

NEWS

West Pasadena Residents' Association

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

ESTABLISHED 1962

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Images of Pasadena: Research Library and Archives at Pasadena Museum of History

Once upon a time ...sheep grazed in the Rose Bowl, ...a tree grew in the middle of Orange Grove Avenue, ...gnomes frolicked in pleasure gardens built along the sides of the Arroyo, ...and a Moorish-inspired Opera House offered seating for 1500.

Pure fantasy? Hardly. A visit to the Research Library and Archives at Pasadena Museum of History will bring you face to face with these captivating photos and a million more images of early Pasadena.

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The Grand Opera House at the corner of Raymond Avenue and Bellevue Drive, 1889-1926. Courtesy of the Archives, Pasadena Museum of History.

Pasadena Museum of History maintains the largest and most comprehensive collection of documents and artifacts relating to the history of Pasadena and the West San Gabriel Valley. Its ever-expanding collection spans the mid 19th Century to the present and contains well over one million photographs, along with rare books, manuscripts, maps, and architectural records.

The Archives attract authors and academics from the U.S. and abroad looking for original source materials and illustrations. These researchers work alongside well-know locals, including Sid Gally, whose illustrated features on a slice of local history have become a weekly highlight in the Pasadena Star News. Architectural historian Ann Scheid uses the PMH Archives extensively; many of the

images in her numerous books are from the Museum's photo collection. Gary Cowles, co-curator of the exhibition commemorating the Pasadena Busch Gardens' centennial in 2005 (An Enchanted Park: Celebrating the Centennial of Busch Gardens) has become one of the most avid visitors, devoting his time to researching various aspects of our shared past. Although his main interests are local architecture and gardens, Cowles admits that reading through old newspapers to fill in "the odd potholes" in his information, he is often drawn in entirely unrelated directions as another fascinating fact emerges.

Lest you assume some kind of advanced credentials are required to gain access to the Archives, you should also be aware that the vast majority of visitors have very personal,

Wily Coyotes Everywhere!

By Audrey O'Kelley

Recently there has been a spate of coyote sightings and attacks on pets in our neighborhood. People walking dogs in the Arroyo and neighbors on Grand Avenue, South San Rafael, Markham, and La Loma have seen these predators as well as those living in Busch Gardens. A neighbor walking her dog at 6:30 in the morning saw a coyote with a small animal in its mouth at Lakeview Terrace and La Loma. So, this is a warning to be careful to protect small children and pets. Quite a few people have lost their pets to these predators that seem to be on the increase in our neighborhood.

There are some steps we all can take to prevent our pets from being attacked by coyotes. Keep small pets (cats, small dogs and other pets) indoors from dusk until dawn. Always keep pets on a leash when walking in the Arroyo or in residential areas.

Keeping Your Yard Safe

You could install motion sensitive lights in your back yard and around your house. By clearing brush and vegetation in your yard, you remove the habitat for small animals. This may be difficult in our heavily landscaped and forested neighborhood, but those areas do attract coyotes for the prey found there and they enable coyotes to hide while stalking their prey.

Over ...

Keep pets in a coyote-proof yard, area or cage from dusk until dawn as that is when they prey. Coyotes use their front paws on the top of a fence or wall and use their hind legs to propel them over the barrier, so install a fence at least 5 to 6 feet tall and made of brick, cement blocks, wood or net-wire. To this barrier, add extenders to the top facing outward 15 to 20", this will prevent the coyote from climbing the fence. There are other devices you can run along the top of your fence

that will prevent coyotes and other wildlife from gripping the top of the fence to climb over. And, you could install an electric fence to prevent coyotes from scaling the wall.

And Under...

Coyotes are good diggers and often dig under fences. A four to six foot



wire apron securely attached to the bottom of a fence will prevent coyotes from digging under. Installing electric trip wires at the base of the fence or a foot or two out also helps to prevent digging.

NEVER Feed the Coyotes

If people feed coyotes or if they become accustomed to coming to populated areas to feed, they will become less fearful of people and more attacks will occur. So, preferably feed your pets indoors. If you feed them outdoors do it during the day and never leave pet food out at night. Remove fruit, berries or compost from the ground, don't overflow birdfeeders and hang them high or in areas that are not accessible to coyotes.

Make sure trash is not left outside in bags and that all trash cans have secure lids with locking mechanisms. Secure the cans to a fence or wall with rope or elastic cord so they cannot be tipped over. These are good precautions for our other visiting critters, the raccoons, which are adept at getting into "sealed" containers.

Human Attacks

While uncommon, coyotes have attacked people. The only known coyote-fatality in California occurred in 1981 when a 3 year-old girl was playing unattended in her front yard. But there have been more attacks reported in recent years due to the urbanization and population growth of cities like Pasadena that boarder wildlife areas. In fact, most incidents occurred in Southern California where there are so many contiguous wild land and urban areas.

Coyotes are one of the most adaptable species in the world. So in order to reduce or eliminate attacks it is VERY important that we condition the coyotes to fear people and have nothing to gain from visiting our neighborhood. So, you can help condition coyotes by doing the following:

1. NEVER feed coyotes; never put out water for them.
2. Remove coyote food sources
3. Keeping small pets inside from dusk to dawn or in safe enclosures
4. Never leave young children unattended in yards or parks.
5. Harass coyotes with loud noises, clapping hands, yelling, throwing rocks at them and waving our arms to create fear
6. Call the local department of Fish and Game or local law enforcement agency if coyotes attack humans, become too aggressive by approaching humans and by showing lack of fear of humans or if they attack small pets.

Find more information on coyotes and other wild animals, check out: http://www.desertusa.com/june96/cycot_qa.html#faq1, the Arcadia based County of Los Angeles ACWM <http://acwm.co.la.ca.us/scripts/coyo.htm> and Keep Me Wild website, <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/keepmewild/> ■

Update: The Open Space & Conservation Element of the General Plan

By Audrey O'Kelley

As part of the General Plan update, the City of Pasadena will be addressing the Open Space & Conservation Element of the General Plan. Last spring, the Pasadena City Council established a nine-member advisory committee to work with city staff and consultants in the preparation of this Element. The Open Space & Conservation Element Committee (OSCEC) includes four Pasadena residents plus one representative and one alternate from the Planning Commission, Recreation and Parks Commission, Environmental Advisory Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, and San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy. This committee's mission is to provide leadership to the preparation effort, serve as liaisons to their commissions or organizations, give input on fund-

ing sources and assist in facilitating community meetings and workshops. The OSCEC will work for 12 months preparing the element and then it will begin the public process wending its way through advisory commissions. The goal is to coordinate this element with the Land Use Element of the General Plan. The newly appointed committee, chaired by Richard Janisch and, facilitated by Senior City Planner Laura Dahl, began meeting regularly in June.

