



## Who Has The Best Decorations? Is It You? Or Your Neighbor?

Submit your entries for our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Holiday Decorating Contest! Enter the address of homes we should consider for our 2nd annual contest. We'll drive and evaluate the entries in our service area from Pasadena, Altadena, Sierra Madre, Arcadia, Monrovia and Duarte on Monday and/or Tuesday, December 13-14 between 5-9 p.m. So.... If you're entered, make sure your lights are on for us to take photos and make the awards! Send your submission addresses with street address, cross street and town name to [C.Bertrand@MtnViewsNews.com](mailto:C.Bertrand@MtnViewsNews.com)

Where Your  
Community News Comes First

# Mountain Views News

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 27, 2010

VOLUME 4 NO. 47

## Dickens Village to Kick Off the Holiday Shopping Season in Sierra Madre

The Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce will host Sierra Madre's annual Dickens Village festivities to kick off the holiday season this Saturday, Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> from 3pm to 8pm in the downtown village shopping district. The City tree will be officially lit in Kersting Court shortly before 6pm, and Santa will arrive right after that at 6pm. There will be carolers downtown, (including the Sierra Madre Playhouse Carolers, warming up for the evening's performance of "A Christmas Carol" at 8pm, immediately after Dickens Village), horse and carriage rides from 3:30 to 7:30pm, and snow sledding from 3 to 8pm. The sloped drive-thru driveway at the Bank of the West on Sierra Madre is transformed to a winter wonderland of "snow," and youngsters of all ages can ride sleds down the slope to the their heart's content. Local non-profit and other organizations will have booths in the street selling holiday fare, some homemade, at the Chamber's second biggest single day event of the year, behind only the Wistaria Festival.

Downtown stores will stay open late and offer their holiday best to shoppers taking advantage of the first ever Small Business Saturday, a follow-up to Black Friday, the traditional shopping kickoff when shoppers fill department stores and malls the day after Thanksgiving. Small Business Saturday is a day to support the local businesses that create jobs, boost the economy and preserve neighborhoods around the country. Small Business Saturday is a national movement to drive shoppers to local merchants across the U.S.

So avoid the mall crowds and corporate atmosphere's and visit Sierra Madre's old-fashioned, small town, small business village shops. Downtown restaurants will be open so you can enjoy a nice meal while shopping, instead of a hurried trip to the food court. MAP ON PAGE 3

## MacGillivray 'Giff' Raises Eyebrows - Concerns

by Susan Henderson

Former Sierra Madre Mayor Mary Ann MacGillivray left a 'gift' for every other member of the city council on Tuesday night and that gesture has raised more than a few eyebrows.

During the break at Tuesday's meeting, MacGillivray gave them a copy of the controversial book, "Sharia Law For Non-Muslims" along with a printed copy of an excerpt from the 'stopsharianow' website. According to one of the recipients, it is believed that MacGillivray was attempting to 'enlighten' the other members of the

threat of Sharia Law to the City of Sierra Madre.

Sharia Law is part of the Islamic faith and many who prescribe to demonizing Muslims have labeled it a threat to the United States.

The book, written by Bill Warner has been described as a 'must have' for right wing legislators and, says one outside source, "Nothing in this book is fact based. There is little to no command of history or context. This book is clearly intended to fuel hate and feed into the fear (cont. page 3)

## Savings Bonds Are "On Their Way"



Pictured above are Tom Brady, Chair of A Taste of Sierra Madre, with Chase Bank Manager Christina Gonzalez and Personal Banker, Edison Bautista. They met on Wednesday to complete the processing of the savings bonds for winners of the TOSM Art and Essay contest. The winners were chosen and announced in September.

"There was a delay in receiving back all the applications for the bonds from the winners' parents. We've now purchased them, and the Treasury Department will send the bonds directly to the recipients", says Brady. "We appreciate the winners' patience and thank the staff at Chase Bank in Sierra Madre for their help."

The inaugural TOSM event was the brainchild of Brady and brought together a variety of local community organizations and volunteers to raise more than \$12,000 for the Sierra Madre Youth Activity Center and the Rotoplasty Foundation. Winners of the Arts and Essay contest, a part of the event, were students in local elementary, middle and high schools.

A check for the YAC was presented at a recent city council meeting. For further information, please contact Brady at 626-355-3471.

## Sunset Magazine Recommends A Visit

When the December issue of Sunset Magazine hits the newsstands in a few days, it will have a pleasant surprise for Sierra Madre residents and local businesses. It lists Sierra Madre as a destination "Day Trip" noting that

"Holiday Charm is this town's forte."

It also mentions shopping at local shops like Leonora Moss, Savor the Flavor and Wildflower Baking Company, Brown's Classic Interiors and dining at Ugo's.

## America Not So Long Ago

## WEED PATCH, U.S.A.

Story and Photos by Nan Kaesar

"My Mama died before we left Oklahoma for California, but when we lived in Weed Patch, I didn't lack for a Mom. I had many Mamas to look out for me here in camp."

"I was born here, we had the best time!"

"We went to school in an old airplane parked in the field."

"If we didn't have something, we just made do."

These people are talking about the former Arvin Farm Labor Supply camp, a migrant farm labor camp in California during the Great Depression. When John Steinbeck used this setting in his Grapes of Wrath, where the Joad family arrived scared, bone tired, dirty, hungry and broke in the southern San Joaquin Valley, he gave it the fictitious name of Weed Patch. During the making of a movie from the book, the scenes in the migrant camp were filmed there. After the movie came out, it has been known as Weed Patch ever since.

tables and tables filled with displays having to do with Weed Patch: old newspaper articles and photos; one very long table full of books, their authors seated behind them pen in hand ready to autograph one when you buy it.

But best of all is the tour of the remaining buildings from the days when Grapes of Wrath was filmed, led by some of those who lived there as children. One of the old timers who arrived here as a motherless little kid, shared with us that when his Father



During a recent trip north to the Dust Bowl Festival, Sierra Madre resident Fran Kaesar visited Weed Patch, a landmark reminder of America during a very difficult time. Pictured above is an abandoned airplane that served as the 'schoolhouse' for children living in Weed Patch during the Great Depression.

You'll remember the "Okies" poured into California penniless, escaping the Dust Bowl, willing to work anywhere for any wage. As a result of the movie making this place famous, three of the original buildings were saved. There is still a work camp here, though with newer buildings and more amenities.

Every year, now, by this camp in the small community of Lamont south of Bakersfield, a Dust Bowl Festival takes place on the third Saturday in October. As this festival there is lots of music; there is food, such as biscuits and gravy with sausage and chili over corn bread; there are many displays of rusty, old-timey kitchen utensils, work equipment and tools. There are also

got them to Weed Patch, his dad became a "professional alcoholic". In the morning he would poke his son in the ribs and say, "Buck, put the coffee on!" As the father swigged his coffee he would swear off alcohol, but later in the day would go back to the bottle.

