



SAN RAFAEL
NEIGHBORHOODS ASSOCIATION

June-July 2013

SRNA Newsletter

Vol 1, Issue 6

The mission of the San Rafael Neighborhoods Association (SRNA) is to enhance and maintain the character and quality of all San Rafael neighborhoods through advocacy and an activated community.

Contact: info@srnapasadena.org

In This Issue

Hot Meals Program

America Fest

NFL-EIR Lawsuit

Crime Watch

Pasadena Environment

Pasadena History

Wayfinding Signage

710 Update

Colorado Bridge-Suicide Prevention

PUSD Update

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

**SRNA General Membership
Meeting**

**WHEN: FIRST WEDNESDAY OF
EVERY MONTH**

**WHERE: CHURCH OF THE
ANAGELS
CHURCH HALL
1100 AVENUE 64
7 PM**

Note: JULY 3 MEETING-

Featured Article:

**SRNA Helps Feed the Hungry
*Positive Work in the Community***

**Pasadena Hot Meals Program at
Jackie Robinson Community
Center**

*By Ron Paler, M.D
President San Rafael Neighborhoods
Association (SRNA)*

CANCELED
(July 4th Holiday)

**Next General Meeting:
Wednesday, August 7**

**SRNA GENERAL MEETINGS ARE
OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE
PUBLIC**



The beautiful artwork that adorns the SRNA newsletter is the result of SRNA Board Member Wendi Moffly. SRNA is grateful for the warmth that Wendi's artwork brings to the bimonthly newsletter.

The SRNA bimonthly newsletter serves to notify the community about issues of concern and advocacy within Pasadena in accordance with our mission statement.

It is the goal of the SRNA to use our member contributions in a responsible manner. Using an "all-electronic/green" publication format allows us to defray costs and promote "green practices", while ensuring our contributions are used responsibly.

We hope you find the SRNA newsletter on current and historical issues in Pasadena to be informative.

If you have comments, please send them to info@srnapasdena.org ATTN:



Some of the SRNA volunteers at the Pasadena Hot Meals Program. SRNA President Ron Paler, Vice President-East Robin Salzer, and other board members Stan Clark, Michael Loya (not pictured), Mary Beth Bridges, Mary Dee Romney, and Wendi Moffly (not pictured)

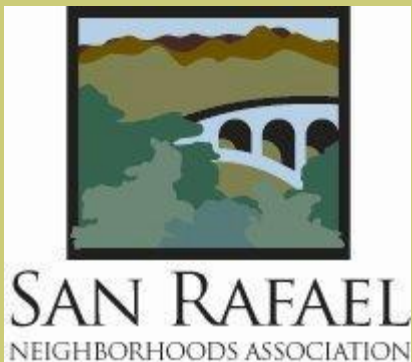
The San Rafael Neighborhoods Association (SRNA) was invited to help feed the hungry at the Pasadena Hot Meals Program at Jackie Robinson Community Center in Northwest Pasadena recently. **SRNA Vice President (East)-Robin Salzer**, owner of **Robin's Wood Fire Barbeque** restaurant in Pasadena, is a founder of the Pasadena Hot Meals Program and has been affiliated with the program for many years. Pastor Thomas Bereal from Abounding Grace Ministries was also present.

Approximately 140 persons were served a dinner of salad, shrimp, mixed vegetables, macaroni and cheese, as well as desert. Attendees were extremely grateful for the donated food and for the volunteerism in Northwest Pasadena. One attendee spoke of the need for persons in West and Southwest Pasadena to become more actively engaged with residents of Northwest Pasadena.

Another Hot Meals Program attendee mentioned the importance of "...nearsight, insight, and foresight..." in living a meaningful life. Here's what he meant: **Near sight**...look around at the situation closest to you. Are you fully present and connected with your community? **Insight**...have you examined your own views on the glaring socioeconomic divide in Pasadena? **Foresight**--- what can you as an individual and as a community

Editor

SRNA is committed to keeping Pasadena beautiful in accordance with our mission statement



do to promote social justice and lessen the disparities between persons?