Community Outreach Sought

Public participation is an important aspect of the OSCEC's update process and the committee will be disseminating information and getting information from the public and other outside sources. Plans are to use the city's website during the information gathering stage of the committees

work. In order to begin using the website to gather public input, staff would like to place a comment box on the website. Ms. Dahl asked the Committee to consider appropriate questions to ask on the website. To further facilitate the outreach aspect of this committee, requests for proposal have been sent to a list of city vendors and from respondents a consultant will be hired to manage the community outreach program for the project. A goal of the outreach program is to hear from community members who don't usually attend traditional community meetings.

Conservation Element – Draft Work Plan

OSCEC's role is to create the goals in the General Plan that set the direction for the City's conservation and sustainability efforts carried out by the City Staff Green Team and the Environmental Advisory Commission. The OSCEC is reviewing several inputs to develop the scope of work for the Conservation Element, including: State law requirements, excerpts from the General Plan Land Use Element relating to open space and conservation, and existing City policies and programs (such as the Environmental Charter, the Urban Environmental Accords, Urban Water Management Plan, and the Integrated Resources Plan). To see what accords the city has already met, please go to the City of Pasadena's Green City Home Page which addresses the City's accomplishments: http://www.cityofpasadena.net/permitcenter/GreenCity/Home_Green.asp.

Various elements integral to the work of this committee are being worked on now. Maps showing open and green space are being updated and Ms. Dahl suggested that some further thought needs to go into how the

The Eagle Rock Canyon Trail

The September meeting of the Open Space & Conservation Element Committee featured a presentation about the Eagle Rock Canyon Trail. This is a 4.5 acre parcel in Pasadena that is owned by a group called Collaborative Eagle Rock Beautiful (CERB) that intends to further improve the area for passive open space. The site is in proximity to Alatorre Park in Los Angeles. Work has commenced by volunteers who have created a 1.5 mile trail through the property. Signs and trail markers have been created by a local Boy Scout Troop. The Pasadena Child Development Center's Teen club planted California friendly landscaping. A dry creek bed and rock sculptures were also created. In the

future, additional drought resistant, California native landscaping will be planted.

Currently the 4.5 acres are zoned single-family and City Planner, Laura Dahl, notes that a change in the land use designation may be appropriate to help preserve it. She noted that the site is in proximity to but not directly adjacent to Annandale Canyon Estates. An adjacent parcel to the north of the Eagle Rock Trail property is privately owned and it is possible that the owner may be willing to donate the property to CERB.

From time to time CERB organizes fundraisers to reduce the \$72,000 debt they have on the property and invited the Committee to such an event. ■

Office Building Proposed for Monty's Restaurant Site

By Vince Farhat

As reported in the summer issue of the Newsletter, a developer wants to build an office building on the site of the former Monty's restaurant located at the southeast corner of Fair Oaks Avenue and California Boulevard. The developer, Council Rock Partners, is proposing a four-story, 113,200 square foot office project.

WPRA Reviews Office Building Proposal

In September, Council Rock CEO William E. Cutler presented the office building proposal to the WPRA board of directors. According to Castle Rock, the building would be consistent with South Fair Oaks Specific Plan, would integrate "green building" principles, and feature substantial landscaping. The project would incorporate a public plaza at the corner of Fair Oaks and California, including trees and landscaping, a water feature, and seating amenities. Castle Rock has retained AC Martin as the architect for the project. Mr. Cutler indicated that Castle Rock intends to retain ownership of the project; Castle Rock is not a merchant builder.

Kaku & Associates is the traffic consultant for the project. The project would create one new curb-cut on Fair Oaks; there would be no new curb cuts on California. The entrance to the building's parking garage would be off the existing alley, which would be used to "stack" traffic from California. The new curb-cut on Fair Oaks would create a one-way driveway into the project, and also would be used to stack traffic. The project is in a TOD (Transit Oriented Development) zone, and would feature 225 new underground parking spaces. Several WPRA board members commented that the current circulation plan for the project appears to be inadequate with respect to evening traffic flow.

During the meeting, Mr. Cutler stated that Castle Rock would not object to a full environmental impact report (EIR) for the project. An EIR triggers additional public review of the project, including public comment on the project's circulation plan and traffic impacts.

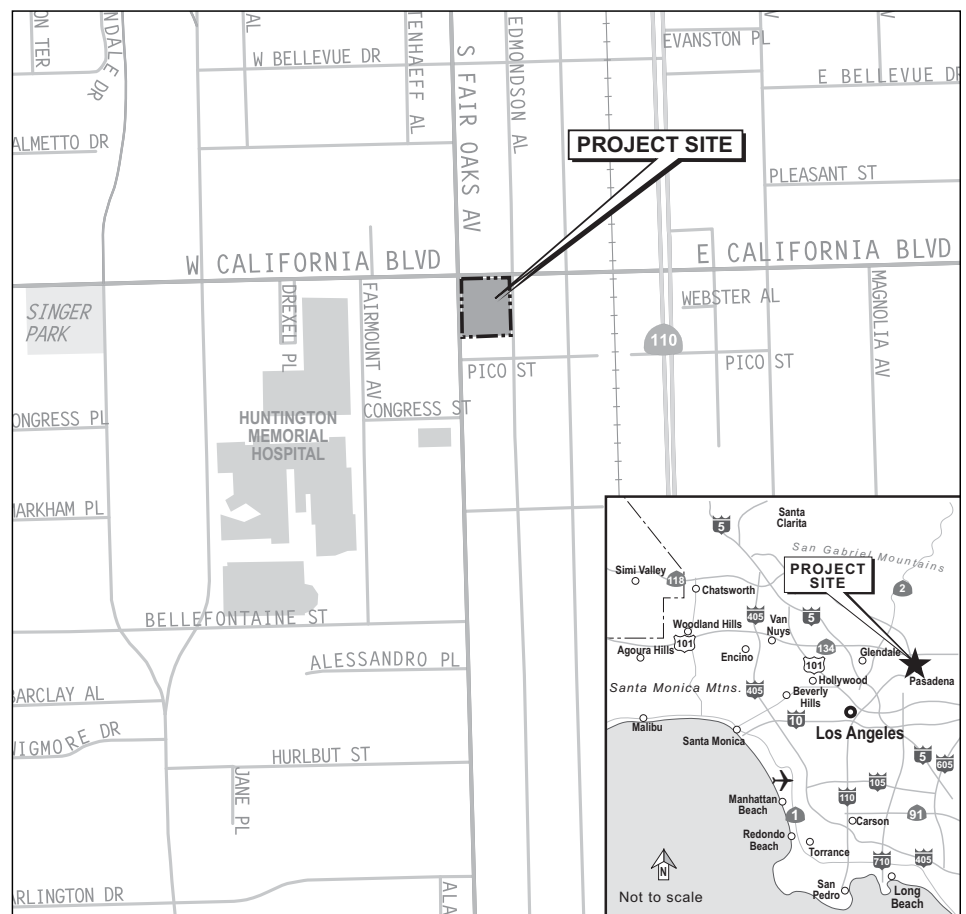
City to Prepare Environmental Impact Report

In October, the City of Pasadena published an Initial Environmental Study concluding that the project will require an EIR. The Initial Study found, among other things, that "the proposed project could result in potentially significant impacts associated with a substantial increase in traffic or an exceedance of level of service standards." Therefore, a traffic study will be prepared for the project. The findings of the traffic study will be incorporated into an EIR. (To read

the Initial Study, please visit www.cityofpasadena.net/planning/ and click on "Environmental Notices.")

