

Added acreage for wilderness park a done deal

Another 150 acres of open space will be added to the Claremont Wilderness Park, protecting more land in Claremont's hillsides from development. The city received news last week that funding was received from the Wildlands Conservancy for the purchase of the Cuevas property.

In January, the city received a \$2,425,000 grant from the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy. On Thursday, the city was awarded a matching grant of \$2,429,000 from the Wildlands Conservancy. The extra \$4,000 will cover project related expenses.

Together, the 2 grants will cover the full cost of the property acquisition. The Cuevas landowners have agreed to sell the property to the Trust For Public Land for the appraised fair market value of \$4,850,000.

"I am thrilled with the grant funding from the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy and the Wildlands Conservancy which will allow the city to expand our Wilderness Park and secure the future of our open space," Mayor Linda Elderkin said.

The Cuevas Property abuts the Claremont Wilderness Park to the north, Johnson's Pasture to the west, and Sycamore Canyon Park to the south. A segment of a trail that winds through Sycamore Canyon Park, the Claremont Hills Wilderness Park, and Johnson's Pasture is also located on the Cuevas Property and further combining these areas with the existing Claremont Wilderness Park will ensure unrestricted public access to the trail's entire length. This last piece of property will create a connection between the Claremont Hills Wilderness Park, Sycamore Canyon Park, Johnson's Pasture, and Marshall Canyon Regional Park.

With final funding approval now complete, escrow will open in March and close in May 2011. The acquisition will include 22 associated development credits from the Trust for Public Land, which will be retired when the city assumes ownership of the property.

— Tony Krickl



COURIER photo/Steven Felschundneff
Four of the 5 Claremont undergraduate college presidents, a vice president from the fifth and a representative from the Claremont University Consortium participate in a forum on Tuesday at Bridges Hall of Music.

College presidents update the community, eye the future

The presidents of the undergraduate institutions of the Claremont University Consortium made a rare public appearance together on Monday night, courtesy of *The Forum* and the Pomona Student Union.

Claremont McKenna College President Pamela Gann, Harvey Mudd College President Maria Klawe, Pitzer College Vice President of Student

Affairs Jim Marchant (in place of President Laura Trombley), Pomona College President David Oxtoby and Claremont University Consortium CEO Robert Walton fielded questions from students during the 90-minute event. The questions touched on topics such as whether or not to build another college, plans for the future and even each campus' alcohol policy.

"I've been interested in doing this for some time,"

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candidates' corner

To have an event listed in the Candidates' Corner, please send information by email to Kathryn Dunn, managing editor, at editor@claremont-courier.com.

Monday through Friday: **Joe Lyons** is on Track every weekday morning, from 6 to 8 a.m., at the Claremont Depot (Metro Link station) on First Street and Harvard Avenue. Info: www.lyons4citycouncil.info.

Tuesday, March 1: A meet-the-candidate reception for **Robin Haulman** hosted by Herman Janssen, 532 Bucknell Ave., Apt. D, 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Tuesday, March 1: **Michael Keenan** for Claremont

Bike Trailer Sign Tour from the 10 Freeway and Indian Hill Boulevard, up to Foothill Boulevard and Sprouts Market, 4 to 6 p.m. For information see: <http://sites.google.com/site/keenanforclaremont/news>.

Wednesday, March 2: A meet-the-candidate reception for **Robin Haulman** hosted by Ann and Charles Duskow, 2205 Villa Maria, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Info: 624-8903 or 460-2041.

Friday, March 4: See **Sam Pedroza** Run at Three French Hens hosted by Brenda Monahan, 456 First St., from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Info: 398-1004.

Friday, March 4: See **Sam Pedroza** Run at a meet-and-greet hosted by Mary and Sergio Martinez, Scott and Debbie Barnes, 3232 Padua Ave. (corner of Miramar and Padua) from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Info: 964-7595

Saturday, March 5: See **Sam Pedroza** Run at a meet-and-greet hosted by Dick and Marilyn Tipping, 465 Guilford, 7 p.m. Info: 625-3713.