This kid, now an elderly man took us into the still standing Community Hall, containing a very large room with a stage. The walls inside and out were so weathered, that no paint remained. Earl "Buck" Shelton explained that the building had been used for activities such as meetings, dances and entertainment. He told us one of one of their (continued on page 3)

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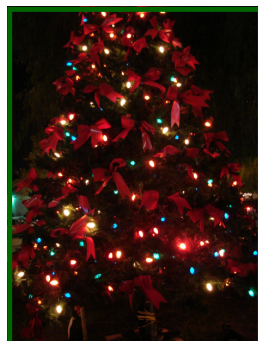
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**Dickens Village**  
**Saturday, Nov. 27, 2010**  
**3pm to 8pm**

**Shopping**  
**Santa Claus**  
**Sledding**  
**Horse and Buggy Rides**  
**Caroling**  
**Tree Lighting Ceremony**

**JOIN US!!**

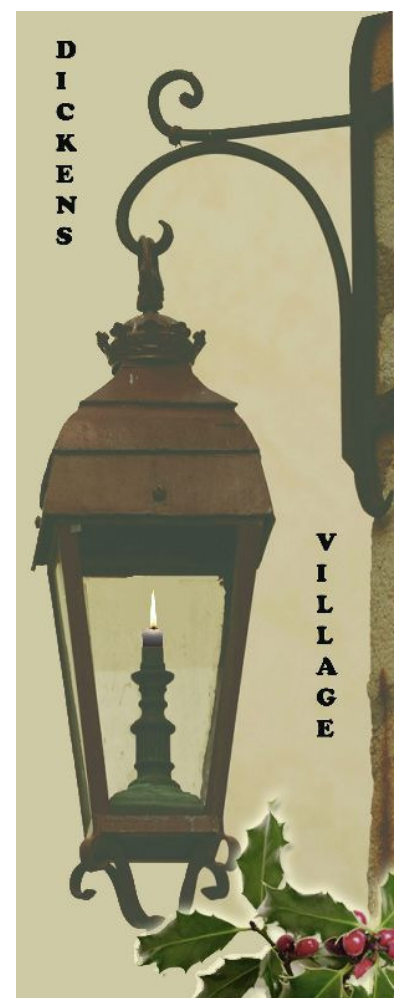
[www.SMDickensVillage.info](http://www.SMDickensVillage.info)

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Sierra Madre Playhouse

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Read The Paper Online At: [www.mtnviewsnews.com](http://www.mtnviewsnews.com)



## Weather Wise

## 5-Day Forecast

## Sierra Madre, Ca.

<b>Mon:</b>	Sunny	Hi 60s	Lows 40s
<b>Tues:</b>	Sunny	Hi 60s	Lows 40s
<b>Wed:</b>	Sunny	Hi 60s	Lows 40s
<b>Thur:</b>	Sunny	Hi 60s	Lows 40s
<b>Fri:</b>	Sunny	Hi 60s	Lows 40s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service



1630 AM

Free on-air publicity  
for local events

Sierra Madre's new community radio station is now accepting scripts for Public Service Announcements (PSAs) about community events. PSAs will be broadcast on the air at no charge. The station operates 24/7 and can be heard at 1630 on the AM dial.

Any local non-profit or non-commercial organization can have their event information broadcast to the public on **Sierra Madre Community Information Radio**. This new radio station covers the city of Sierra Madre, plus surrounding areas of Pasadena, Arcadia, and Monrovia.

In a nutshell, your event must:



- Benefit a non-commercial or non-profit entity
- Be open to the public
- Be of general interest to local citizens

Just write a Public Service Announcement that describes your event and e-mail it to [radio@cityofsierramadre.com](mailto:radio@cityofsierramadre.com).

## Holiday Decorating Contest



Submit your entries for our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Holiday Decorating Contest! Enter the address of homes we should consider for our 2nd annual contest. We'll drive and evaluate the entries in our service area from Pasadena, Altadena, Sierra Madre, Arcadia, Monrovia and Duarte on Monday and/or Tuesday, December 13-14 between 5-9 p.m. So.... If you're entered, make sure your lights are on for us to take photos and make the awards! Send your submission addresses with street address, cross street and town name to [C.Bertrand@MtnViewsNews.com](mailto:C.Bertrand@MtnViewsNews.com)

Do you have too many books at home? Wondering what to do with them? Come to The Book Rack and trade them in for a book you have not read.

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Happy  
HanukkahHillsides  
Children's  
Charity  
Announces  
Holiday Toy  
Drive

*Provides Pasadena residents with opportunity to make a difference*

Beginning Friday, December 3, Pasadena area residents can help brighten a child's holiday season by donating new, unwrapped gifts and toys at select local Starbucks. Hillsides, a Pasadena children's charity, will be placing in-store donation bins in select Pasadena Starbucks locations in an effort to make the upcoming holidays brighter for the children and families it serves.

"Working together with business partners gives us an opportunity to reach new audiences who may not know about the needs in their own community," said Joe Costa, the charity's CEO. "This effort will help raise awareness about the services and programs we offer to vulnerable children and families that can change their lives."

Holiday gifts and toys can be delivered to select Pasadena Starbucks locations before December 25. To make a monetary donation and sponsor winter outings for foster care and vulnerable children living at Hillsides, visit [www.Hillsides.org](http://www.Hillsides.org) or call 323-255-9005.

## About Hillsides

Founded 97 years ago, Hillsides is a Pasadena residential treatment center and community-based children's charity that serves vulnerable children and families living in Los Angeles County. To learn more about the foster care children's charity, visit [www.Hillsides.org](http://www.Hillsides.org).



## Gobble Gobble Hey!"

Yeah, yeah, I know - I used that title a couple years ago. But you gotta admit it's a good one, whether you're a Ramones fan or not! New to the Music News this month, JC Hyke is hosting a weekly acoustic songwriters' showcase at Matt Denny's in Arcadia on Tuesday nights. Complete details below... Hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving!

SAT. 11/27 - LISA FINNIE & FRIENDS @ CAFE 322 IN SIERRA MADRE, 8 - 11pm. Full bar & great Italian food! 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-836-5414. Country/Jazzy Folk, and always quality musicians.