In addition to improving the quality of life for West Pasadena, SRNA works to break down barriers throughout all areas of Pasadena through programs such as the Pasadena Hot Meals program. A neighborhood organization is much more than a group concerned solely with issues in its immediate vicinity or social gatherings. Instead, we recognize the importance of working with people, speaking truth to power, calling attention to inequities, and promoting a vibrant community. We promote positive change.

SRNA will continue volunteering at the Hot Meals Program in future months. If you would like to volunteer, please contact SRNA at info@srnapasadena.org for further details.

87th JULY 4th AT THE ROSE BOWL Family Fun on the 4th!

By Audrey O'Kelley

Be sure to attend this year's Americafest July 4th celebration where the whole family can enjoy safe and affordable family entertainment. Make your donation and get your tickets. Come to America's Stadium to celebrate our nation's birthday inside the historic Rose Bowl Stadium.

The fun starts at 2 pm outside the bowl in Family Fun Zone. Families will enjoy food, entertainment, crafts, exhibits and inflatable rides for the kids. At 7 pm go inside the stadium catch live TNT motorcycle stunts and special performances by Mariachi Divas & Kenny G. Tickets are nominally priced and as always, active military and their families are admitted free.

You can help ensure the financial stability of this important community tradition by giving a tax exempt donation. All donors will be listed on the scoreboard during the program and will be in all pre-event publicity listing donors. Donors are listed, by category as shown in the box.

\$1,000 or more will be recognized as Stars and Stripes community sponsors and will receive four invitations to a VIP reception held that evening.

\$500-\$999 will be recognized as Rockets' Red Glare community sponsors

\$1-\$499 will be recognized as Sparklers community sponsors

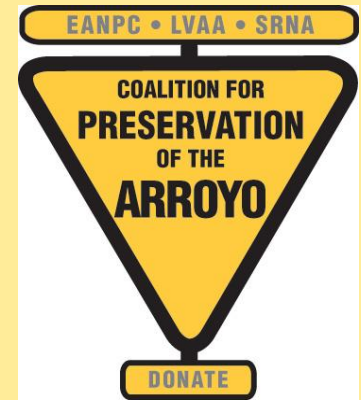
Be sure to fill out the form in the letters that Marilynne and her team sent out. If you haven't received your letter and form, let Marilynne know. You can reach her at rosebowljuly4@yahoo.com or 626-278-3314 if you have any questions.



As always, there will be free admittance to active duty military and their families to thank them for their service to our country. For more information on tickets, parking and tour package go to the stadium website http://www.rosebowlstadium.com/RoseBowl_Americafest.php

COALITION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE ARROYO NFL-EIR LAWSUIT Information Update

Legal proceedings continue in the challenge to the NFL-EIR lawsuit. Please refer to the Special Update E-Mail Update Dated May 7 and the SRNA website for additional information and updates at www.srnapasadena.org.



The Coalition for Preservation of the Arroyo is composed of the East Arroyo Neighborhood Preservation Committee (EANPC), the Linda Vista~Annandale Association, (LVAA) and the San Rafael Neighborhoods Association (SRNA), and is supported by the West Pasadena Residents' Association (WPRA)

We encourage you to support the NFL EIR litigation. Help us protect our neighborhoods and the Central Arroyo. To read more and contribute, go to lvaa.net, or srnapasadena.org. Contribute here to the cause:

<http://srnapasadena.org/rose-bowl-nfl-expansion/join-in-challenging-the-nfl-in-the-rose-bowl-eir/>

Related articles on the Rose Bowl Renovation:

Fitch Ratings downgrades Pasadena to AA+ in part for Rose Bowl debt *Pasadena Star News*

Read more: http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/news/ci_23337430/fitch-ratings-downgrades-pasadena-based-rose-bowl-debt#ixzz2X3NbD5Pi

