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Media Contact: Susan Clifton, Recreation Coordinator
Telephone Number: 626-355-7394
Email: city@cityofsierramadre.com

Agency Name: City of Sierra Madre
Telephone Number: 626-355-7135
Website: www.cityofsierramadre.com

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Breakfast Is Served by the Sierra Madre Woman's Club

July 4th Tradition Continues

As an integral part of Sierra Madre's culture, Sierra Madre Woman's Club participates in the major "happenings" in the town, from mixers with the Chamber of Commerce, to style shows, musicals, card parties, ice cream socials, and, of course, the Fourth of July activities.

One of those established events, hosted by the club -- the Fourth of July Pre-Parade Open House with complimentary continental breakfast -- is scheduled again this year from 8 to 10 a.m. at the clubhouse on the corner of Sierra Madre Blvd. and Sunnyside. That location is also where the famous parade begins. About 10 members volunteer to arrange and host the event.

Eunice Banis "pounds out" patriotic songs on the club's 1913 Chickering piano for the songfest that morning. As an aside, the club purchased the piano new six years after the club was founded in March, 1907.

But it's a serious group, too. During this year the club of 123 members donated \$20,000 to area charities. That's money they make from their Wistaria Thrift Shop located in the parking area behind the clubhouse. The shop is 52 years old.

On the holiday, after the departure of guests after the Fourth of July Open House, members of the club line the south side of Sierra Madre Boulevard to watch the parade. Then they do the dishes and straighten up the clubhouse before they go to Memorial Park for the afternoon activities.

Sierra Madre Woman's Club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, an international service organization with headquarters in Washington, D.C.

This fall Janet Ten Eyck starts her second year as president of the club. Phyllis Chapman, well-known town historian, has served as membership and public relations chair for years. Dixie Coutant was the last two-year president.

Everyone is invited to join these enthusiastic and hard-working women on July 4, 2009, for their open house.

The Fourth of July Committee, led by Matt Bosse, is in charge of all activities that day under the umbrella of the City. Sierra Madre Community Foundation handles the finances.

This year the committee is joined by the Sierra Madre Athletic Association and Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce in running the Beer Garden that will be open in Memorial Park on Friday evening, July 3, and Saturday, July 4.

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