SAT. 11/27 - SURFIN' WITH ELVIS @ OCEAN VIEW BISTRO IN MONTROSE, 9pm. (sort of the pared-down version of Longboard Ranch) 3826 Ocean View Blvd. 818-248-2722. Full bar and kitchen. [www.ovbistro.com](http://www.ovbistro.com)

SAT. 11/27 - BERNIE PEARL @ ARCADIA BLUES CLUB, 10pm, with house band Bobby Bluehouse at 8pm. 16 E. Huntington Dr. 626-447-9349. Cover \$10 at door, \$5 in advance. Dancing, full bar, 21 & over. Acoustic and Electric Blues.

SUN. 11/28 - BARRY "BIG B" BRENNER @ FIREFLY BISTRO IN SOUTH PASADENA, 11am - 2pm. 1009 El Centro. 626-441-2443. MOST Sundays. BLUES. <http://www.bigbbrenner.com/>

SUN. 11/28 - "OPERA TO BROADWAY" VOCAL PERFORMANCES @ CAFE 322 IN SIERRA MADRE, 7-10pm. 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-836-5414. Full bar and great Italian food. Every Sunday evening. Get there early - they pack 'em in!

TUES. 11/30 - "JC & Friends Songwriter Serenade" @ MATT DENNY'S ALEHOUSE & RESTAURANT IN ARCADIA, 7 - 9:30pm. 145 E. Huntington Dr., between 1st & 2nd Aves. 626-462-0250. Full bar & kitchen, all ages. A weekly acoustic show of songwriters playing original songs, either as a solo or duo act, outside on the covered, heated patio. This week's artists: Tom Renaud, Marty Axelrod, Tim Tedrow & Terry Vreeland, Nicole Gordon. <http://www.jchyke.com/>

TUES. 11/30 - Trivia Night at Cafe 322 in Sierra Madre, 8:00 - 9:30pm with Quiz Mistress Deanna. 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-836-5414. Full bar & great Italian food. \$2 per person to play; up to 4 people on a team. Cash or gift certificates to the top 3 teams. Also, don't miss out on the buy one entree, get the second of equal or lesser value for \$5 promotion that night. Fun, tasty and profitable! [www.meetup.com/quizzidge](http://www.meetup.com/quizzidge) [www.cafe322.com](http://www.cafe322.com)

"WEDNESDAY NIGHT PLATTER PARTY" @ THE BUCCANEER, 9pm. Bring your favorite vinyl records and play an entire side on the house turntable, commercial free! 70 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-355-9045. No cover, full bar, friendly service!

THURS. 12/2 - BARRY "BIG B" BRENNER @ FIREFLY BISTRO IN SOUTH PASADENA, 6 - 9pm. 1009 El Centro. 626-441-2443. Burgers, Brews & BLUES. MOST Thursdays. <http://www.bigbbrenner.com/>

SAT. 12/4 - WRECK 'N' SOW @ ME & ED'S PIZZERIA IN LAKEWOOD, 6:30 - 9:30pm. 4115 Paramount Blvd. Bluegrass. [www.myspace.com/wrecknsow](http://www.myspace.com/wrecknsow)

SAT. 12/4 - OPEN MIC NIGHT @ THE FRET HOUSE IN COVINA. 309 N. Citrus Ave. (626) 339-7020. Always on the first Saturday of the month, and just one dollar for performers or audience. Sign-up starts at 7:30. If there aren't enough slots for everybody they'll make a list for the next month, and call you. Each act gets two songs or ten minutes, whichever comes first. The show starts at 8:00. They'll have desserts and coffee ready. Bring your friends and family and join the show! <http://www.frethouse.com/>

SAT. 12/4 - 3 FAT GUYS & SOME PUNKS @ THE CASK 'n CLEAVER IN SAN DIMAS, 8pm. 125 Village Court. 909-592-1646. Blues, Soul, Classic Rock from Jimmy McGrew - Guitar/Vocals, munkihaid - Keys/Vocals, Mike Leasure - Drums/Vocals, Jamie Hunting - Bass/Vocals, Gratz Arias - Guitar/Vocals.

SAT. 12/4 - TREMOLOCO @ CAFE 322 IN SIERRA MADRE, 8 - 11pm. 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-836-5414. Full bar & great Italian food. Americana/Roots music.

SUN. 12/5 - BARRY "BIG B" BRENNER @ FIREFLY BISTRO IN SOUTH PASADENA, 11am - 2pm. 1009 El Centro. 626-441-2443. MOST Sundays. BLUES. <http://www.bigbbrenner.com/>

SUN. 12/5 - "OPERA TO BROADWAY" VOCAL PERFORMANCES @ CAFE 322 IN SIERRA MADRE, 7-10pm. 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-836-5414. Full bar and great Italian food. Every Sunday evening. Get there early - they pack 'em in!

MON. 12/6 - MAX BUDA @ THE OLD TOWNE PUB IN PASADENA, 9pm. Corner of Fair Oaks & Union behind the Container Store. Enter thru alley off of Holly Ave. 626-577-6583. Chester, Jerry, Ted, Bruce, Peter and Nick on noisemakers. An eclectic mix of jazzed-up rock. One of my favorite bands. Every first Monday night.

TUES. 12/7 - "JC & Friends Songwriter Serenade" @ MATT DENNY'S ALEHOUSE & RESTAURANT IN ARCADIA, 7 - 9:30pm. 145 E. Huntington Dr., between 1st & 2nd Aves. 626-462-0250. Full bar & kitchen, all ages. A weekly acoustic show of songwriters playing original songs, either as a solo or duo act, outside on the covered, heated patio. This week's artists: John Zipperer, Alina Smith, Paul Marshall, Katie Garibaldi. <http://www.jchyke.com/>

THURS. 12/9 - NEW ASTROTURF @ CAFE 322 in SIERRA MADRE, 7:30 - 10:30pm. All ages welcome - bring the family for dinner. Full bar & great Italian food! 322 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 626-836-5414. Folk/Rock & Classic Country.

SAT. 12/11 - SURFIN' WITH ELVIS @ OCEAN VIEW BISTRO IN MONTROSE, 9pm. (sort of the pared-down version of Longboard Ranch) 3826 Ocean View Blvd. (818) 248-2722. Full bar and kitchen. [www.ovbistro.com](http://www.ovbistro.com)

also.... CHECK OUT THESE live-hosted weekend shows at KCSN: especially PAT BAKER'S TANGLED ROOTS program, which airs on KCSN 88.5 FM every Sunday from 3-5pm, just before The Dylan Hours, hosted by the lovely and talented Lisa Finnie, 5-7pm.

Pat's show is the longest running and most influential of all the Americana/Roots programs at KCSN. He has an astounding personal library of music and plays everyone from Robert Johnson to Kate Wolf to Frank Zappa to Hank Williams to Nina Simone to Allen Ginsberg to The Grateful Dead to Townes Van Zandt to Steve Earle, etc., etc., etc.