Upgrades show the high cost of luxury *Letter to the editor by Wes Reutimann*

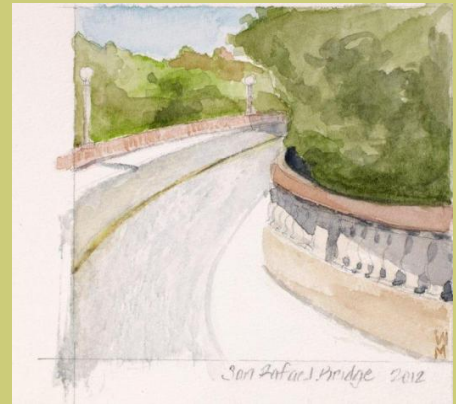
<http://www.pasadenasun.com/opinion/pasadenasu-upgrades-show-the-high-cost-of-luxury-20130621,0,2264756.story>

Crime Watch Update-Neighborhood Watch

By *Alix Reeves*

Lowering neighborhood crime is an objective most of us can agree on. Keeping ourselves informed of recent crimes and knowing which types of crimes are most likely to occur where we live is vital information.

Calling to report suspicious individuals or unusual activity is critical in preventing and dissuading crime in our neighborhoods. The Non-Emergency Number **(626) 744-4241** is a valuable tool for us, a way to inform the PPD about activity in our midst. You may not always know if an activity is suspicious; if so, call and ask. The dispatchers are our liaison to the police.



Below is a list of residential crimes in the area from May 1, 2013 through June 16, 2013 with a description of the crime type.

Grand Theft : Value of theft is over \$950. NOTE: Property taken from an unlocked vehicle may be included in this category.

Petty Theft: Value of theft is under \$950.

VEH BURG: (Vehicle burglary) Forced entry into a vehicle. NOTE: Property taken from an unlocked vehicle is not considered a vehicle burglary because there was no forced entry (it is considered a petty or grand theft).

G THEFT AUTO: (Grand theft auto) Taking or attempting to take a vehicle that does not belong to you.

RES BURG: (Residential burglary) Forced entry into a home, garage, locker, business, etc.

Crime Stats

Source: *Crimemapping.com unless otherwise noted.*

Crime Type	Case Number	Location	Date and Time
THEFT	3PA0036991	1400 BLOCK BRIXTON RD	5/1/2013 8:19
RESIDENTIAL BURG	3PA0037073	1700 BLOCK LA LOMA RD	5/1/2013 13:53
RESIDENTIAL BURG	3PA0038908	200 BLOCK SEQUOIA DR	5/6/2013 17:47
GRAFFITI	3PA0041276	400 BLOCK AVENUE 64	5/14/2013 9:36
RESIDENTIAL BURG	3PA0042423	300 BLOCK CALIFORNIA TE	5/17/2013 19:14
PETTY THEFT	3PA0042963	0 BLOCK N SAN RAFAEL AV	5/19/2013 12:54
BURGLARY	3PA0047885	1000 BLOCK LA LOMA RD	6/2/2013 13:21
PETTY THEFT	3PA0048130	1200 BLOCK LA LOMA RD	6/3/2013 09:50AM
VEHICLE BURG	3PA0052653	1000 BLOCK S ORANGE GROVE	6/16/2013 18:21
VEHICLE BURG	(not reported)	300 BLOCK SAN MIGUEL RD	Week of 6/10 -6/16

To All Those People Who Care About Our Environment and About Pasadena

By Freddie Hannan

Pasadena is a perfect place to raise honey bees!! We have a great deal of useable land.

Our gardens and natural habitat would benefit.

Residents & business would benefit.

AND our city could raise revenue.

Perhaps, disabled (physically&mentally) children & adults (vets) could also benefit.



Related article: <http://www.laweekly.com/2013-06-13/news/backwards-beekeepers-honeybees/>

Pasadena History:

Snapshots of the early history of the Pasadena Police Department

By Cecily Betz, Ph.D

The Pasadena Police Department was established in 1886, the same year that Pasadena became incorporated. Early records depict the transformation of this public safety resource from the modest beginnings of shared space with other nascent municipal services into what is now a major metropolitan police department, housed in an 80,000 square foot building equipped with the latest technology for crime prevention and fighting.



