

November 06, 2014

## This Week

**Executive Director Pasadena Village – Enabling seniors to age in place**  
**Program Host: Jim Gorton**

Nearly 20 years ago, seniors living in the Beacon Hill neighborhood of Boston found themselves wondering how much longer some of them might be able to stay in their historic neighborhood, in houses that had been home for decades, among a network of friends, acquaintances and a life which they loved. Seemingly trivial problems like clearing ice from gutters, getting electrical repairs done, or getting around town were becoming huge problems. Thus was the Beacon Hill Village born, a co-op approach to all of the problems and obstacles of aging in place which seniors face with age and disabilities.

Just lately, the village movement has come to Pasadena. Our speakers this Thursday will be the Executive Director of Pasadena Village, and Ed Folz one of the members of Pasadena Village to tell us about the village movement and how it is working in the Pasadena-Altadena area. ○



## REFLECTIONS

by Hal Yorke, President

## BEEFLECTIONS?

### on Space Travel

Last week there were two high profile accidents involving spacecraft: 1) the break-up during the test flight of *SpaceShipTwo*, Virgin Galactic's six-passenger suborbital spaceship and 2) the explosion of Orbital Science's *Antares* rocket shortly after launch.

These two independent incidents remind us that launching people or goods into space is difficult and sometimes dangerous. One of *SpaceShipTwo*'s pilots was killed during the accident; the other was seriously injured. A JPL science experiment was destroyed during the *Antares* explosion.

Ever since the 1950s, in particular after the launch of Sputnik, space was considered to be our next frontier. America no longer had a frontier on its North American lands — a so-called *terra incognita* — beyond the fringe of existing settlements, where explorers and pioneers could make new discoveries and the discontented could leave the shackles of societal rules and regulations.

Many science fiction novels have been written (and avidly read) that allow interstellar travel across the Milky Way

Galaxy, the discovery and exploration of exotic planets, and occasionally involve encounters with alien intelligences. As a child, I could dream of space travel, convinced that it would be possible within my lifetime. As an adult, I recognize that space travel will always remain just a distant dream for everyone except the lucky few or the very rich.

The reality of space travel for humans is: You must overcome the Earth's gravity to get into space, which means that you need extremely complex machinery and tons of expensive rocket fuel to even brush the edge of space. Once there, outer space has unequalled dangers. Outside of low Earth orbit (where the Space Station resides), harmful radiation is no longer

Please turn to Reflections, p.3

## Greeters

November 06

**Fred Figueroa**

November 13

**John Frykenberg**

November 20

**Jim Gorton**

## An Inspiring Story



Many of the speakers who appear before the weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Altadena have a background of hard work and challenges. However, few can match the story of our speaker last Thursday (October 30).

Tami DeVine is a Pasadena resident who originally immigrated to the United

States as a young woman. She was born in mud hut with a dirt floor in the third world country of Sierra Leone — located in west Africa. Sierra Leone has a very high infant mortality rate, and her four siblings did not survive their youth.

Her mother died when she was six years old. After her mother's death, DeVine stayed with relatives. This was a very difficult situation for her and her family. Fortunately, she had become acquainted with Christian missionaries who lived in the next village. These missionaries took her in and eventually adopted her. This new family treated her as one of their own children. They made sure she had an education.

Her family relocated to the United States in the Chicago area and later moved to a small town called Mapleton Iowa. This was quite an adjustment for DeVine, as she was the only black child in the junior high and high school. However, she rose to the occasion and was active in a number of activities in high school.



She attended Concordia University in Chicago. It was at Concordia University that DeVine discovered journalism and the news. And it was at Concordia that she started a talk show that was broadcast from campus. Her first reporting job after graduation was in Hazard, Kentucky for a local television station. She later moved to Lexington to work for the local ABC affiliate.

Later she had the opportunity to relocate to southern California and has spent the last 10 years working in television and

Please turn to Program, p. 3

**Congratulations**



**Birthdays**

11/08 - Sterling Louviere  
11/13 - Ed Jasnow  
11/26 - Ray Carlson  
11/26 - Roger Fennel



**Anniversaries**

11/07 - Hal & Barbara Yorke

**Sparks** is published 48 weeks a year and is the official publication of the Rotary Club of Altadena. The deadline for submission of articles is Friday at 6p to current editor email, fax, or delivery.