For a complete listing of the live weekend shows and their descriptions, folks can visit: [www.kcsn.org](http://www.kcsn.org)

A note: due to the fact that KCSN shares a frequency with Saddleback College, folks on the east side are better off tuning in at kcsn.org, where the stream is crystal clear!

Please remember to call and verify all info. before making plans. Everything is subject to change. This is show biz, after all...

Hope to see you out & about, SierraMadreSue  
[sierramadresue@yahoo.com](mailto:sierramadresue@yahoo.com)

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(Winner need not be present)  
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DECEMBER 3 &amp; 4, 2010

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

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Sierra Madre, CA. 91024

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All Proceeds benefit local Charities

~STOP BY AND BROWSE~



# SIERRA MADRE

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Pasadena

Altadena

Monrovia

## WEED PATCH

(cont. from page 1)

The man in charge asked the kid 'Buck' to help him. He, the man, would try to pull off Buck's pants, but the kid was told to fasten his belt well so they really wouldn't come off. Earl said he had to cinch up his belt very tightly as he was skinny. The two crawled about on the stage, the man chasing 'Buck' and the boy narrowly escaping, bringing guffaws from the audience. (His pants did not come off.). Then the man ran after him with his mouth wide open, grabbed Buck's belt in his teeth, picked him up off the floor and with his teeth still grasping Buck's belt, ran about the stage swinging the boy in the air to the aid to the howls of amusement from the onlookers!

Earl also related that when Grapes of Wrath was filmed there, the camp manager took part in a small scene and received \$10,000 for doing so. Upon receipt of the money he promptly quit his job and retired!

We learned that the residents lived in small, one room cabins, each with a cook stove. Every four cabins shared one water faucet outside and there was a bathroom building with toilets and showers. An example of one of the small gas stoves was on display in a back room of the community hall along with a dehydrator. This was a metal cylinder on legs about four and a half feet high with several wire mesh shelves for the food. On a top shelf, the fire was built to do the drying. All we onlookers were surprised to learn there had been dehydrators back then.

The woman, who told us she had been born there, Sharon Garrison, showed us the other two remaining buildings which have now been painted. One, the library, consisted of two rooms no longer containing book shelves but looked as if it would hold a decent supply of books. A smaller building beside the library had been used as the Manager's Office in the movie. This was actually the original post office. There

was a room behind it which was used for first aid and also as the quarantine room where those with a contagious disease must stay until recovered. Sharon also described the unique experience of having school classes in an airplane and walking up and down the slanting floor of the fuselage. Some of the old timers had mentioned that occasionally the police came barging into Weed Patch looking for trouble makers. They thought that if there were problems nearby the perpetrators must be from the camp. The law had no use for



Weed Patch Old-Timer Earl "Buck" Shelton

the "Okies". Some of these folks also casually mentioned that families outside the camp did not want their children playing with the Weed Patch children. However, everyone who talked to us about living in Weed Patch sounded so upbeat about their experiences here that I asked them, "You sound as though you really liked living here." They all chimed in at once, "Oh we loved living here." "We always had lots of friends to play with. Everyone helped with everyone else. Sure, sometimes we worked hard in the fields next to our folks, but a little hard work never hurt anyone." "There were always so many things to do!" Everyone exclaimed that they loved living there; they had had a great childhood in Weed Patch!

## Sierra Madre Police Blotter

During the week of Sunday, November 14th, to Saturday November 20th, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 306 calls for service. See [crimereports.com](http://crimereports.com) for updated information.

**Sunday, November 14th:**

**2:30 PM- Residential Burglary, 400 blk. W. Montecito Ave.** Unknown suspect(s) entered a residential home by climbing onto a balcony and entering an opened balcony door. Items stolen from the home included an ebony jewelry box, numerous gold, jade, and pearl earrings, a 6 leaf eucalyptus motif necklace, other women's jewelry, and a gold colored standard pillow case. Suspect(s) left in an unknown direction.

**Tuesday, November 16th:**

**2:16 AM- DUI Alcohol/Drugs Arrest, Oak Crest Dr and Carter Ave.** Motorist was stopped for a Vehicle Code violation. Investigations revealed that the Sierra Madre resident was under the influence of alcohol. The driver was arrested and transported to Pasadena Police Jail for booking.

**Wednesday, November 17th:**

**1:04 AM- DUI Alcohol/Drugs, Foothill Blvd and Michillinda Ave.** Motorist was stopped for a Vehicle Code violation. Investigation revealed that Altadena resident was under the influence of alcohol. The driver was transported to Pasadena Police Jail for booking.

**7:45 AM- Battery, 450 blk. W. Carter Ave.** This case involves a battery that occurred at Bailey Canyon Park between a Sierra Madre resident walking his dog off leash and a Pasadena resident, who asked the man to put a leash on the dog. The man walking the dog reportedly pushed the victim as he passed him on the trail. The case was submitted to Pasadena District Attorney's office for review.

**Thursday, November 18th:**

**3:14 PM- Residential Burglary, 100 blk. E. Bonita Ave.** Unknown suspect(s) entered a residential home through the back door with a doggie door opening. A gun vault was stolen containing a Ruger revolver handgun inside.

**Friday, November 19th:**

**12:27 PM-Fraudulent Obtaining Money/ Property/ Labor, 30 blk. E. Montecito Ave.** This case involves a man selling phony iPod to a Sierra Madre resident.

**Saturday, November 20th:**

**2:43 PM- Possession of Dangerous Fireworks, Baldwin Ave and Hampton Ave.** An officer stopped a motorist for a Vehicle Code violation. During the stop the officer found what appeared to be a pipe bomb. Officers called the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Bomb Squad and the area was evacuated. Bomb squad investigators determined that the device was fireworks packaged and wrapped to look like a pipe bomb. A 19 year old Azusa man was arrested for possession of dangerous fireworks and taken to the Sierra Madre Police Department for booking. The suspect was released on a written promise to appear in court.



## IRIS INTRIGUE

B O U T I Q U E

Get started on your Shopping early!

Can't find a gift for someone on your list?

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# Dickens Village Map

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#### Thank You

Bank of the West

Sierra Madre Rotary

Sierra Madre Playhouse

Leonora Moss

Osti Tree Service

The Bottle Shop

Valero

Sierra Madre Garden Club

Sierra Madre Volunteer Firefighters Association

City of Sierra Madre

SMPD & SMFD

Sierra Madre Public Works

Sierra Madre Planning Dept.

ALL THE WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS!

### Vendors

Sierra Madre Candy Co.

Anantara

Sierra Madre Historical Society,

Kiwanis, T.O.P.S.