Prior to the establishment of the Pasadena Police Department, our city's only law enforcement officer was known as the Pasadena City Marshall. The Pasadena City Marshall's office was co-located in a humble surroundings and shared space with the City Tax Collector, the Justice of the Peace, a law office and last and certainly not least a municipal service department, the Pasadena Park Place Improvement. Later, the Pasadena Police Department was co-located in larger surroundings- a four story building that housed the Hall of Justice and Pasadena's Emergency Hospital.

Historical markers of the Pasadena Police Department are evident in the early photographs of police uniforms and equipment. A 1906 picture of the uniform of PPD police officer is reminiscent of the older British police officer uniforms. Then, PPD officers wore a hip length jacket with nine polished metal buttons with an eight point metallic star badge on the left side of the uniform jacket. Officers' helmets resembled those worn by British "Bobbys." In 1931, the uniform of the PPD officer evolved, keeping the same style of jacket but now with a large belt sporting a prominent belt buckle around the waist of the jacket. The eight point star pin was replaced with a six point badge, with the words inscribed across it "Pasadena Police." The Bobby helmet was replaced with the cloth hat with brim. The Chief of Police was distinguished from his officers with a medallion on the front of his cap labeled Chief of Police.

The PPD uniform later evolved into dark jackets worn with white shirt and tie underneath. The

jacket belt added a gun holster, and the metallic badge on the front of the jacket was replaced with a cloth badge on the jacket sleeve with the designation, Pasadena Police Department.

Modes of transportation reflect not only the growth of the PPD but of the city itself. In the early days of Pasadena, policing on horses was feasible. With the introduction of motor vehicles in the early 19th century, it became incumbent for PPD to use vehicles for law enforcement purposes. The early police vehicles were similar in style to the Model T Ford. Early photos depict PPD officers at the sight of auto mishaps on streets with nary another vehicle in sight and with the vast expanse of lightly populated land in the background that characterized the early beginnings of Pasadena. Other early means of conveyance were motorcycles that look much like today's off road dirt bikes. These motorcycles had small tires, low handlebars and were without the protective wind breakers.

In the ensuing years, the PPD has evolved into a massive public safety organization with more than 200 police officers who respond to the needs of our community. New means of policing have been introduced over the years such as the use of air operations to support the crime fighting efforts of patrol units; community outreach programs such as the Safe School Team to support high school students and the Homeless Outreach Psychiatric Evaluation (H.O.P.E.) Team to provide assistance to the homeless. The use of technology by PPD enables Pasadena citizens to be more engaged with the Department and keep abreast of emerging developments in our city. For example, the home page of the web site that follows contains community alerts, advisories and community information. Residents can sign up for these messages to be texted to their cell phones (<http://www.ci.pasadena.ca.us/Police/>).

Volunteers are important assets of the PPD. Volunteers assist with community patrolling, working with first time offenders. Currently, there are several Volunteer programs available for youth: the PPD Explorer Program, a career exploration program for young people who may be interested in pursuing a law enforcement career; Citizen Police Academy, a 12 week community-awareness program geared for adults over the age of 18; and the Mounted Volunteers, a group of volunteers, who on horseback, provide patrol support in remote park areas and the Rose Bowl.