**Rotary Club of Altadena - #7183**

Chartered: February 14, 1949  
P.O. Box 414, Altadena, CA 91003  
www.altadenarotary.com  
Meets: Thursday, 12:10p  
Altadena Town & Country Club  
2290 Country Club Drive • Altadena, CA  
626-794-7163

Rotary Int. Pres. .... Gary Huang  
Dist 5300 Gov. .... Larry Skaggs

**Officers**

Hal Yorke, Pres. .... Bus. 626-577-9800  
Steve Cunningham, Pres. Elec. .... Bus. 626-786-1937  
Dennis Mehringer, V. Pres. .... Bus. 626-577-9800  
Gordon Seyffert, Sec. .... Bus. 626-345-0658  
Mike Noll, Treas. .... Bus. 626-683-0515

**Directors**

Mike Noll • John Frykenberg  
Steve Cunningham • Dennis Mehringer  
Gordon Seyffert • Mike Zoeller • Ed Jasnow

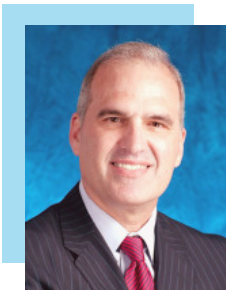
**Chairmen**

Steve Cunningham ..... Administration  
Ed Jasnow ..... Foundation  
Jacque Foreman ..... Public Awareness  
Jacque Foreman ..... Acting Publicity  
Jacque Foreman ..... Sparks/Website  
Mike Zoeller ..... Club Projects  
Craig Cox ..... Community  
John Frykenberg ..... International  
Tony Hill ..... Youth Contests/Awards  
Mike Zoeller ..... Youth Projects  
Ray Carlson ..... Vocational  
Tom McCurry ..... Asst. Vocational  
Craig Cox ..... Membership  
Editor, Design & Typesetting ..... Foreman Graphics  
Photography ..... Jacque Foreman

**November  
Rotary Foundation Month**

**Program Chair, Jim Gorton**

Nov 06 - The Executive Director of Pasadena Village and Ed Folz, member of Pasadena Village -- enabling seniors to age in place  
Nov 13 - Leah Rodemick, Executive Director, Casa de las Amigas - Guest Program Chair: Boyd Hudson  
Nov 20 - Scott Tennent, Los Angeles County Museum of Art - LACMA's plans for a new facility  
Nov 27 - Thanksgiving -- Dark



The Rotary Club of Altadena has stepped up its commitment to hands-

on service over the last 6 months. We have improved the playground at Eliot Middle School by installing benches. Rotarians coordinated with school officials and parents on the bench layout. We purchased the hardware and other supplies needed to do the installation. We organized a work group of Rotarians and parents. It was a great project and really improved the school.

We completed another successful season of selling beer, wine, soft drinks and snacks for the Farnsworth Concert in the Parks. Each weekend 8 to 9 Rotarians set up our concession stand, acted as security to make sure beverages were consumed in the amphitheatre, and shared a little about Rotary with the community.

In the Fall we began setting up winter project for Altadena Christian Childrens Center of refurbishing and installing a playhouse on a new concrete slab by dismantling the playhouse at Mike Noll's home and moving it to Dave Smith's shop.

We just finished building three wooden 10' x 14' decks for the Boy Scouts at Camp Trask. Rotarians figured out all the supplies that were needed. We organized work parties for two weekends. We built the frames, leveled the platforms, dug footings, poured cement, and finished them with decking. We even through in 3 beautiful tents to be set up on them when the time is right.

For those that participated I want to

say thank you. Your willingness to serve is making a meaningful difference in our community.

For those that haven't been able to par-

ticipate – we plan to keep you posted on future opportunities. I would encourage you to find a way to be involved. You will have a lot of fun and do a lot of good. ○

## Community Projects Update

### Program

Continued from p.2

media. She is currently the President of Crown City Media LLC. Crown City Media provides broadcast television consultation internationally. It also creates video content for television, film and the internet. It produces *Crown City News*, a weekly internet based news station covering the San Gabriel Valley and Pasadena area.

One of her activities she is most proud of is her work at the International Media Training Center where she is the CEO. The Center provides international broadcast journalism and television and media training, both onsite and in the field. A number of the graduates of the Center have gone on to successful careers at ABC, CNN and other international cable networks.

DeVine also spent six months in Mongolia as the Executive Vice President of television news. While in Mongolia, she managed a team of forty members, many of whom had no prior experience in television news. Many of the practices and changes she implemented while on the staff of Mongol TV news where copied by rival TV stations and are now part of the structure of television news in Mongolia.

We enjoyed her story of hard work and success amid many challenges.