Little Muse Designs

Mission Renaissance

Girl Scout Troop 8781

Sierra Madre Rose Float Association

Anna James

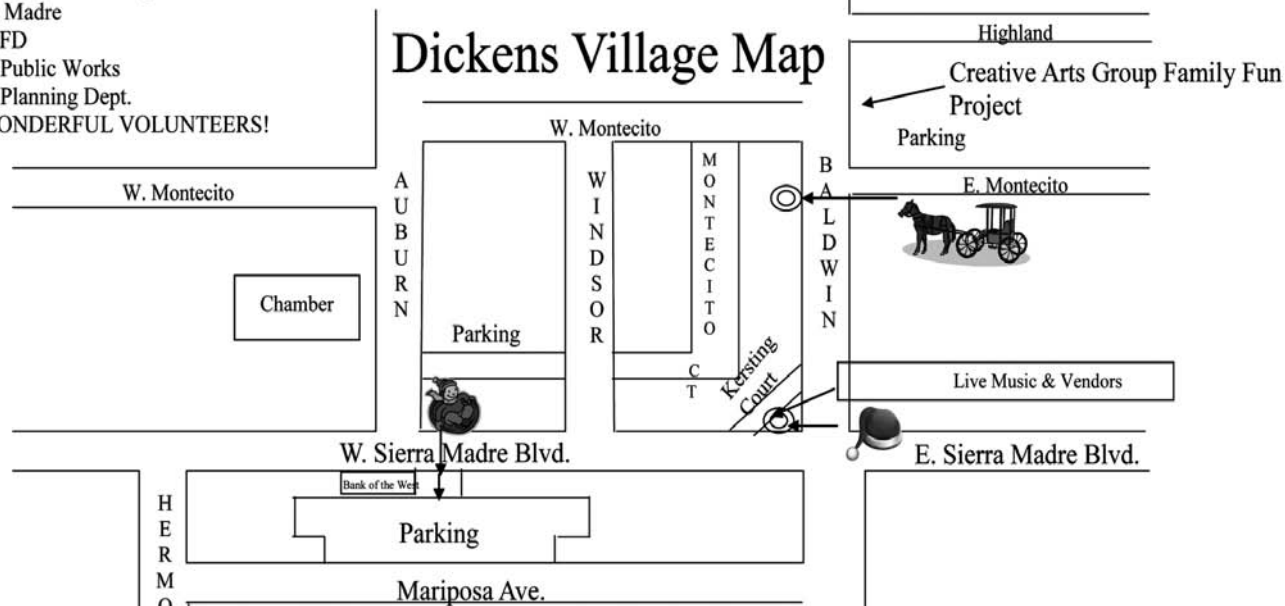
Rotary Club

Sierra Madre Civic Club

Girl Scout Troop 6921 & 16701

Robertson Roasted Almonds

## Dickens Village Map



MACGILLIVRAY (from pg. 1) and ignorance of everyday people who know nothing about Islam."

Earlier in the year when the council was attending their strategic planning session, MacGillivray listed the introduction of Sharia Law as an 'outside threat' to the City of Sierra Madre.

Although Sharia Law is not new, the passage of a law in Oklahoma where voters recently ratified a state constitutional amendment that prohibits judges from considering Sharia law in their decisions has fueled the hysteria concerning the impact of this Islamic practice on American Society.

A noted scholar noted in the Harvard University Crimson that "Quite simply, there is a

dangerous amount of ignorance in the United States about what Sharia law actually is. And until this misconception is corrected, as another concerned columnist so eloquently put it, the war on global Islamist terror will also continue to be a war on American Muslims."

MacGillivray, who could not be reached for comment prior to going to press is no stranger to getting involved with very emotionally charged personal issues that are used by politicians. In 1997, she persuaded the city council to define 'families' in a manner that excluded all 'non-traditional' households including gay couples. Although that ordinance was passed, it was later rescinded.

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News From Sierra  
Madre United  
Methodist Church

The holiday season is upon us. Join us on December 19th when the Chancel Choir, Sanctuary Quartet and Chamber Orchestra will present the Christmas portion of Handel's "Messiah" during the Sunday Service. Sunday worship begins at 10 AM. Join Us. First United Methodist Church 500 East Colorado Blvd, Pasadena CA 91101

For more information contact the church at First United Methodist 626.796.0157

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## Parking Fines Increase Citywide



By Dean Lee

Before approving upping parking ticket fines across the city \$3 Councilmember Terry Tornek suggested earlier this month that the council look at alternative ways of dealing with the parking problem, including, issuing more warnings and cracking down on repeat offenders. The new fines take effect next week.

All of the city's parking restrictions will go up as part of a stat mandate. An expired meter ticket will go from \$42.50 to \$45.50 staff said.

"It's difficult, for me at least, to defend a \$45, \$50 fee for an expired meter," Tornek said.

He brought up an idea of increasing the fees for repeat offenders after reading about it in an op-ed article in the Los Angeles Time. He asked city staff to look into the idea.

"The whole parking fee structure doesn't make any sense," Tornek said quoting Donald Shoup from the Times. "What we should be doing is discerning between repeat offenders and first time offenders. It's really the repeat offenders that should be getting whacked."

He said in certain cities first time offenders get only a warning. He also said this could alleviate some of the complaints about unfair overnight parking tickets.

Fred Dock, director of transportation, said the city currently does not have the capability to track parking offenders.

"We would have to have access to a database that would tell us in real time if a license plate has previously received a citation." Staff said upgrading the system would cost upwards of \$100,000.

This is the second year in a row that state has mandated a parking increase, last year all fines went up \$4.50.

## Pet of the Week



Sylvia, a darling, two year old, white and tabby cat is looking for a new home. She has lovely green eyes, a sparkling personality and previously lived with a dog. Sylvia would love to be adopted today!

The regular cat adoption fee is \$70 which includes the spay or neuter surgery, microchip, vaccinations, and a free follow-up health check at a participating vet.