References

History of the Pasadena Police Department. <http://www.ci.pasadena.tx.us/default.aspx?name=pol.history>
Pasadena Police Department <http://www.ci.pasadena.ca.us/Police/>
Pasadena Star News, January 19, 2002 New approach reaches out to homeless
Pasadena Star News, November 5, 2008 Public steps up to help police
Pasadena Star News, November 11, 2007, Team of officers at high school.
Pasadena Police Department, Volunteer Services,
http://www.ci.pasadena.ca.us/police/Volunteer_Mission_Statement/
Pasadena Museum of History, Photo archives of Pasadena Police Department

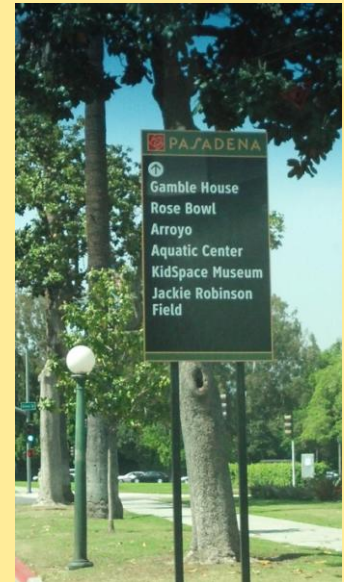
Signage for the Wayfarer: Wayfinding Signs Lead to Divided Opinions in the Community

Information Update

Local residents continue to comment on the ever-increasing load of signage found on city streets. A March 20th press release from the city manager's office explains 378 new way-finding signs will be installed over the next few months at a cost of ~**\$2.2 million (Metro and city)** "to lead the traveling public into - and around - distinct parts of the City . . ." The City Planning Commission requested this matter be agendized as soon as possible for commission review.

SRNA is reminded of the work of **Lady Bird Johnson** in the 1960's to limit billboard visual clutter along the nation's highway system.

Some have suggested a similar analogy to the proliferation of signage throughout Pasadena.



SRNA will continue to keep you informed on this most important issue.

**Continue to send us your opinions on the
Wayfinding Signs
at
info@srapasadena.org**

SR 710 North Update: Information Update

GREAT NEWS!

The SR 710 North extension alternatives through the San Rafael neighborhoods/Ave 64 area have been **dropped from further consideration** in the Environmental Impact Study being conducted by Metro (through its contractor, CH2M Hill).



This is due in part to the efforts of ALL NEIGHBORS AND LIKE-MINDED groups who continue to fight the remaining 710 alternatives.

Upcoming Metro Meeting on remaining alternatives:

Saturday, July 20, 2013, 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Blair High School
1201 S. Marengo Av; Pasadena

The San Rafael Neighborhoods Association (SRNA) will continue to actively participate in the 710 debate and remains committed in its opposition to ALL 710 Freeway and Highway routes through Pasadena.

Colorado St Bridge & Suicide Prevention Information Update

The Colorado Street Bridge has a troubled history.

Related article:

<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-suicide-prevention-signs-to-be-erected-on-pasadena-bridge-20130622.0.6192597.story>



EDUCATION: PICKING WINNERS AND LOSERS . . .

By Mary Dee Romney

PUSD and districts across the state are sizing up learning curves needed to comply with BIG changes to public education.

Putting pressure on district budget deadlines (June 30th) is Governor Brown's departure, after a 40-year run, from the statutory-based formula for per-student "revenue limit" funding.

http://www.edsource.org/iss_fin_sys_history.html

Decades ago this formula put in play annual power struggles between the state legislature and local districts, each dealing in money for "equal protection" and an education product designed for immunity to "wealth-based disparities."

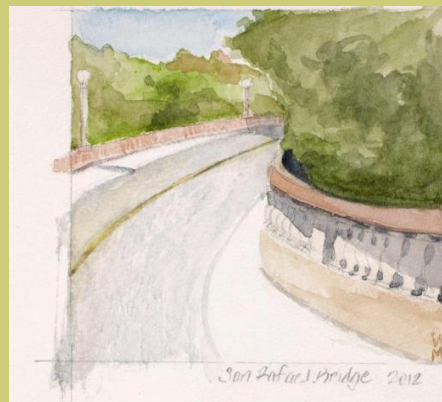
The "money" struggle now appears to be intensifying. The governor's new formula, inaptly named "Local Control Funding Formula" (LCFF), authorizes the state to identify well-heeled districts (like La Canada Flintridge and San Marino) for stagnant base-funding (leveling-down), while base-funding for districts like the PUSD, with higher percentages of low-income and English learner children, will level-up.