Sunday, March 6: Meet with **Joe Lyons** at the Farmers' Market on Yale Avenue and Second Street from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 6: See **Sam Pedroza** Run at a community-wide re-election campaign Surfing Safari at Memorial Park, 840 N. Indian Hill Blvd., from noon to 3 p.m. Food, family fun, contests and prizes! Come "Hang Ten" with Sam! Aloha!

Tuesday, March 8: Election Day. The polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Polling places are:

- Oakmont Elementary, 120 W. Green St.
- Vista del Valle Elementary, 550 Vista Dr.
- St. Luke Church, 2050 N. Indian Hill Blvd.
- Joslyn Senior Center Annex, 660 N. Mountain Ave.
- Sycamore Elementary, 255 W. 8th St.
- Granite Creek Church, 1580 N. Claremont Blvd.
- Taylor Hall, 1775 N. Indian Hill Blvd.
- Residence, Garage 130 W. Butler Ct.
- Sumner Elementary, 1770 Sumner Ave.
- L.A. County Fire Station #62, 3701 N. Mills Ave.

Visit <http://california.evoter.com> to find your polling place.

weather report

COOL AND MILD THROUGH WEEKEND

A weak disturbance will bring slightly cooler and cloudier weather Wednesday and Thursday. Slight chance of drizzle or light rain by early Thursday, becoming fair and mild Friday. Light winds. Overnight lows in the 40s with daytime highs mid 60s to low 70s by Friday.

— Gary London
local weather observer

Interim superintendent to attend upcoming board meeting

Claremont Unified School District Interim Superintendent Gloria Johnston will make her first board meeting appearance on Thursday night.

The board will vote on several resolutions at the upcoming board meeting, including 4 agenda items pertaining to Dr. Johnston. Votes will be taken regarding Dr. Johnston's employment agreement, appointment to serve as labor negotiator and secretary to the board, as well as authorization to sign documents representing the district.

Ms. Johnston was announced as the new interim su-

cusd news

perintendent at the February 17th meeting. She began her new position last Tuesday and visited schools throughout the district during her first 2 days. The interim superintendent attended a conference on Thursday and Friday.

Thursday's agenda also includes a resolution to initiate proceedings for the Recreation Assessment District and ordering the assessment engineer to prepare a report. Resolutions regarding the non re-election of probationary

certificated employees and temporary certificated employees, along with the possible release or reassignment of an administrative position will also be voted on by the board.

CUSD Energy Education Specialist Ralph Patterson will present the district with an award for energy stewardship for the district's energy conservation and management program. A mid-year report on Claremont High School's math program will also be given to the board.

For more information on the agenda items, visit the CUSD website at www.cusd.claremont.edu.

— Landus Rigsby

Sweeney eager to lead as new C-M-S football coach

Former University of Chicago defensive coordinator Kyle Sweeney will now be Claremont-Mudd-Scripps' central figure on the sideline for the Stags' upcoming football season.

Coach Sweeney was announced as the new head coach for the Stags football program on Friday to end a search that began after the 2010 season. His official start day is today.

The new C-M-S coach also had coaching stints at MacMurray College (2007-08), Endicott College (2002-06), Occidental College (2001-02) and Illinois Wesleyan University (2000-01).

"I am eager to work with all of the bright, outstanding young men who have committed themselves to the game of football and to Claremont McKenna and Harvey Mudd colleges," Coach Sweeney said in a released statement. "I'm prepared to give the same enthusiasm and dedication to Claremont-Mudd-Scripps. My philosophy

is based on principles of honesty, hard work, and fairness, and I expect excellence from each member of the football program in all interactions with players, coaches, and members of our community."

C-M-S Athletic Director Mike Sutton believes Coach Sweeney's philosophy will be a good fit for the football program.

"We are pleased to welcome Kyle to Claremont, where he'll lead a highly motivated football team coming off a great year, and a program that, among other things, promotes the values of leadership, teamwork, discipline, resilience, and positive sportsmanship," Mr. Sutton said. "Not only will he be a great coach, but a champion of our students' successes, both in athletics and in academics."

Former C-M-S head coach Rick Candaele retired last



July after 17 years at the helm for the Stags. Assistant coach Steve Retzlaff was then promoted to interim head coach and led the Stags to a 7-2 overall record during the 2010 season. The 7-2 record was the best for C-M-S in 7 years.

