



The Monterey Park Cascades



Volume IX, No. VII

Citywide News for Business, Community and Education

July 2011

"America, We Love You" Fourth of July Celebration

"America, We Love You" is the theme for this year's spectacular Independence Day celebration, to be held from 3:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at Barnes Park, 350 S. McPherrin Avenue. The day will feature entertainment, food, and fun for the entire family. Patriotic activities include children's crafts, music by the Monterey Park Concert Band, the announcement of the July 4th Poster Contest winners, and the introduction of new citizens and military families. New U.S. citizens and military families are encouraged to contact the Special Events Manager at 626-307-1388 to be included in the program. The day will conclude with a stirring fireworks show at 9:00 p.m.

Additional parking has been reserved at Repetto School (650 S. Grandridge Ave) and St. Stephen's Church (320 W. Garvey Avenue) for the event.

2011 Schedule of Events

- 3:00 PM Food Booths open, crafts & games begin
- 4:00 PM Monterey Park Concert Band
- 5:15 PM New citizens, military families, and dignitaries
- 6:30 PM Rudy Macias Band (classic rock and R&B hits)
- 8:00 PM Golden Stars Sky Diving Team demonstration
- 8:15 PM Rudy Macias Band (continued)
- 9:00 PM Firework spectacular - please note that Ramona Avenue will be closed at approximately 8:00 p.m. until the conclusion of the fireworks show.

Your assistance in helping the City to continue to provide this free event to the community is appreciated. If you or your business is interested in making a donation to or becoming a sponsor of this popular community celebration, please contact the Special Events Manager at 626-307-1388. Sponsorship and event information is also available on the City website at www.ci.monterey-park.ca.us. Search for "Fourth of July."

PRSR.T. STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT# 97
MONTEREY PARK
ECRWSS

City of Monterey Park
320 W. Newmark Ave.
Monterey Park, CA 91754

Postal Customer
Monterey Park, CA 91754-91755

MERCI Breaks Ground for New Group Home

On Thursday June 2, 2011, the long awaited groundbreaking for the Group Home and Offices was held. Marta Escanuelas Executive Director of MERCI and the 2011 MERCI Board of Directors welcomed honored guests, including members of the Monterey Park City Council, other elected officials and City staff.

Ms. Escanuelas provided a brief history of MERCI (Mentally and Educationally Retarded Citizens, Inc.) and its humble beginnings. In 1955, the need for a school in which developmentally disabled children could thrive was identified by the Monterey Park Exchange Club. Up until that point, developmentally disabled children were not eligible for public school. MERCI was formed out of this need and incorporated as a nonprofit in 1959. In 1960, MERCI purchased its first property at 525 North Chandler Avenue in Monterey Park. This purchase was partially realized by a generous donation from the Monterey Park Firemen's Association. In recognition of this kind act, the Mayor of Monterey Park presented a certificate of Appreciation to the Monterey Park Fireman's Association.

A few years ago, MERCI approached the City requesting financial assistance to construct a group home that would provide supportive housing for up to six adults with severe to profound ranges of mental and physical disabilities. The City Council approved funding in the amount of \$713,588 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD Home Investment Partnership (HOME) Program. HOME funds may be used for acquisition, new construction or rehabilitation of affordable rental housing. In addition, \$100,000 was approved from the CRA Housing Set Aside Funds for pre-development costs.

In order to build the new Group Home and office building, the two office building located at 525 and 529 North Chandler Ave will need to be demolished, hence the groundbreaking ceremony. The two story six bedroom group home will provide individual rooms large enough to function as a bedroom and sitting room for an increased level of independent living. Each living unit will include a handicapped accessible restroom, and the project will have 24-hour 7-days-a-week staffing.

It was also announced at the ceremony that the residential home will be named "The John & Mary Duce Centre" aka "John & Mary's Place" in honor of Mary Duce that also provided a very generous donation to the project. To find out more information about MERCI and this project please go to the website www.merci.org.

This information is brought to you by the Monterey Park Economic Development Department.



MERCI's Executive Director, Marta Escanuelas



2011 ALA Scholarship Winners Represent Determined Work and Bright Futures

Every year the Alhambra Latino Association (ALA) recognizes five outstanding students from each Alhambra high school with \$500 scholarships to go towards their college education. This year's award winners were honored at the 15th Annual ALA Scholarship Banquet at Almansor Court on Friday, May 20. Each has an inspiring story and their hard work and dedication to their dreams was recognized in front of the Board of Education and Alhambra educators from the District office as well as the schools. They are Ruben D. Lopez of Mark Keppel High School, Raychel Roxanne Galvan of Alhambra High School, Mayte Salguero of Century High School, Sara Lopez of Independence High School, and Amanda Gomez of San Gabriel High School.