The City held an EIR scoping meeting for the project on October 16. The meeting was held at the Permit Center Hearing Room, located at 175 North Garfield Avenue, Pasadena. The WPRA Land Use Committee participated in the scoping meeting, raising issues concerning traffic congestion, traffic circulation, and parking. The City is expected to publish a draft EIR late this year or early next year. For more information, please contact Associate Planner Erin Clark at erclark@cityofpasadena.net or call (626) 396-8528.

The WPRA is closely monitoring this project. Please send an e-mail to update@wptra.net if you want to receive weekly neighborhood updates regarding this and other developments in Pasadena. ■



Biomedical Research Laboratory Proposed for South Fair Oaks

By Vince Farhat

A company called Huntington Medical Research Institutes (HMRI) wants to build a 108,987 square foot biomedical research laboratory building at the southeast corner of South Fair Oaks Avenue and Pico Avenue. The project is located within the South Fair Oaks Specific Plan area, and the proposed use is classified as Research and Development (Non-Office) under the Zoning Code.

According to a Predevelopment Plan Report (PPR) presented to the City Council in September, the project site consists of nine parcels that are currently improved with ten HMRI-owned structures that total 35,927 square feet. Nine of the ten buildings would be fully demolished, as well as a portion of the "C. Hunter Sheldon Magnetic Resonance Laboratory," for a total of 21,530 square feet of demolition. The final project would consist of the 108,987 square feet of new construction, and the remaining 14,397 square feet of the Sheldon Laboratory.

The project site is approximately 2.19 acres, and is bounded by Pico Avenue to the north, Raymond Avenue to the east, small businesses to the south, and Fair Oaks Avenue to the west. Edmondson Alley runs from north to south through the center of the site, separating the areas for the proposed research laboratory building and proposed surface parking.

According to the PPR report, a surface parking lot with 102 spaces would be provided across Edmondson Alley. As proposed, the height of the four-story building would be 68.5 feet, and the maximum height of a proposed central rotunda would be 76 feet. The maximum height limit for a Research and Development use in this area is 56 feet. The site is within the ¼ mile radius of the Fillmore Gold

Line station and, therefore, is within the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) area. This includes a reduced parking standard and design that encourages pedestrian movement.

The City of Pasadena will conduct an Initial Study to determine whether the project will require an environmental impact report. According to the PPR report, the City will prepare a Traffic Impact Analysis to assess potential traffic and parking issues related to this project, as well as the potential for shared parking in the area. A parking demand analysis

will be conducted to determine the appropriate reduction of the parking requirement, if any, based on the actual projected use. Any proposed reduction of the parking requirement would require approval of a Minor Conditional Use Permit.

The WPRA will actively participate in the upcoming public review process for this project. Please send an e-mail to update@wptra.net if you want to receive weekly neighborhood updates regarding this and other developments in Pasadena. ■

City Reviews Tree Protection Ordinance

By Vince Farhat

The City of Pasadena is seeking public review and comment on proposals to improve the City's tree protection ordinance. The City adopted a tree protection ordinance in 2002. During the past six



years, requests to remove public trees and protected native, specimen, and landmark trees have gone through a review process. According to the Planning Department, this regulatory review saved hundreds of trees that might otherwise have been removed, and has led to extensive new planting of replacement trees.

Recently, the Pasadena's Urban Forestry Advisory Committee suggested changes to the tree ordinance, especially the regulations controlling removal of protected trees on private property. Acting on these suggestions, the City is inviting a cross-section of residents, developers, arborists, architects, board and commission members, neighborhood organizations, and community groups to join in a public discussion about the tree protection ordinance. The first public meeting was held on October 6 at the Senior Center. Future meetings will include developing specific recommendations to improve the ordinance.

Updated meeting notices, progress reports and background research can be found at www.cityofpasadena.net/treeprotection. The City also has an online "public comment form" for anyone interested in posting comments and suggestions at: <http://www.cityofpasadena.net/planningcomments>. ■

Pasadena's Renewed Water Challenge

By Tim Brick

The earliest settlers of our region all knew the value of water. They settled near the Arroyo Seco to be close to the stream that would nourish their crops and orange groves. Later around the turn of the twentieth century, they began using hydraulic pumps to tap the the Raymond groundwater basin lying beneath them. As late as 1910 the water level at the Woodbury Well was a mere forty feet below the surface.

For many decades, until the 1940s, local residents fought over water. There was always a water dispute on the docket at the courthouse. But then two things happen to change the situation. In 1941 the Metropolitan Water District (MWD), which city leaders had played a major role in founding, delivered the first water from the Colorado River to Pasadena. Later in 1944, Judge Frank Collier divided the waters of the Raymond Basin between seventeen once-contentious pumpers, establishing a "sustainable yield" standard that matched pumping to natural replenishment of the basin through rainfall and stream flow.

Since then most Pasadenans have pretty much forgotten about water. Except for the discovery of solvents and rocket fuel in the Raymond Basin in the 1980s and 1990s, there has been little attention paid to local water resources. Water, however, has again emerged as a critical issue for Pasadena.

A recent study found that the "sustainable yield" program for the Raymond Basin is not working. The groundwater level has been consistently dropping since the 1940s, falling to 400 feet below the surface. Furthermore, ten of Pasadena's fifteen wells have been closed due to unacceptable levels of perchlorate contamination.

The imported supplies coming from MWD have not filled the gap and are

Editor's Note: Water has played a vital role in the history of California.

We asked two Pasadena citizens to give us their perspective on our region's current water supply challenges. Gordon Treweek, Principal Consultant at Environmental Defense Sciences in Pasadena, and Tim Brick, Chairman of the Board of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, offer interesting facts regarding the water shortage that gives some perspective on Pasadena's water conservation efforts. As our population increases, the importance of how we deal with the scarcity of water will escalate.

increasingly unreliable. Surplus water on the Colorado River that sustained Southern California for many decades has disappeared. The State Water Project supply coming from northern California through the Bay Delta, has been reduced by a court order that cut pumping due to precipitous declines in the key fish populations there.