Please call 626-792-7151 and ask about A278818 or come to the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA, 361 S. Raymond Ave., Pasadena CA, 91105. Our adoption hours are 11-3 Sunday, 9-4 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, and 9-3 Saturday. Directions and photos of all pets updated hourly may be found at [www.pasadenahumane.org](http://www.pasadenahumane.org)



## Getting Rose Ready

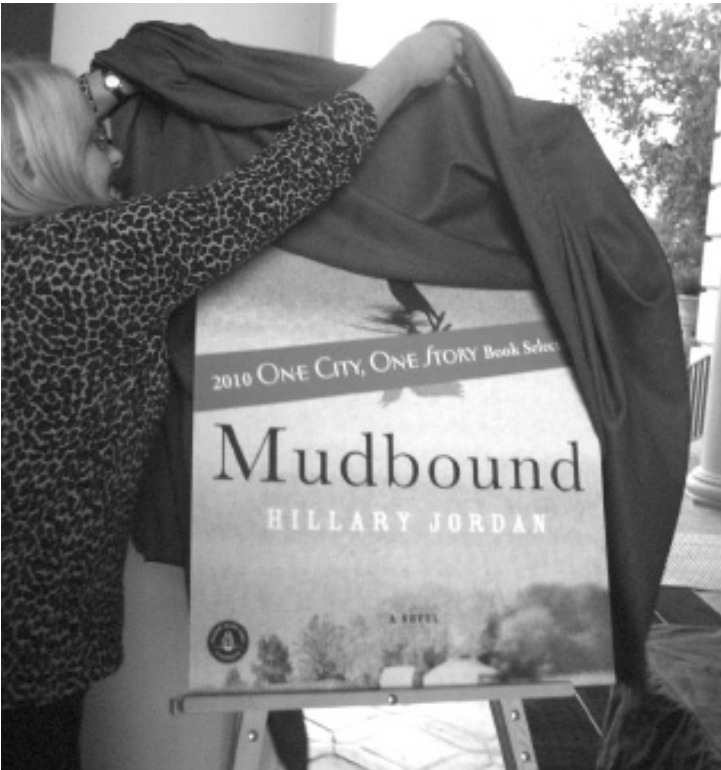
*(Pictured above) TV corner is looking, well, more like TV corner as the intersection of Colorado and Orange Groves Blvds is transformed into a media hub that will accommodate numerous broadcasters as well as 11,000 parade goers.*

*An estimated 1.5 billion viewers will watch the parade worldwide according to the Tournament of Roses website.*

*(Pictured right) Employees of Mike Brown Grandstands started putting up some of the 85,000 grandstands this week that will line 5.5 miles of Colorado Blvd. Workers said they usually finish completely Dec. 30.*



## 'Mubound' Is 2011 One City, One Story



Hillary Jordan's novel "Mudbound," the story of two families and their struggles in post-World War II Mississippi, was unveiled Monday as the book selection for Pasadena's ninth One City, One Story. Although the reveal was to be done by Mayor Bill Bogaard, emergency city business had

the city's library director, Jan Sanders, fill in to do the honors.

A community dialog with the author is scheduled Saturday, March 26, at the Pasadena Convention Center. Details of book discussion groups, film series, lectures and other events will be announced later. All the activities and

events are scheduled for March and April 2011.

Jordan grew up in Texas and Oklahoma. She received her Masters in Fine Arts Degree in creative writing from Columbia University and a Bachelor's Degree in English and Political Science from Wellesley College. Her short fiction has appeared in several literary journals, including StoryQuarterly and The Carolina Quarterly. She lives in New York.

One City, One Story is designed to broaden and deepen an appreciation of reading and literature in the community, engage participants in dialog and bring Pasadenans together by promoting greater understanding of differing points of view.

Other finalists in the selection process for 2011 were "A Gate at the Stairs" by Lorrie Moore, "City of Thieves" by David Benioff, "Cutting for Stone" by Abraham Verghese, "The Lotus Eaters" by Tatjana Soli and "Wife of the Gods" by Kwei Quartey.

For more information visit [www.onecityonestory.com](http://www.onecityonestory.com) or call (626) 744-7270.

## Castle Green Tours Ring in the Holiday Season



The historic Castle Green, a blend of Moroccan and Victorian architecture, built in 1898 as part of the resort Hotel Green will open its gates and welcome visitors, for the annual Holiday Tour on Sunday, Dec. 5.

Once converted to private residences in the 1920's, Castle Green attracted many designers, musicians, artists and collectors to live in the building. Those who find an interest in history, creative interior design, and cultural heritage, will see the original exterior and interior of this unique city landmark, the last remaining survivor of the hotel period in Pasadena.

While trained docents will be available, you may walk at your own pace through the original public rooms and over 20 individual apartments, all differently interpreted for the holidays. See the Grand Salon, the Moorish and Turkish Rooms,

the Palm Room, Sunroom and Veranda, the open cage elevator, fireplaces, hand-carved woodwork, and marble staircases, the bridge and penthouse, with a 360 view overlooking Pasadena, as well as artist studios.

A 12-foot Scotch pine and holiday music will welcome visitors entering the Grand Salon. Exhibits and signage will describe particular rooms and features, some with movie stills from as far back as 1918. Also for display and sale, in turn-of-the-century style, hand-blown ornaments and glassware by artisan Evan Chambers.

Tours run 1:00pm to 5:00pm (rain or shine). The cost is \$20.00 for adults and children under 12 are free. All funds raised through the tours and merchandise sales are dedicated to the preservation of this landmark building through the nonprofit support arm, Friends of the Castle Green.

## County Bans Medical Marijuana

The County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved Tuesday an ordinance to ban Medical Marijuana Dispensaries in all unincorporated county areas.

Supervisor Michael Antonovich had introduced a motion in July of this year directing staff to prepare an ordinance amending the County's Zoning Code to prohibit Medical Marijuana Dispensaries. The Regional Planning Commission, after considering a draft ordinance and conducting a public hearing, recommended approval of the ban to the Board of Supervisors.

"Attracting crime and other nuisances, these facilities have a negative impact on the communities where they've operated -- leading more than 100 cities and 9 counties in California to pass similar ordinances," said Supervisor Antonovich. "Since many municipalities in Los Angeles County currently have either a ban or moratorium, adjacent unincorporated communities would become the obvious location of choice for dispensary operators -- creating an undue burden for residents in these areas."

After a second reading before the Board next week, the ordinance will take effect 30 days later.

## Rose Parade to See First Video Game Themed Float



By Dean Lee

The yellow dotted icon Pac-Man will eat his way down Colorado Boulevard New Year's Day as the first video game character to grace the 5.5 mile Tournament of Roses Parade. His appearance commemorates 30 years of power pellet eating fun according to Namco Bandai Games America Inc.

This is the game manufactures first parade entry.

"Pac-Man and his friends will be a thrilling addition to

the 122nd Rose Parade," said Jeffrey L. Throop, president of the Tournament of Roses. "Every year, thousands of families travel to Pasadena to celebrate the New Year, and millions watch along on television. To be able to celebrate Pac-Man's 30th anniversary with the world on New Year's Day is a true privilege for the Tournament of Roses."

Pac-Man will leap over 50 feet into the air as ghosts from the game chase after him as he holds his birthday cake, which will be decorated with iconic symbols from the game, such as bonus prizes like cherries, strawberries and lemons.

The Pac-Man character will be covered in yellow mums, yellow strawflower, and black onion seed and pink and red carnation petals according to the float builders. The Ghosts that chase after Pac-Man will be covered in blue, red, pink and yellow carnations, blue statice, coconut and blue iris petals.