ALA is a district and community based organization founded 15 years ago to promote cultural awareness in the arts to students. Any high school student can apply for the scholarship and is required to submit an essay describing his or her background and educational goals. Winners are selected by a panel of ALA judges, which include educators throughout the district's schools.

Mark Keppel's Ruben Lopez is preparing to take a big step next fall when he enrolls in the USC Marshall School of Business. Ruben's passion for the subject began when he enrolled in Mark Keppel's International Business Academy. He attributes his time in the class for directing his academic path and providing him the opportunity to fill leadership roles.

"I've learned a lot in the Academy classes.



The 2011 ALA student Scholarship winners from left: Sara Lopez of Independence High School, Mayte Salguero of Century High School, Ruben D. Lopez of Mark Keppel High School, Raychel Roxanne Galvan of Alhambra High School, and Amanda Gomez of San Gabriel High School.

At USC I want to make connections get involved with different internships. The business classes I've taken in high school really set a path for me," he said.

Principal Grace Love said of Ruben, "Mark Keppel is going to miss him but we are so proud of all he has accomplished. He's been an outstanding student who graduated in the top 11 percent of his class. His dream was to become a Trojan, and now that dream has

come true."

Raychel Roxanne will be attending University of California Irvine this fall with an eye towards becoming an environmental engineer. She also plans on studying either German or Japanese there to enhance her ability to communicate with wide ranges of people in her future career.

Household Hazardous Waste and E-Waste Collection Event

Saturday, August 6.
 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
 Rio Hondo College, Parking Lot A
 3600 Workman Mill Road, Whittier

BUSINESS WASTE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

What you CAN bring to an event (examples):

- Brake fluid, paint, paint thinner, cleaners with acid or lye, pesticides or herbicides, household batteries and car batteries, pool chemicals, motor oil, oil filters, expired pharmaceuticals, anti-freeze, and fluorescent light bulbs.
- Household electronic waste which includes: Computer monitors, televisions, computer CPUs, keyboards, printers, cellular phones, etc.

What you CAN'T bring to an event:

- Hazardous waste and electronic waste from businesses.
- Explosives, ammunition and radioactive materials.
- Trash and tires.
- White goods such as refrigerators, stoves and washing machines, etc.
- Controlled substances.

How to prepare items for transportation:

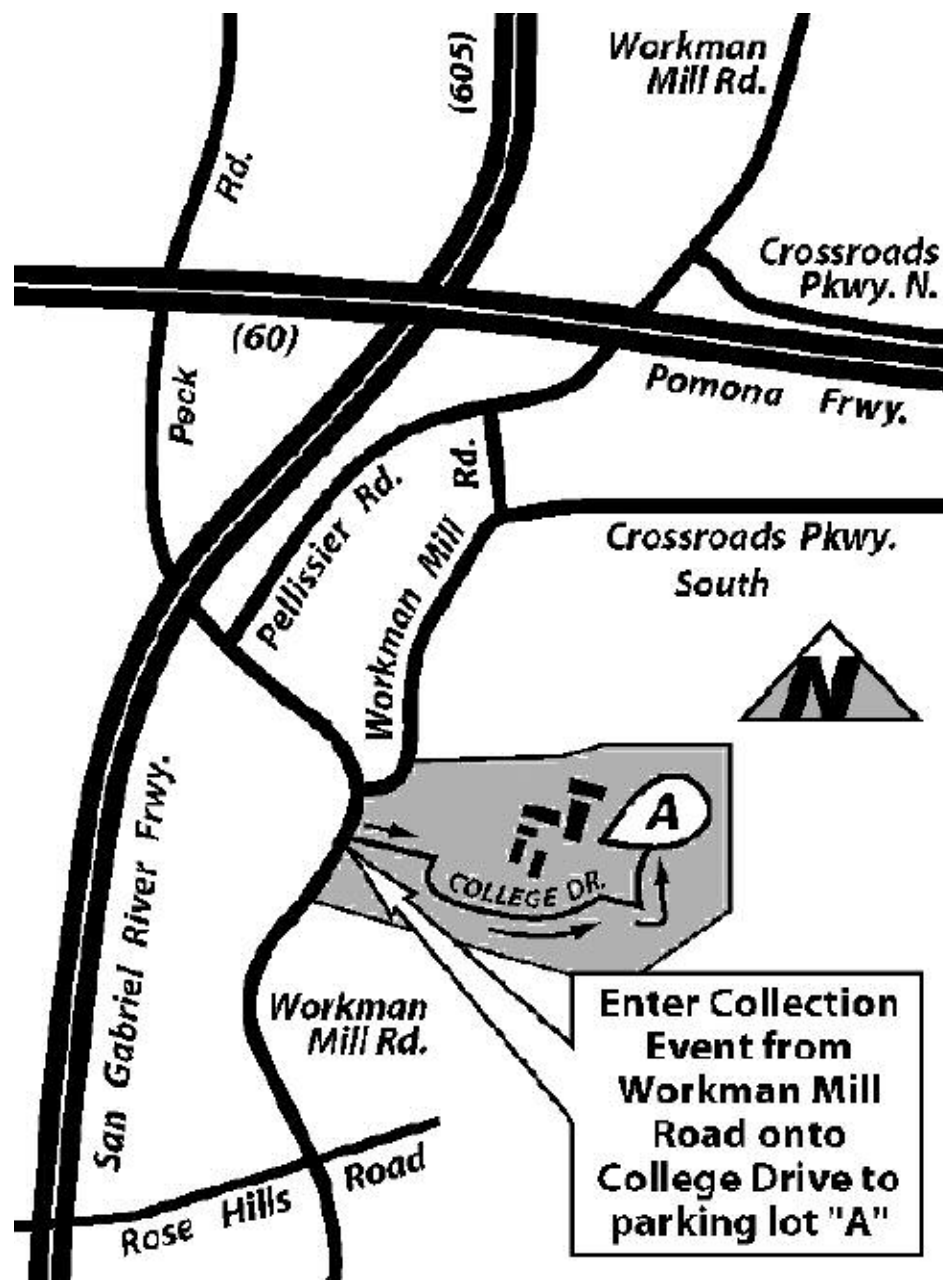
- Bring the items in a sturdy box, preferably in their original labeled containers.
- Do not mix the items together.
- There is a limit of 15 gallons or 125 pounds of hazardous waste per trip.
- Be prepared to leave your containers and boxes. Remove all other items from your trunk.