This year the situation is particularly acute. Local conditions have been extremely dry for several years. Governor Schwarzenegger declared a statewide drought emergency in June. Less than a week later, the Metropolitan Water District's Board of Directors ramped up the water conservation call throughout its six-county service area by declaring a Water Supply Alert.

To help preserve water reserves, MWD urged cities and water retailers to achieve extraordinary conservation by adopting and enforcing drought ordinances, accelerating public outreach and messaging, and developing additional local supplies. All of these steps will be necessary to stave off a

looming water shortage unless the coming winter brings abundant rain.

In July the year before, Mayor Bill Bogaard urged Pasadena residents to voluntarily reduce their water consumption by ten percent, but since then consumption has actually increased by three percent. On September 22 this year the City Council balked at a penalty program proposed by the Pasadena Water and Power Department (PWP) and instead ordered PWP to come back with a more comprehensive water conservation program within six months.

Here are the elements that the program needs to include:

1. a waste ordinance that has teeth,
2. a conservation-based rate restructuring that rewards efficiency,
3. a commitment to using recycled water for irrigation and groundwater replenishment, and
4. an extensive landscape makeover that emphasizes California Friendly (native and Mediterranean) plants.

Can Pasadena meet the renewed water challenge? I am convinced that we can, but it will require a new commitment to conservation, environmental stewardship, recycling and enhancing local resources like the Raymond Basin.

Pasadenans can no longer take water for granted. With an expanding population and the impacts of global climate change, a growing awareness is emerging among scientists, water officials, and legislators, that we have entered an era in which the dry conditions and environmental challenges that face us are no longer periodic but permanent.

Tim Brick, Pasadena's appointee to the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, is the Chairman of that board. He also serves as Managing Director of the Arroyo Seco Foundation. ■

Pasadena Water Supply Challenges

By Gordon Treweek

Pasadena is able to draw on two major water supplies to meet its potable water needs: First, Pasadena pumps groundwater from the underlying Ramon Basin. This Basin is recharged each year by storm water runoff from the San Gabriel Mountains to the north. Second, as a member agency in the Metropolitan Water District (MWD), Pasadena has access to surface water supplies from the Colorado River (via the Colorado River Aqueduct) and supplies from the San Joaquin-Sacramento River Delta (via the California Aqueduct). It is these latter two sources that have come under the greatest pressure in the past decade.



Colorado River Feeds Seven States and Mexico

When flows in the Colorado River were originally allocated in the 1920's, hydrologists utilized a 20 year record of flows to estimate the safe annual yield of the River, which was greater than the 16.5 million acre feet (MAF) allocated to the seven states and Mexico that are in the Colorado River basin. Subsequent evaluations, using a 100 year record of flows or longer (based on tree ring data), indicate the safe annual yield is actually closer to 13 to 14 MAF. The impact of this reduction in safe annual yield was mitigated because several states (Utah, Colorado, New Mexico and Wyoming in particular) did not require their full annual allotment, and portions of their allocation were diverted to meet California's needs. However, with the growth in population in the southwest, these states are now drawing closer to their full allocation, forcing California to pump only its allocated portion of the 13 to 14 MAF.

San Joaquin-Sacramento River Delta Supplies Central and Southern California

With respect to supplies from the San Joaquin-Sacramento River Delta, the drought of the past 5 years has made its impact principally on the amount of snowmelt that flows into and through the Delta. While the amount of snowmelt has diminished, the quantity of water withdrawn from the Delta to supply needs in Central and Southern California has remained unchanged. The continued pumping, in spite of the diminished runoff, led several groups (principally environmentalists and fishermen) to challenge the pumping schedule of the Department of Water Resources (DWR) in Federal Court. DWR argued that their pumping was not harming the native fish populations (in particular the Delta smelt, a 3"-4" fish used as an indicator of environmental degradation), and that recent declines in the smelt population were caused by invasive species and pesticide runoff.

Protecting Native Fish Populations That Are Barometers of Environmental Health

While agreeing that invasive species and pesticide runoff were contributing factors, Federal Judge Oliver Wanger also found that the pumping by DWR was a cause of the smelt population decline, and directed a temporary 30% reduction in pumping. Subsequently, the smelt population collapsed and notable declines were observed in the commercially important salmon population as well as in other fish such as sturgeon, split fin smelt and steelhead. While the litigants continue to monitor the situation, it appears that the pumping reduction will certainly continue as long as the drought lasts, and even greater reductions may be necessary to alleviate the drastic declines in the smelt, salmon and other fish populations.

Imported Surface Waters and Conservation

Based on the new realities of restrictions on imported surface waters, the emphasis now shifts to conservation of potable water resources and substitution of recycled water for nonpotable uses. For example, approximately 60-70% of current household water use is actually used outside of the house for landscape irrigation, car and sidewalk washing, etc. Through the use of drought tolerant landscapes and simple conservation measures, substantial reductions in outdoor water usage can be obtained. Motivation for less water usage comes from a tiered water rate schedule, such as that used by Pasadena DWP, which triples the cost of water used above an initial household allocation. Over the past 20 years, Los Angeles has doubled its population, but uses the same amount of potable water as in the 1980's. Similar reductions have been achieved in Long Beach as a result of their conservation efforts.

Pasadena is in the preliminary evaluation of piping recycled water from the Glendale Wastewater Reclamation Plant to replace potable water currently used to irrigate the Brookside Golf Course, parks, and school athletic fields. While the cost of designing and building a recycled water distribution system will be substantial (currently estimated at \$37 million), nevertheless the likelihood of continued diminished supplies from remote sources and the increased costs thereof, together make the use of recycled water in nonpotable applications the next least cost alternative. It will also drought-proof these important public facilities, making them immune to damage from a lack of water due to the next drought.

Editor's Note: Gordon Treweek is Principal Consultant at Environmental Defense Sciences and a 40 year resident of Pasadena. He can be reached at (951) 258-6994. ■

An Important Look Into The City's Future

By Bill Bogaard

The question is, "What kind of community do we want Pasadena to be?" It will guide efforts that are underway to update the principal elements of the General Plan.

By the end of 2009, the Council plans to adopt new elements of the General Plan pertaining to Land Use, Housing, Mobility, and Open Space and Conservation. The first three elements were last approved in 2004 along with a revision of the City's zoning code. The existing Open Space and Conservation Element was adopted in the late 1970's, so the changes made will be significant.

This effort is under the direction of Planning and Development Director, Richard Bruckner, and will involve work by members of our staff, consultants, advisory commissions, and a special General Plan Advisory Group consisting of members of certain advisory commissions and persons from the community. In addition, many public hearings will be scheduled to reach out for the views of interested community members, as is called for by the seventh Principle of the General Plan's vision statement, which calls for community participation.

There are several issues that will be of interest to WPRA members and others in the community.