Claremont McKenna College President Pamela Gann looks forward to Coach Sweeney continuing

the momentum from last season.

"With this wonderful news, I also would like to congratulate our coaches and our student-athletes on a splendid season," President Gann said. "We look forward to welcoming Kyle as the leader of a program that, as with all sports and extracurricular activities and pursuits, further develops leadership in our outstanding students."

— Landus Rigsby

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said Michael Wilner, *The Forum's* editor-in-chief and moderator of the panel discussion. "This was a pretty unique event and it would be nice for the presidents to give a status update together on how they're doing in the future. The questions that were asked were inspired by students from all the [Claremont] colleges."

Founded by the Associated Students of Claremont McKenna College, *The Forum* is the official student publication of Claremont McKenna College and is also a source of news for all of the Claremont Colleges. The Pomona Student Union is a nonpartisan, student-run organization supported by the faculty and administration of Pomona College while "focusing on promoting and preserving the intellectual diversity of the public sphere on campus."

Though the addition of another Claremont college has been an ongoing discussion, Mr. Walton said such an institution would only be beneficial if it served a need. The last institution added to the Claremont University Consortium was Keck Graduate Institute in 1997.

"I think if [James] Blaisdell was here, he would go, 'Seven colleges? You have 7 colleges?' And I think 7 colleges is actually quite a lot," Mr. Walton said. "But I think that there will be new institutions. We have land set aside to do that. We have infrastructure set aside to do that. But I don't think we should try to create something that isn't organic and doesn't champion a need."

Ms. Gann believes the ongoing growth of the colleges will be the trend in the future, instead of plans to add a completely new campus.



COURIER photos/Steven Felschundneff
Members of the audience, consisting of mostly students, listen to a forum including presidents of four of five undergraduate colleges on Tuesday at Pomona College.

"So I think in many ways I would say each of us is more likely to continue to grow," she said. "As we want to add students, add programs or majors, that seems more likely to happen right this minute or in the next 5 years than coming up with another undergraduate college in Claremont. And then if you look at us collectively, we pretty much cover the disciplines you would want in liberal arts."

While all of the presidents were in agreement that their substance abuse policies are up for continuous discussion, Mr. Oxtoby takes it one step further. The Pomona College president would like to see more dialogue take place regarding the legal age for alcohol consumption and is even featured on the Amethyst Initia-

tive website as a possible supporter of changing the drinking age.

"The Amethyst Initiative proposes not that we automatically change the drinking age from 21 to 18, but that we can look into and explore what it is to engage in a responsible and proper fashion so that colleges and universities can really educate students as opposed to saying 'that's illegal,'" Mr. Oxtoby said. "The laws of the country have not changed. They are what they are and we have to understand that. Even though I think we ought to change some of those laws nationally, we're in the position of having to uphold them right now."

The presidents indicated the next 30 years would be a period of progress for their respective schools. The representa-

tives emphasized aspects of their mission statements and believe the colleges will have greater collaboration in the future.

"We're going to be confident, courageous and hopeful leaders in all sectors of society," Ms. Bettison-Varga said. "And that remains the goal for our college, the goal for our students and that is going to happen. I think also in terms of curricular emphasis—I know that Scripps will continue to be a leader in interdisciplinary humanities education."

The youngest of the 5 undergraduate institutions, Pitzer College is a national leader in the number of Fulbright scholars per capita. Mr. Marchant said the trend would continue as the college continues to focus on global education.

"We're educating students to think globally," he pointed out. "In the next 30 years, we're going to be the leader in Fulbrights and solve the problems of the world."

With its first female majority incoming class in the school's 55-year history, Harvey Mudd College is growing more diverse with each passing year. Yet Ms. Klawe would like to see even more progress within the next 3 decades.

"The reason I left Princeton University to come to Harvey Mudd College is because my mission in life is to change the culture of science and engineering in 2 ways," Ms. Klawe explained. "The first one is to make the college really supportive of everyone—whether it's football players, co-eds, or women or African Americans. The other thing I want to change about the culture of science and engineering is that I really want to focus on the major issues facing the world."

—Landus Rigsby