The float's theme, which includes the castle scene from one of the levels, is also based on newest video game, Pac-Man Party released this year for the Nintendo Wii.

## Pet Night with Santa

Pets are invited to pose for photos with Santa Claus in the One Colorado Courtyard, Thursday, December 9, from 5:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. Hundreds of dogs, cats and exotic pets (and their owners) attend

this quirky critter event every year, which has become a holiday photo tradition. One Colorado is at the corner of Colorado and Fair Oaks Blvds. For more information go to [onecolorado.com](http://onecolorado.com) or call 626-564-1066.

## Citizen Journalism Meet-up

*Learn not just how to blog but how to report the news*



The Pasadena Community Network and this newspaper are holding a workshop on Citizen Journalism.

This group is the place where aspiring journalists can learn from trained professionals and support their local community by covering what's really happening in their neighborhoods.

We will put the news in your hands. Learn how to find the story, the tools needed to capture the story and the means to tell the story using

the power of video, audio and print along with online social media. The next meeting will be Nov. 30 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Pasadena Community Network - Studio G, 2057 N. Los Robles Ave.

For more info call 626.794.8585 or visit [pasadenan.com](http://pasadenan.com).

## Shocknek to be Guest on PCN

Well known KCBS morning anchor Kent Shocknek will be the special guest Tuesday on "Conversations with Stuart Johnson," a weekly PCN series on Charter channel 32. The show airs live at 9 p.m. and streaming online at [pasadenacommunitynetwork.com](http://pasadenacommunitynetwork.com).

Shocknek will share with viewers his daily routine, a behind the scenes look at a television newscast, and preparation, and discuss how he decided on television news as a career.



Shockneck is Southern California's longest television news and morning anchor, now at KCBS Channel 2. In addition to anchoring the Emmy Award-winning newscasts, CBS 2 News 4:30-7 a.m. and CBS 2 News at 11 a.m., Shocknek helped pioneer the station's growth online at CBS2.com, anchoring L.A. television's

first-ever live webcasts, during Hurricane Katrina.

He has had also had cameo roles in TV dramas and movies, and also hosted a nationally syndicated entertainment program, and narrated a daily commentary for radio.

For more information call Stuart Johnson at 626.794.8585

## 'City Beat' Topics Include Hotel Constance Project

Topics on the latest edition of "City Beat" on KPAS and the Internet include a District 2 update, funding for Rose Bowl Stadium renovations, local hiring related to the renovations, city budget issues, the Hotel Constance development project funded in part by federal stimulus dollars, and the IDS Playhouse Plaza proposed development project that was halted by legal action.

Moderator Barry Gordon

is joined by Pasadena City Councilwoman Margaret McAustin, Mountain Views News reporter Dean Lee and Crown City News anchor/news director Tami DeVine.

"City Beat" replays Mondays at 2 and 6 p.m., Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m., Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m., Thursdays at 7 p.m., Fridays at 8:30 p.m., Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. and Sundays at 8:30 a.m.

For more information call (626) 794-8585.



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## Breakfast with Santa and Holiday Snow Festival!

Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup>

Get ready for the holidays and come join us for breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at the Arcadia Community Center, 365 Campus Drive, Arcadia, CA 91007. Breakfast with Santa is \$8 per person and includes breakfast, photos with Santa and holiday entertainment. There will be two options for breakfast: 8:30-9:30am (#4030) or 10:30-11:30am (#4031). Space is limited. Registrations are being accepted now! Just go on-line to the City of Arcadia's website: [www.ci.arcadia.ca.us](http://www.ci.arcadia.ca.us), to download the registration

form or stop by the office, 375 Campus Drive.

The Holiday Snow Festival is free to the public and will also take place at the Arcadia Community Center on the same day from 9am-2pm. This event will feature holiday entertainment, crafts, trolley train rides, dual sled runs and two snow play areas. Carl's Jr. will be available for purchase from 11:30am-1:30pm. Santa will only be present at the Breakfast with Santa Event. Parking will be available at Gate 4 of the Santa Anita Race Track. Shuttle service will be available to transport participants to and from the Community Center from 7:45am-2:15pm. In the event of rain, the Snow Festival will be held Saturday, December 11th. For more information please call 626.574.5113!

## Arcadia Police Blotter

For the period of Sunday, November 14, through Saturday, November 20, the Police Department responded to 909 calls for service of which 136 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

### Sunday, November 14:

1. Around 3:26 a.m., AMH security advised that a driver with facial injuries entered their parking lot in a vehicle with two flat tires and front end damage. Security personnel directed the driver to a Chevron gas station in the 100 block of Huntington for possible repairs. Units located the vehicle with three male Hispanic occupants. The odor of an alcoholic beverage was detected on the 26-year-old driver's breath, and a field sobriety test was conducted. It was determined that the driver was operating the vehicle while intoxicated and was arrested for DUI. The passengers, both 20 years of age, were also arrested for public intoxication. Assisting officers located the accident scene at Holly and Campus, where a City sign was damaged in the center median.
2. While on routine patrol around 9:37 p.m., an automated license plate reader alerted officers to a vehicle that had a \$75,000 misdemeanor warrant attached to it. A traffic stop was initiated at Duarte and Holly, and a record check of the 42-year-old male Hispanic driver confirmed that he had a warrant and was arrested at the scene without incident.

### Monday, November 15:

3. Units responded to Nordstrom in reference to an internal investigation of thefts committed by an employee between August 31 and November 15. Loss prevention personnel discovered an employee had made fraudulent returns of merchandise in which he credited to Nordstrom gift cards. The employee then used the gift cards to make purchases with his employee discount. A 23-year-old male Caucasian was arrested for grant theft and commercial burglary.
4. Around 8:49 p.m., officers observed a vehicle traveling about five miles per hour with its headlights off. A traffic stop was conducted at Peck and Clark and two male occupants were contacted. When questioned, one subject admitted that he had a methamphetamine smoking pipe inside the car. Officers searched the vehicle and a smoking pipe was located, along with a keyhole lock punch, multiple screwdrivers, knife, flashlight, and GPS unit. A 24-year-old Caucasian and a 31-year-old male Hispanic were arrested for attempted auto burglary, receiving stolen property, and possession of burglary tools. The older subject was also charged with possession of drug paraphernalia and two outstanding warrants totaling \$70,000.

### Tuesday, November 16:

5. Officers responded to City Hall in reference to a fraud report around 8:55 a.m. A City employee was notified by her credit card company of possible fraudulent activities on her account. She discovered that unknown suspect(s) had made 11 fraudulent charges totaling over \$1,943.
6. Shortly before 5:00 p.m., a consensual contact with two male subjects was made at the Unocal gas station located at 701 West Huntington. A consent search of their vehicle was also initiated, and officers located a fraudulent social security card. A 22-year-old male Hispanic was arrested at the scene.