One issue relates to the coordination of the work on the General Plan to assure that all of the elements are based upon the same assumptions and factual background. More importantly, the policies and proposed practices in each element must be integrated into a consistent strategy for the community's future that is internally consistent. The Council is committed to an "integrated" result.

Another issue is the scope of the studies, since community members

want assurance that "their" issues are included, such as affordable housing, open space acquisition and preservation, park acquisition and



maintenance, and quality of life. The survey that WPRA has recently circulated asking its members to offer views on the planning issues facing the

City, in my view, is an excellent source of information regarding the proper scope of the studies.

A third issue is adequate opportunity for community members to participate, influencing the scope of the studies, evaluating the data that is gathered, and shaping the policies. I was pleased to learn that the Planning Commission, at a meeting last month, has recommended expanding the advisory committee to assure that public participation is high and that all viewpoints are represented. The Council is committed to achieve public involvement.

No assurance can be made that every recommendation from the community will be reflected in the final General Plan elements, but assurance must be given that all viewpoints have been heard. WPRA members are urged to participate actively in the General Plan update.

Editor's Note: Bill Bogaard is Mayor of Pasadena, and a past president of WPRA. He can be reached at bbogaard@cityofpasadena.net. ■

West Pasadena Residents Survey

By Vince Farhat



As we start the General Plan update process, the WPRA wants to know what you think are the most important issues facing our City.

The WPRA recently sent out a survey giving West Pasadena residents a chance to tell us what you think about important issues facing Pasadena, including parks and open space, development, traffic, crime, and public education. We

are pleased to report that more than 750 surveys were returned by the October 18 deadline.

Please look for the results of the residents survey in the Winter issue of the Newsletter. Not only will your input help guide the WPRA's future advocacy, our board will share the survey results with the City Council and City staff. Thank you for supporting the WPRA! ■

A Few Words From An Old Friend

The Rose Bowl was built in 1922 to replace Tournament Park on the campus of Caltech which had been deemed unsuitable for the larger and larger crowds gathering to watch the New Year's Day college bowl games. It was to be the new, permanent home for the games, a grand venue that would showcase beautiful Pasadena to the country, indeed, the whole world. The stadium has served this role admirably to this day and hopes to continue that role in the future. But the venerable Rose Bowl, in its 86th year is more than the many facts that one can enumerate about it. It and other iconic institutions tell the story of our past. It makes one wonder, what if they could talk to us? What would they say?

The friends who were born with me in 1922 grow fewer each year.

Many are already gone. Judy Garland, Yitzhak Rabin, Charles Shultz, Jack Kerouac, Kurt Vonnegut. They all made a difference in the world and so did I.

But the center of my world is and always will be Pasadena.

I am the Rose Bowl.

Recently, another famous venue, born a year later than I, hosted its last event. Can you believe that Yankee Stadium is no more, replaced by a replica? Is that any way to treat a national treasure?

Whenever my fellow Pasadenans venture away from home, and people ask them where they are from, my name almost always comes up. People around the world have seen my face --- not bad considering I have never left town.

From Pasadena and beyond, people know my history, 86 years of memories: the Four Horseman, Wrong Way Roy Riegels, Woody Hayes and Bo Schembechler, John McKay and Terry Donahue.

Millions have fond memories about the first time they walked through a tunnel and saw the field, the game's pageantry and excitement, the pride when their university appeared here. They remember the passion of World



Cup soccer and the once-in-a-lifetime thrill when 90,000 fans saw the U.S. women win a world's championship.

They remember the Rose Bowl game, the Rolling Stones, the graduation ceremonies, UCLA vs. USC, the Turkey Tussle, and America's best birthday celebration each year.

I want to continue to be a national and local icon and earn my keep just as I have for these many years. But at 86 years of age, I need some care, thoughtful refurbishments in keeping with my historic status: improvements to make entering and exiting safer, better ways to serve patrons and respond to their demands for upgraded facilities and comforts.

I do not want to fade away like

Yankee Stadium. I know I mean more than that to Pasadena.

I do need your help. I know that together we can attain what few stadiums have achieved:

A future as bright as my past.

Editor's Note: Darryl Dunn, General Manager of the Rose Bowl Operating Company (RBOC), wrote this article. Darryl has been with the RBOC since 1995 and is overseeing the renovation of this venerable institution. WPRA leadership supports the RBOC's renovation goals and has been meeting with Darryl, members of the RBOC board and other neighborhood associations to discuss and monitor the renovation efforts. ■

AT&T Roll-Outs U-VERSE Service

By Robert C. Holmes

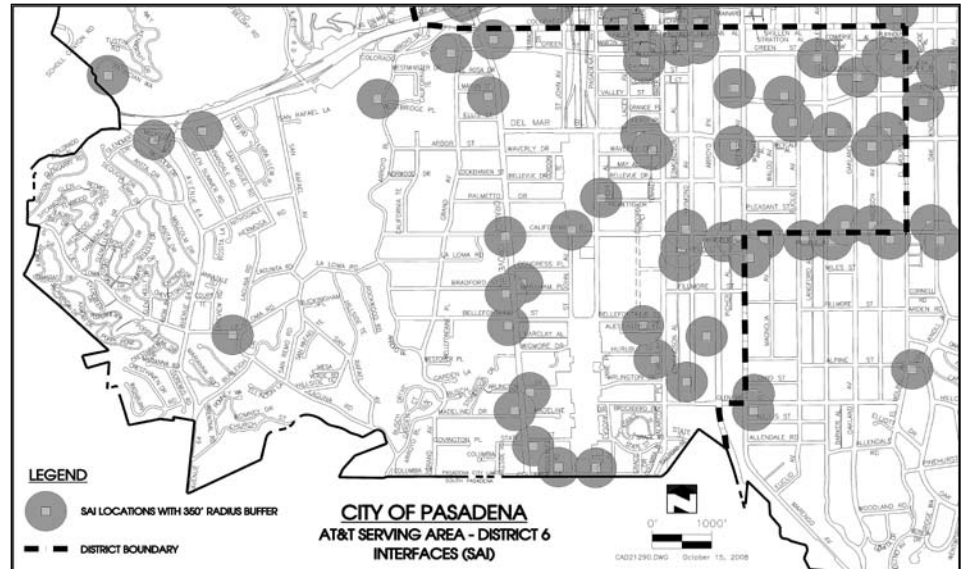
Good news: AT&T is preparing to offer cable TV and faster Internet services in our area. U-Verse will increase competition for our dollars and may result in better service for us all. Bad news: In order to provide these services, they are installing large connection boxes throughout Pasadena.

Detailed Plans Rolled Out at Neighborhood Meeting.