<http://www.edsource.org/today/category/funding-taxation/weighted-student-funding-funding-taxation>

The two major mechanisms for state distribution of funds to school districts are state-approved "supplemental grants" and "concentration grants." These methods of distribution will track and trail individual students in disparate ways, establishing a district's LCFF funding eligibility - or ineligibility.

As of the June 20th PUSD finance subcommittee meeting the state's funding distribution means this for Pasadena schools: PUSD's 2013-14 revenue projection estimates eligibility for "supplemental" LCFF at \$12,688,600 and "concentration" LCFF at \$6,436,246, assuming a 69% poverty rate.

No standards for accountability regarding funding, curricula or maintenance of effort are yet available.



Making this state mish-mash for education finance worse is the looming requirement of districts to conform to the Common Core Standards Initiative, a federal overhaul of education nationwide, popularly known as "Race to the Top."

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/06/09/opinion/sunday/the-common-core-whos-minding-the-schools.html?pagewanted=all&r=0> and, <http://articles.latimes.com/2013/jun/17/opinion/la-ed-race-to-the-top-common-core-curriculum-20130617>

To be excepted from 2014 NCLB proficiency standards and failure penalties, state governors prematurely signed-on for "new" federal Common Core standards, ceding state and local control for a grab at one-time federal money.

For California that "grab" is estimated at \$1.6B (billion) in federal funds.

This staggering amount of one-time money from the federal government requiring state application of federal Common Core State Standards (CCSS) comes with multitudes of problems for local school districts that are just now surfacing.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/answer-sheet/wp/2013/06/18/the-common-cores-fundamental-trouble/>

High performing districts in the state will be expected to dumb-down curricula while low performing districts must contemplate technology bond measures taxing local residents to meet federal CCSS technology requirements while funding professional development to re-train teachers.

State legislators and local school boards are balking at the exorbitant cost of maintaining this federal "overhaul" established with one-time federal money, the dumbing-down of standards and loss of control; teachers wonder what's happening to their profession and parents are freaking-out at the intrusion of federal Common Core data collection on their families.

<http://www.natcure.org/> and, <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=srYHUdSpuRo>

These events are particularly troubling (and disheartening) for those education experts who so diligently crafted the California Content Standards (CCS) during the 1990's.

Still considered the "gold standard" for K-12 education by reputable educators (along with those in Massachusetts), CA Content Standards have been kicked to the rubbish heap and replaced by the momentary distractions of budget goodies from the federal government.

With these recognitions, some states are opting out of Common Core altogether, or supporting parent opt-out options.

<http://whatiscommoncore.wordpress.com/tag/other-states-opt-out-of-the-common-core-initiative/>

and,

http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/state_edwatch/2013/06/learn_act_from_us_rep_garrett_would_return_k-12_policy_to_states_1.html

Who will speak for California?

JOIN AND RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP WITH SRNA

Join and renew your membership with SRNA---

West Pasadena's *newest and fast growing* neighborhood organization dedicated to the San Rafael Neighborhoods Area.

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS:

Member \$20

Household \$35

Sustaining \$100

Patron \$250

Benefactor \$500

Please send check by mail to:

San Rafael Neighborhoods Association (SRNA)

PO Box 92617

Pasadena, CA 91109

OR

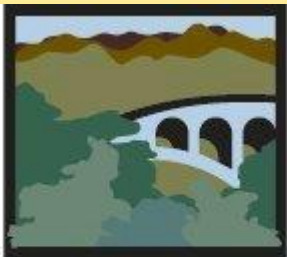
Join us at our website at

www.srnapasadena.org and click the tab "Join Us"

Credit cards accepted

SRNA is looking for people to volunteer and be a part of our organization.

Write to us if you would like to help make a difference and what your area of interest is.



SAN RAFAEL
NEIGHBORHOODS ASSOCIATION

SRNA is registered with the city of Pasadena/Neighborhood Connections office.