings and, if problems persist, fines of \$100 to \$1,000 for each additional infraction. Details about the ordinance and its prohibitions, including a few exceptions and exemptions, can be found by calling the Water Shortage Hotline at 744-8888 or at www.cityofpasadena.net/savewater.



Pasadenan Finds Oasis in His Own Front Yard



WHEN MICHAEL OKAMURA BOUGHT HIS EAST
PASADENA HOME, he knew his front yard had the potential of becoming more than just a plain old lawn with inefficient sprinklers. With the help of a local landscape designer he transformed the yard into an inviting courtyard blooming with colorful water-smart plants such as kangaroo paw, lion's tail, lily of the Nile and heavenly bamboo.

A decomposed granite pathway and low-voltage lights make it easy for him to enjoy his garden, which thrives on drip irrigation and small spray heads controlled by a smart timer.

He is proud to have received a Golden Arrow Award from Pasadena Beautiful Foundation and a First Place prize in the small house division of the California Landscape Contractors Association Beautification Awards.

If you see potential for your own yard, attend one of PWP's free workshops at the Salvation Army Pasadena Tabernacle, 960 E. Walnut St., to boost your curb appeal the water-smart way. Sign up for "Efficient Irrigation" Sept. 10, Oct. 22 and Nov. 5 from 6:30 to 9 p.m.; "Healthy Trees and Shrubs" Oct. 31 from 9 a.m. to noon.; or "Native Nights with Lili Singer" Oct. 6 from 7 to 9 p.m. Reservations are required. Visit www.cityofpasadena.net/savewater to claim your seat!



The Smackdown is On!

AFTER VOTING IN MAY TO SET RESTRICTIONS FOR ALL PASADENA WATER USERS, the District 2 and District 6 council members challenged each other to a water smackdown.

"If we're going to ask our constituents to abide by these rules," said one, "we should be the first to set the standard, and in a public way."

A PWP auditor has thoroughly scrutinized the rivals' indoor and outdoor water use and set goals for each household based on family size, number of water-using appliances, and square footage of lawns and gardens. Progress is being monitored; look for the first round of results at www.cityofpasadena.net/savewater.

With ongoing drought and new limits on water imported from the Metropolitan Water District (MWD), the new water-waste ordinance and a new water rate structure are intended to encourage everyone in Pasadena to cut water use by at least 10 percent.

By taking a few simple measures such as shorter showers, water-smart fixtures and appliances, and low-water landscaping, everyone in Pasadena will be a winner!



The Sunny Side of Economic Downturn

THIS IS THE BEST BUYERS' MARKET EVER FOR SOLAR POWER! Price reductions, along with a 30 percent federal tax credit and aggressive rebates from PWP, are brightening the future for solar in Pasadena. Not long ago a typical two-kilowatt home installation cost about \$9,000 after tax breaks and the PWP rebate. Today, that same system may cost as little as \$6,090 net, or 59 percent less than the starting cost!

Attend a free PWP Solar Workshop Saturday, Oct. 10, from 8 to 11:30 a.m. at the Salvation Army Pasadena Tabernacle, 960 E. Walnut St. Experts will provide a comprehensive overview of incentives, the installation process and how to choose an installer. Reservations are required at www.cityofpasadena.net/solar.



MINI-Es Ease into Pasadena

THE NEWEST ADDITIONS TO PWP'S FLEET OF ELECTRIC VEHICLES HAVE ARRIVED: two BMW MINI-Es. You'll spot the sporty two-seaters with the yellow plug-shaped logo on the doors and hoods. Emitting 90 percent less carbon than a regular gas-powered Mini and 40 percent cheaper to fuel, the cars are part of a nationwide one-year field trial. Pasadena's Transportation and Public Works departments also have five MINI-Es of their own to test.



As participants in the trial program, city employees will drive the MINI-Es for a year and report back to BMW about the cars' functionality, reliability and performance. BMW hopes the project will help bring electric vehicles back into mass production.