Boyd Hudson ○

### Reflections

Continued from p. 1

diverted by the Earth's magnetic field. The Sun's surface occasionally erupts and sends packages of charged particles moving at thousands of kilometers per second into space. If such a *coronal mass ejection* (CME) had struck an Apollo mission to the Moon, the astronauts would have died instantly. NASA did not know about CMEs during the Apollo era, but it does now, and it still has not found the optimal solution for this problem that may occur during a future manned flight to Mars.

Whereas interplanetary travel is in principal possible, interstellar travel for humans isn't. No way. The cosmic speed limit of 186,291 miles per second means that we will never cross the gap to even the closest star to the Sun. JPL's Voyager I, launched in 1977 has now just entered interstellar space. Since its launch, it has traveled about 0.04 percent of the distance between the Sun and the nearest star. At its current speed of 11 miles per second, if it were pointed in the right direction, it would take another 70,000 years to get there.

In spite of the recent spacecraft setbacks, space travel will continue, both for robots and, with strong limitations, for a few humans. After all, this is the nearest thing we have to a new frontier. ○



# MONEY MATTERS

by Linda  
Wilkes

## ***Economic Update In The News***

Existing home sales rose 2.4 percent in September to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 5.17 million units. Compared to a year ago, September existing home sales were down 1.7 percent. The inventory of unsold existing homes on the market fell 1.3 percent to 2.3 million in September, a 5.3-month supply at the current sales pace.

The Mortgage Bankers Association said its seasonally adjusted composite index of mortgage applications for the week ending October 17 rose 11.6 percent from the previous week. Purchase volume fell 5 percent. Refinancing applications increased 23 percent.

Single-family new home sales rose 0.2 percent in September to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 467,000 units. August's initial reading of 504,000 units was revised to 466,000 units. On a year-over-year basis, new home sales were 17 percent higher than September 2013. At the current sales pace, there is a 5.3-month supply of new homes on the market.

Consumer prices rose 0.1 percent in September, following a 0.2 percent decrease in August. Compared to a year ago, September consumer prices have risen 1.7 percent. Consumer prices at the core rate — excluding volatile food and energy prices — were also up 0.1 percent in September.

Retail sales fell 0.3 percent for the week ending October 18, according to the ICSC-Goldman Sachs index. On a year-over-year basis, retailers saw sales increase 2.1 percent.

The index of leading economic indi-

cators — designed to forecast economic activity in the next three to six months — rose 0.8 percent in September, following no change in August.

Initial claims for unemployment benefits for the week ending October 18 rose by 17,000 to 283,000. Continuing claims for the week ending October 11 fell by 38,000 to 2.351 million, the lowest level since December 2000. The less volatile

four-week average of claims for unemployment benefits was 281,000, the lowest level since May 2000.

Upcoming on the economic calendar are reports on pending home sales on October 27, the home price index on October 28 and gross domestic product on October 30..

Find Linda Wilkes on line: <http://www.myprospectmortgage.com/lwilkes> ○

---

## *Form & Line*

by Jacque Foreman

### **Giving to Those Less Fortunate**

If you wish to do so, let me take this opportunity to invite you to join with my chapter of Business Network International (BNI). We will be holding our annual Food & Toy Drive at our regular breakfast meeting on Wednesday, December 17 (7a to 8:30a). And you are welcome to come.

For over 15 years, my BNI chapter has been doing this, and we are the only chapter in our San Fernando Region — and perhaps miles around — to do so. I know its more than 15 years because I have been the point person that long, and it started two or three years before that.

This is our member's favorite meeting of the year. Some of our former members even join us from time-to-time. One of our members regularly reminds us that this is the *Highest Form of Giving* because we are giving to those who we don't know and are unlikely to ever meet. We've *partnered* with different groups over time, but, for the last 9 or so years, we have been donating what we collect to the La Crescenta

Sheriff's Station.

On December 17, their deputy in charge of community relations will be our guest. It is our goal to have so many toys and so much food that the deputy has to call for *backup* to take it all to their staging area. The deputy used to bring a sedan, and one year he had to ask one of the attendees who had a Tahoe to help transport the food and toys to their staging area. Since then the deputy has brought an SUV. But our goal is still the same.

We regularly hold a 50/50 opportunity drawing at our meetings. On this day, our members purchase more tickets than usual because we know that all the money will be going to the Sheriff, and an alternate prize will be given to the winner.

We meet at Dish Restaurant in La Canada from 7 to 8:30a. If you have breakfast with us, we ask that you pay the same \$15 venue fee that we pay. Or you can give me your donations, and I will take them and give Altadena Rotary credit. ○