At a Neighborhood meeting September 24 hosted by Steve Madison and Sid Tyler, AT&T detailed their plans to roll out the new U-Verse service over the next two years. (At least one WPRa representative participated in each of the meetings; we found the committee genuinely interested and receptive of public comments.) Danny Wooten and Dan Rix of the Pasadena Department of Public Works explained that, as a result of a law passed in 2006, the City of Pasadena and its citizens do not have the right to stop AT&T from placing these connection boxes in our neighborhoods. However, the City Engineer will not issue permits until affected homeowners have been heard.

How big are those boxes?

The new boxes (called 248C) are 48" high, 51.6" wide, and 26" deep. They need to be within 350' of existing AT&T junction boxes, which are called SAI boxes. The map accompanying this article shows the location of the existing SAI boxes. The circle shows the 350' radius in which the new 248C boxes will be installed. Where the circles overlap AT&T may be able to combine the service and only install one new box. The SAI boxes are all on public land, usually on the parkway between the sidewalk and the street in residential areas. The new boxes will also be located on public land, mostly in the parkway area and near corners. They will not be located



next to the SAI boxes. No one should have two boxes near their property.

Will homeowners be notified?

When AT&T is ready to install a 248C box, they will send a certified letter to the homeowner nearest the location. The City Engineer will wait 10 days after the homeowner has received the letter before issuing the permit to install the 248C. If the homeowner objects to the location of the 248C, the homeowner must contact the City Engineer within the 10 days and make known their objection. AT&T has agreed to then meet with the homeowner, explain why the site was chosen, and walk the neighborhood to see if there is a better site. AT&T will then make the final determination as to the location, the City Engineer will issue the permit, and the 248C will be installed. AT&T has offered to provide some landscaping to soften the appearance of the box, but maintenance of the landscaping will be the responsibility of the homeowner. You can see the first 248C box which is being installed on the east side of Meredith Street just north of Colorado.

The WPRa suggests

The WPRa board believes that

the 10-day notice period is too short. We also believe ALL residents within 300 feet of the new box should be notified prior to a permit being issued. Some of the boxes will be installed where the owner is not a resident, and using the AT&T guidelines a resident would not be aware of the new box until it was being installed. The board also believes a sign should be posted at the proposed location during the 30 day waiting period. This is currently required for even minor zoning changes, and these boxes will have as much affect on the neighborhood as many zoning changes. The board has sent a letter to the City Engineer asking for a 30 day waiting period between the time the owner is notified and the issuance of a permit, requesting that a sign be erected at the site of the new box during the 30 day waiting period, and requesting that all residents within 300 feet be notified of the proposed installation at the same time the certified letter is sent to the property owner.

When the time comes for formal public comments, the WPRa board will send written comments to the City, based on input from WPRa members. Please contact WPRa if you would like to participate or discuss the work of this committee. ■

Maranatha High School: Serving our Community

By Patricia Ostiller

When Maranatha High School moved to its permanent Pasadena campus at 169 South Saint John Avenue in September 2005, little did it know the success that would follow in three short years. Since 2005, Maranatha has enjoyed a resurgence in interest from prospective families, thanks in part to the bucolic grounds and beautiful facilities its current campus offers.

"No doubt about it, we've been blessed," said Head of School Chet



has opened up its facilities for community events. In 2006, Mayor Bill Bogaard held his annual State of the City address in the school's Student Center. The Tournament of Roses and the WPRA have also held their

Maranatha is also pleased to promote a heightened awareness of the arts. "We look forward to opening our campus this coming May for the fourth annual 'Saturday in the Park with the Masters,'" said Crane. "At this event, southern California artists will be on campus learning from and painting with some of the area's finest instructors and painters."

Maranatha offers a rigorous academic program as well as weekly chapels and a school-wide mentoring program. The school also expanded its



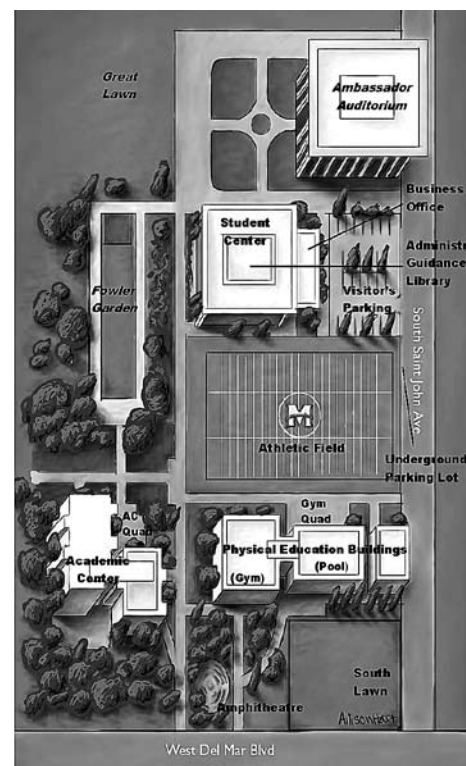
Crane. "We couldn't have asked for a more picturesque campus, and we're grateful for such welcoming neighbors. In return, we know we have a responsibility to the surrounding neighborhood to be a good neighbor, and to serve our community well."

Founded in 1965, Maranatha High School is a college preparatory, Christian high school. The mission of Maranatha is to prepare its students to live lives of purpose and distinction.

Over the past three years, Maranatha

meetings on the school's campus, and City Councilmember Steve Madison has led neighborhood gatherings and district meetings on the campus.

"We want to be a resource for the community," said Crane. "We open our athletic facilities to local sports groups, and during the summer we have football, basketball and volleyball camps here on campus for local youth. Johns Hopkins University holds its summer program, the Center for Talented Youth, on our campus, too."



missions program this year to include summer missions trips to Guatemala and Nicaragua. Maranatha is enjoying significant success in its athletic programs, and the school's Visual and Performing Arts continues to grow in popularity as well.

Editor's Note: Patricia Ostiller is Development Director of Maranatha High School. She can be reached at p_ostiller@mhs-hs.org. For more information, please visit www.maranatha-hs.org. ■



LINDA VISTA-ANNANDALE ASSOCIATION

Annandale Canyon Area Benefit Assessment District Vote

By Roger Wolf & Don Orsi

Many of us in the Annandale/Linda Vista neighborhood now have a chance to help acquire the Annandale Canyon Estates property for permanent public parkland in place of the proposed 24 large homes that includes extensive grading and installation of complex infrastructure.

The Annandale Canyon area is a treasure of biological resources and natural scenic beauty. Establishing the Canyon as a public natural park is important to preserve Pasadena's remaining natural land as a legacy for the benefit and enjoyment of current and future generations of Pasadena residents. Further, saving this area from development will have a number of public safety benefits, including avoiding significant emergency and fire access issues.