Home generated sharps waste such as hypodermic needles, pen needles, syringes, lancets, and intravenous needles SHOULD NOT be placed in your trash. Bring them to the Roundups or visit www.CLEANLA.com for alternate disposal options.

You can also take your used motor oil to more than 600 oil recycling centers in Los Angeles County. Call 1(888) CLEAN-LA for listings.

For a complete listing of what you can and cannot bring, or information on other upcoming events, contact 1(888) CLEAN-LA, www.CleanLA.com, 1(800)238-0172, or www.lacsd.org.

Household Hazardous Waste and E-Waste Roundup events are brought to you by the County of Los Angeles and presented by the Department of Public Works and the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County in cooperation with the cities of Baldwin Park, El Monte, Industry, Irwindale, La Habra Heights, La Mirada, La Puente, Montebello, Monterey Park, Pico Rivera, Rosemead, Santa Fe Springs, San Gabriel, South El Monte, Walnut, West Covina, and Whittier.



This message is brought to you by the County of Los Angeles and the City of Monterey Park Public Works Department. Readers may also contact MP Public Works via the City webpage or call 626-307-1320 for additional information.

San Gabriel Valley Household Battery Collection Sites

The businesses listed here are committed to helping residents in the San Gabriel Valley recycle their household batteries.

Alhambra

1. Alhambra Car Wash
707 West Main St.
2. Dat Chong Jewelry Co.
1231 E. Valley Blvd.
3. Main Pharmacy
103 N. Garfield Ave. #D

Altadena

4. Altadena Hardware
849 E. Mariposa St.
5. Masters Building Supply
370 E. Woodbury Rd.
6. Webster's Liquor
2450 Lake Ave.

