

A Moment of Silence at Library

World Food Day Observed

A crowd of more than 50 people observed World Food Day during a special ceremony in front of the South Pasadena Public Library last Thursday.

Linda Hess, founder and president of Urban Harvester, thanked city officials for passing the Food Waste Prevention and Recovery Resolution, putting South Pasadena in the forefront of fighting hunger and saving the environment in the state.

In the past 12 months, Urban Harvester has connected more than 30,000 meals to non-profit community services providers who meet the needs of those facing food insecurity.

Working with a variety of food providers (Traders Joes, Fresco Market, South Pasadena Unified School District, business commissaries and many others) Urban Harvester has recovered more than twenty tons of fresh food, which includes fruits, vegetables and protein meats and prepared foods that otherwise would be sent to landfills or turned into compost.

Commonly, the food Urban Harvester recovers may come from supermarkets that discard fresh fruits and vegetables to make room for new deliveries, and unserved food from commercial food preparers.

South Pasadena Mayor Marina Kubesrian thanked Hess for her dedication and commitment to helping solve the problems of feeding the hungry and helping save the environment.

A federal report from the Natural Resources Defense Council found that more than 40 percent of fresh food, worth \$90 billion dollars, is wasted each year in America, costing businesses \$750 million a year in disposal costs. By redirecting that food to community services agencies, the hungry get fed and businesses reduce their expenses.

Former Assemblyman (44th District) Anthony Portantino, who plans to run for a state Senate seat in the future, praised Linda's efforts. "I was so impressed with the efforts of Urban Harvester to bring awareness to the issue of hunger and food to those who need it," he said. "The leadership of Urban Harvester and the South Pasadena city council have made ending hunger a priority. It was inspirational to hear the excitement and to see their passion."

Learn more about Urban Harvester by visiting their website, www.UrbanHarvester.org.



CEREMONY AT LIBRARY – The City of South Pasadena officially launched Resolution No. 7355 last Thursday during a brief ceremony in front of the South Pasadena Library. Some of those on hand included, from left, South Pasadena Mayor Marina Khubesrian, M.D., Food Pantry Director Tim Nistler of Friends in Deed, Rev. Todd Blackman with the St. James Church-The Food Locker, Tina Russek Gifts In Kind Manager with the Los Angeles Mission, Urban Harvester Founder Hess, former State Assemblymember Anthony Portantino, South Pasadena City Councilman Michael Cacciotti, Carrie-Ann Lue Sue from the Holy Family-The Giving Bank, Stephen Fomba Program Manager from San Gabriel Valley Homeless Consortium and South Pasadena resident Alan Ehrlich. Also in attendance were husband of Urban Harvester founder, Augie Hess, Sherry Plotkin Urban Harvester Board Member Sherry Plotkin, Phillip Jarboe, Loren Tripp, Richard Tom, Angelise Slifkin, Ken Clisham and Ted Shaw.

PHOTOS BY BILL GLAZIER



ROLL-OUT OF RESOLUTION – South Pasadena Mayor Marina Khubesrian, M.D., left, read the city's Food Waste Prevention and Recovery Resolution during its roll-out on World Food Day last Thursday. Khubesrian is joined by Urban Harvester founder Linda Hess. A brief ceremony was held at the entrance of the South Pasadena Library.

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