The Pasadena City Council recently approved a resolution to mail ballots to residents that fall within the Annandale Canyon Benefit Assessment District. The vote will determine whether or not residents are willing to shoulder \$1.4 million of the \$7 million cost

of acquiring the Annandale Canyon Estates property as natural public open space. Other sources of funding for the purchase include a \$2.5 million grant from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, and \$1.5 million in additional funding expected from the City of Pasadena, Los Angeles County and/or the State of California. Ongoing efforts by the City and open space advocates are working to raise the balance of \$1.6 million needed to close the deal.

If the vote is successful, properties in the assessment district will be organized into four zones paying annual assessments ranging from \$70 to \$350 per year for a period of 30 years. If acquired, the Annandale parkland will be owned and maintained by the City of Pasadena. No additional fee will be charged to the residents by the City to maintain the property.

Editor's Note: Roger Wolf and Don Orsi are members of the Board of Directors of the Linda Vista-Annandale Association. They can be reached at donorsi@sbcglobal.net and Wolfw@earthlink.net. ■

Pasadena First Supports WPRA

By Vince Farhat

The WPRA has received a major financial contribution from Pasadena First, the lead organization that successfully defeated the 2006 ballot initiative that would have brought NFL football to the Rose Bowl.

"The WPRA was an early and enthusiastic supporter of Pasadena First," said Carolyn Naber, president of Pasadena First. "West Pasadena residents were steadfast in their principled and vocal opposition to the NFL at the Rose Bowl," she said.

Over 72% of Pasadena voters opposed the NFL at the Rose Bowl. Pasadena First organized a diverse citywide coalition of neighborhood organizations, community leaders, City officials and volunteers from across Pasadena in the campaign to defeat Measure A, the NFL initiative.

Pasadena First was established as a non-profit organization, and raised money from a citywide constituency. The WPRA was one of the Pasadena First's earliest and biggest contributors.

Pasadena First made the donation to WPRA in October as part of its post-election dissolution proceedings. Carolyn Naber and the Pasadena First board have asked that the WPRA use the money to preserve and protect the Rose Bowl, Arroyo Seco parkland, and for the WPRA neighborhood protection fund.

"The WPRA helped us in our darkest hours and I will never forget the generosity of this great organization," Naber said. "I have worked very hard to give back as much as we could, though this donation to WPRA pales in comparison to the financial support given freely and generously by the WPRA to Pasadena First," she said.

The WPRA wishes to express its thanks and gratitude to Carolyn Naber and Pasadena First for their generous contribution. ■

WPRA Wants You!

The WPRA is looking for volunteers to serve on committees and to get involved in neighborhood issues. Whatever your interests, we have many opportunities for involvement and are looking for dedicated West Pasadena residents committed to preserving our neighborhood quality of life.

The WPRA wants you and needs your help! For more information, please contact Vince Farhat at farhat@wpra.net. ■



Updates and Happenings at San Rafael School

By Alyson Beecher

Did you know about our great school-community partnerships? Each year, San Rafael School partners with a variety of community programs. These partnerships are critical in providing enrichment experiences to enhance the curriculum. Some of the programs include the first and second graders participation in a series of educational concerts by the Pasadena Symphony's TEMPO program and the third graders four weeks of swim instruction at the Rose Bowl's Aquatic Center. Additionally, the Armory Center for the Arts works with preschoolers to sixth graders to teach art. We are also thankful for the Story Hour and support at the San Rafael Library for our students. Finally, one of our budding partnerships is with the readers of the WPRA newsletter. I would like to thank the individuals who read in the last newsletter about our need for volunteers. As a result, we have 4 new volunteers at the school and several more going through the approval process.

On Wednesday, October 8, 2008, the Network for a Healthy California sponsored the "Walk 2 School Event". The purpose of the event was to expose students to healthy eating and exercise habits. Takako Suzuki, a San Rafael neighbor and a representative from Steve Madison's office, walked to school. It was great having Ms. Suzuki, along with other community agencies, mingling with students and teachers to promote healthy lifestyle choices.

New Upper Grade Book Club

At the beginning of the school year, some of the upper grade teachers were discussing ways to get students more enthusiastic about reading. In a day and age of television, movies, and all types of electronic games, it is sometimes challenging to get students excited about a book. So, when two of the teachers at San Rafael pitched

the idea about organizing a lunchtime "book club" for fourth through sixth graders, we weren't sure how many students would actually sign up.

You can imagine our surprise and excitement when 100 students signed up to come in twice a month during their recess time to discuss the reading assignment. We quickly realized we needed to organize the students into smaller discussion groups. Currently, we have three groups meeting with an assigned adult facilitator. Just for signing up, each student received a copy of Barbara Robinson's "The Best Halloween Ever". As book club members, students get released 15 minutes early for lunch. Not only do

book club members get a lunch perk, they also get to help with the school book fair, become buddy readers for kindergarten and first graders, and participate in Reader's Theatre.

The school is looking for volunteers to help with the discussion groups. We are also hoping to invite local authors and illustrators to come speak with students about writing and publishing books. If you can assist us with either of these needs, please contact Alyson Beecher (abeecher@pusd.us) or Debbie Ayala (dayala07@pusd.us) at 626.793.4189.

Editor's Note: Alyson Beecher is principal of San Rafael School. She can be reached at ABeecher@pusd.us. ■



Pasadena Marathon Comes to West Pasadena



On Sunday, November 16, Pasadena Forward will sponsor a community-wide marathon, 5K, and bike tour. The WPRA is proud to support this event, which we hope will become an annual tradition. There will be some temporary street closures in West Pasadena the morning of the marathon. For more information, please visit www.pasadenamarathon.org.

Continued from page 1

non-professional interests. Some are curious about the history of their homes and previous owners. Others are looking for clues to their family's past and images of great grandpa and grandma. Many are simply looking for great photos for their homes or businesses. All are welcome. The Archives are free and open to the public from 1:00-4:00 pm Thursdays through Sundays. Trained docents assist visitors in their research.

To find out more about Pasadena Museum of History's programs and services, please visit www.pasadenahistory.org and be sure to sign up to

receive the monthly e-calendar, which also features an historic photo and story in each issue.

Pasadena Museum of History is located at the corner of Orange Grove Boulevard and Walnut Street (470 W. Walnut, Pasadena 91103); free parking in the Museum lot. The Archives are open free of charge to the public Thursdays-Sundays from 1:00-4:00 pm and are accessible via the elevator located across from the Museum Store entrance. For additional information, please visit www.pasadenahistory.org or call 626-577-1660.