Azusa

7. Cute Cuts Salon & Barber
934 E. Alosta Ave.
8. Los Zorros Meat Market
794 E. Alosta Ave.

Baldwin Park

9. Fresh & Easy Neighborhood Market
1640 Puente Ave.
10. Vallarta Supermarket
13940 Ramona Blvd.

Claremont

11. Hendricks Pharmacy
137 N. Harvard Ave.

Duarte

12. Route 66 Car Wash
2110 E. Huntington Dr.

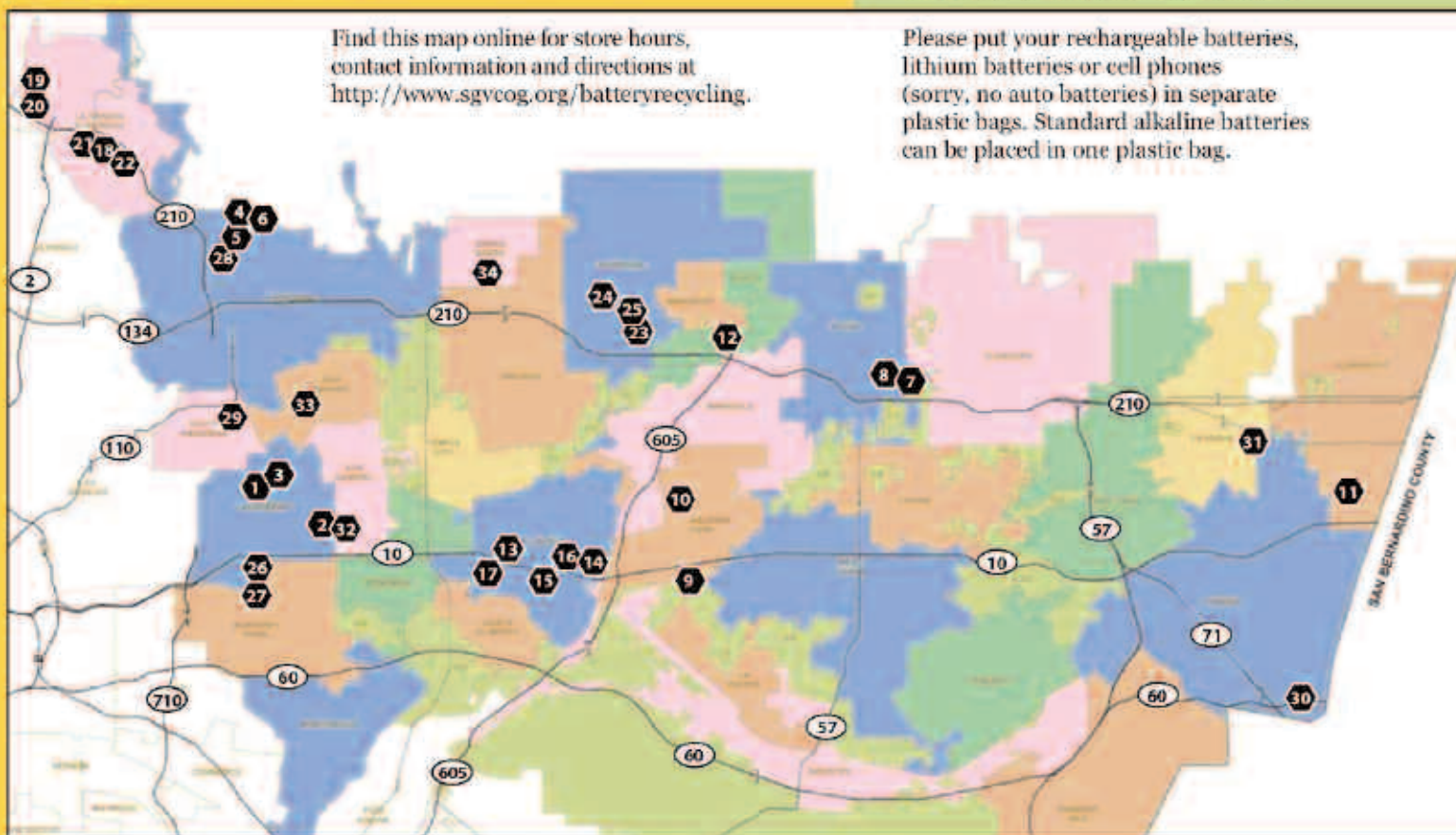
El Monte

13. Baldwin Car Wash
9955 Valley Blvd.
14. El Monte Auto Spa & Resort
12269 Garvey Ave.
15. Grant's True Value Hardware
10944 E. Garvey Ave.
16. Star Hand Car Wash
3447 N. Peck Rd.

South El Monte

17. Super Kleen Hand Car Wash
2745 Rosemead Blvd.

Find this map online for store hours, contact information and directions at <http://www.sgvocog.org/batteryrecycling>.



Please put your rechargeable batteries, lithium batteries or cell phones (sorry, no auto batteries) in separate plastic bags. Standard alkaline batteries can be placed in one plastic bag.

La Canada Flintridge

18. Flintridge Pharmacy & Medical
523 Foothill Blvd.
19. Foothill Car Wash
2355 Foothill Blvd.
20. Foothill Lube & Oil
2355 Foothill Blvd.
21. La Canada Camera
930 Foothill Blvd.
22. Printeflex
456 Foothill Blvd., Suite B

Monrovia

23. Army/Navy Surplus
626 S. Myrtle Ave.
24. DigiTech Camera Repair
447 W. Foothill Blvd.
25. Dollmakers' Kattywompus
412 S. Myrtle Ave.
- Monterey Park**
26. Monterey Car Wash
521 N. Atlantic Blvd.
27. Shun Fat Market
421 N. Atlantic Blvd.

Pasadena

28. Berry & Sweeney Pharmacy
1377 N. Fair Oaks Ave.
- South Pasadena**
29. The Dinosaur Farm
1510 Mission St.
- Pomona**
30. Mattel Toy Store
2780 S. Reservoir St.
31. Star Drug
3280 N. Garey

San Gabriel

32. Mission Super Hardware
501 W. Valley Blvd.
- San Marino**
33. Huntington Pharmacy
2300 Huntington Dr.
- Sierra Madre**
34. Best Buy Drugs
29 N. Baldwin Ave.