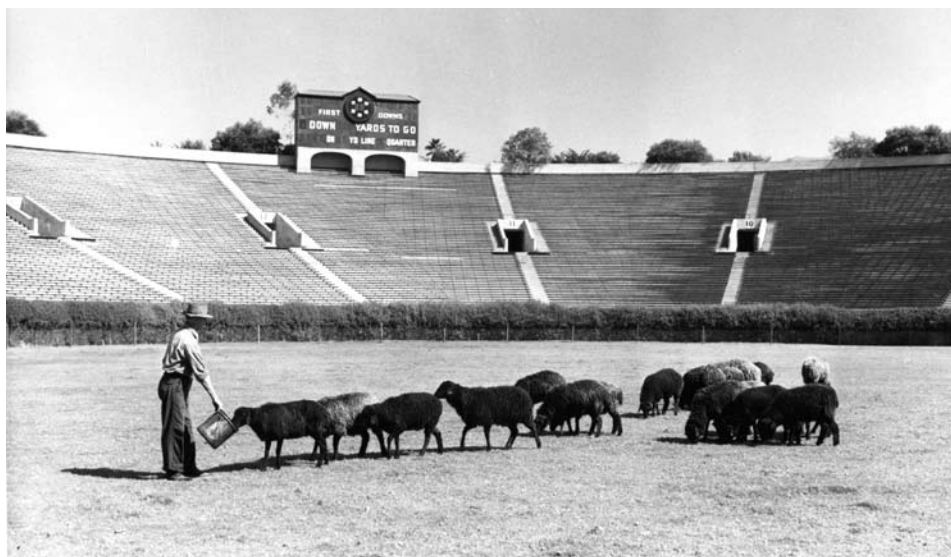
— Jeannette Bovard, Oct. 2008 ■



Postcard depicting one of two trees which were left standing in Orange Grove Boulevard, circa 1910. This tree was likely at the junction of California and Orange Grove Boulevards. Courtesy of the Archives, Pasadena Museum of History.



The Mystic Hut on the grounds of Busch Gardens, millionaire Adolphus Busch's public pleasure gardens, 1906-1930s. Courtesy of the Archives, Pasadena Museum of History.



Sheep grazing in the Rose Bowl, prior to the 1928 when the horseshoe-shaped stadium was completely enclosed. Courtesy of the Archives, Pasadena Museum of History.

Continued from page 3

maps will be used at community events. Dahl also is checking with the staff in the Recreation and Parks Department to find out how many people use the Lower Arroyo Seco, Eaton Canyon, Hahamonga and other open space areas.

Acquisition of Open and Green Space

A member of the audience at the September OSCEC meeting asked if the City had funds for acquiring open space and if so, how much money was in the fund. Ms. Dahl stated that the City receives impact fees when new residential development is constructed

and that these funds are set aside for open space and parks. Ms. Dahl handed out criteria, provided by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, to the Committee for evaluating the acquisition of potential open space parcels. Asked if homes being foreclosed on could be purchased by the City for use as parks, Ms. Dahl stated that that is a policy issue for the City Council who has to weigh housing issues against open space issues.

OSCEC Meetings Open to the Public

The Open Space & Conservation committee meets on the 2nd Monday

of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the Pasadena City Hall, Grand Conference Room, 100 North Garfield Avenue. If you go to the city's website you will see the various conservancies, commissioners and city plans relevant to this committee's work, as well as agendas and minutes for all meetings and links to many other organizations web sites: <http://www.cityofpasadena.net/planning/deptorg/commplng/OpenSpace/openspace.asp>

You may contact Senior Planner, Laura Dahl via email: Ldahl@cityof-pasadena.net. ■

Ambassador Campus Update

By Mic Hansen

As this newsletter goes to press, there have not been significant changes in the status of the Ambassador West Campus proj-



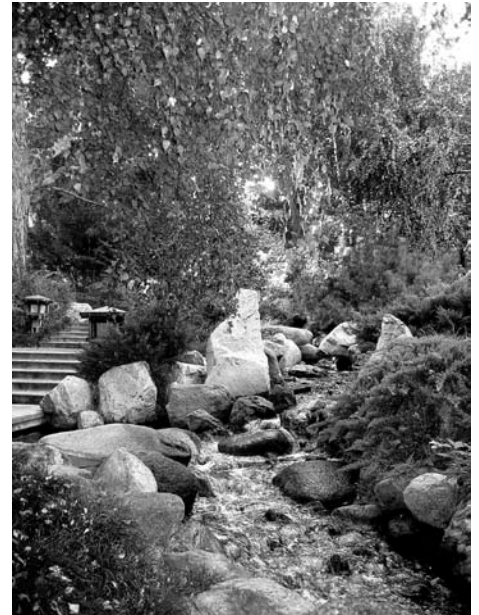
ects. Maranatha High School (MHS) and Harvest Rock Church continue to occupy the Southern portion of the campus. MHS recently asked and received approval from the City for a conditional use permit to increase in its student body from 650 to 800, as well as increasing faculty/staff from 80 to 120. The WPRA generally supported the CUP, with minor-impact recommendations.

The balance of the site is the portion subject to development and still owned by the Fortress Group

and Sunrise Senior Living. Fortress continues to conduct discussions with interested parties, but at this point there are no pending sales prospects. Plans for the construction of the senior residential community are currently indeterminate.

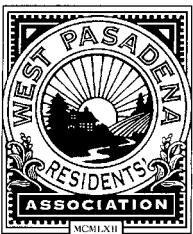
The grounds continue to be maintained with care while buyers are sought for the site. At this time, Fortress is in sales negotiations for three of the mansions—Manor Del Mar, Mayfair, and Terrace Villa. These are at various stages in the sales process, and after rehabilitation are expected to be used as single-family residences.

The Sares-Regis project on the Ambassador East Campus, which is named Westgate, is proceeding apace. The foundation work is mostly complete for block 3—between Del Mar and Valley—and the building permit has recently been issued for construction of the residences. As planned, this block will contain the project's rental units and on-site affordable housing. The City Planning Department is



shortly expecting to receive revisions to final design review for the other two blocks: block 2, between Valley and Dayton Streets, and block 1, between Dayton and Green Streets.

The WPRA will continue to monitor these projects and report back to West Pasadena residents as new information becomes available. ■



Join the WPRA Today

All membership dues are tax-deductible, and donations of \$100 or more are acknowledged in this newsletter. Please take a moment to complete this form and mail it with your check today!

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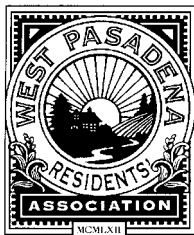
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Membership: ◇ \$25-\$49 Associate ◇ \$50-\$99 Friend ◇ \$100-\$249 Patron

◇ \$250-\$499 Benefactor ◇ \$500 or more Platinum

Please mail to: West Pasadena Residents' Association, Post Office Box 50252 • Pasadena, California 91115

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Your generous support will help the WPRAs publish its newsletter and keep you informed of issues affecting our neighborhood. So, please take a moment to join us and stand with the WPRAs. Please contact Vince Farhat at farhat@wpra.net.

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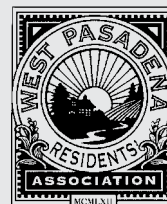
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