### Wednesday, November 17:

7. Around 10:00 a.m., a robbery and residential burglary occurred in the 300 block of California. Two male Hispanic suspects entered the house by pretending to deliver a UPS package, and one suspect also displayed a semi-automatic handgun. The housekeeper's eyes were covered with tape and her hands were bound. The suspects stole miscellaneous jewelry, watches, and a safe.
8. Units were sent to the 500 block of West Leroy regarding a grand theft that occurred between 8:00 p.m. on November 2 and 9:00 p.m. on November 14. It is believed that a former 59-year-old female Asian housekeeper stole \$8,000 from a houseguest staying at the home.

### Thursday, November 18:

9. A traffic stop was conducted at Baldwin and Huntington for a code violation around 10:09 p.m. Record checks of the occupants were conducted and it revealed that a 27-year-old male Caucasian passenger had a \$15,000 outstanding warrant for DUI. The man was arrested at the scene.
10. Shortly before midnight, units were dispatched to the 800 block of West Duarte in reference to a disturbance between a mother and son. A record check revealed that the 27-year-old male Hispanic had a \$50,000 outstanding warrant for possession of a controlled substance and was taken into custody.

### Friday, November 19:

11. Between 11:00 p.m. on November 18 and 6:30 a.m. on November 19, a residential burglary and vehicle theft occurred in the 300 block of Oxford. Unknown suspect(s) entered the house through an unsecured window and stole a purse, gaming console, and a 1998 BMW from the driveway.
12. A Wells Fargo representative came to the station around 11:14 a.m. to file a fraud report. A female suspect deposited four non-sufficient checks totaling \$25,150 into her checking account and then withdrew the funds shortly thereafter.

### Saturday, November 20:

13. Around 2:14 p.m., units responded to Motel 6, 225 Colorado, regarding a vehicle theft and grand theft report. The victim advised that he was partying with a female acquaintance in the room and they both fell asleep. When he awoke he discovered that the woman had stolen \$500 from his wallet and his 2007 Nissan Sentra. The woman was later arrested by the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department and the victim's car was recovered.
14. Around 5:23 p.m., a 28-year-old male Asian driver was busy looking for a street address and collided with a patrol unit in the intersection of First and Diamond. Fortunately, there were no injuries.

## Of Caruso, Stronach, Rusnak, more

*Sitting in on board meetings of various organizations around town sure reinforces what great things are going on around town and what great people we have doing them. Here are some odds and end news nuggets I've picked up in the past few days, weeks, and months at Chamber of Commerce and Library board meetings:*

by Scott Hettrick - Arcadia's Best

U.S. funds Arcadia street upgrades: City staff took advantage of federal transportation funding to cover 80% of the \$1.7 million it cost to widen and add turn lanes at three major intersections on Santa Anita Avenue — Duarte Road, then Foothill Boulevard, and now Live Oak Avenue.

Mall biz growing; mall expanding?: Westfield Santa Anita business was up 6% in October, with traffic up 8%. The mall recently filed a non-specific application with the city to convert the former and vacant Robinsons-May building to be used for a large-scale retail store and several small retailers that would flow out into the food court area.

No housing slump here: While new home construction has stalled in many cities, in one recent month Arcadia had 61 new homes being built, including 52 tear-downs/rebuilds and 9 brand new homes.

Rusnak talking again: With the city in escrow on key properties on Morlan Avenue near the Rusnak Mercedes car lot on Huntington Drive west of Santa Anita, talks have resumed with Rusnak about buying those properties from the City to expand his dealership.

Caruso/Stronach talking again — smaller Shops at Santa Anita?: Officials report a new deal may be finalized by December between Rick Caruso and Santa Anita Park owner Frank Stronach about a new partnership between the two titans on a slightly scaled-down Shops at Santa Anita project.

Joint-Use Gym: The new joint-use (City/School District) gymnasium being built at Dana Middle School will be opened in January with a City staff person assigned to manage it. The City will have use of it evenings and weekends, with the school accessing it weekdays.

Synthetic soccer field: The soccer field at City Hall will soon have the field replaced with a synthetic turf.

All bets off for Red Cross Monte Carlo night: With the Red Cross undergoing staffing and management changes, the annual Monte Carlo night fundraiser usually held in November has been canceled.

Bridge, anyone?: In addition to the \$14 million bridge to be built over Santa Anita Avenue and the Iconic Freeway Structure (bridge) to be built over

the 210 freeway for the Gold Line Foothill Extension, starting in January 14-weeks of work will begin to retrofit and add a second set of tracks for the bridge running diagonally over Huntington Drive at Second Avenue. And the bridge over Colorado Avenue west of Santa Anita Avenue near Newcastle Park will need to be torn down completely in late 2011 and replaced with a wider bridge.

School budgets down 22%: Arcadia School District budgets have been slashed a whopping 22% in the past two years, which means the school board and administrators deserve praise for ensuring the quality of education amidst such dramatic spending cuts.

School buildings get their own showcase between holidays Before construction begins on the high-profile performing arts center, the public is invited to a preview tour of the completed Student Services Building on Campus Drive, 45,000 square-foot Science Center and adjacent 134-seat Lecture Hall on Duarte Road from 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11. Exhibits and demonstrations will be available.

The Student Services Building on Campus Drive, which will serve as the school's "front door" is a 50,000+ square-foot, two-story structure with 18 new classrooms that are each about 2,600 square feet. The entry lobby and waiting area is about half that size at 1,250 square feet. In addition to AHS admin offices, conference rooms, labs, and others, the building also includes a new TV classroom studio with modern control and editing rooms, according to School District Superintendent Dr. Joel Shawn.

Library traffic/use in the fast lane

Did you know that the Arcadia Public Library had nearly 600,000 visitors in the past year and loaned out the collection of nearly 200,000 books and other items such as DVDs and audio books more than 725,000 times? That's way more than ten times the number of residents in Arcadia. About 168,000 visited the ever-expanding web site.

Also exceeding the population was the number of questions asked of librarians: nearly 64,000. Maybe that's because there are nearly as many current library cards for the Arcadia library the number of people living in town: more than 53,000. That's a much higher percentage than the 62% nationally, which is also impressive.

That means the library staff can always use help, which they got last year from 238 volunteers who put in more than 15,700 hours, 32 of those volunteers tutoring residents how to use one of the library's 60 computers — 802 questions and 7,435 computer sessions in October alone!

Proving that public libraries remain a vital part of American life, there are 16,604 of them in the U.S., more than the number of McDonald's restaurants.

– By Scott Hettrick

## Book to Movie: Take 3!

Friday, December 3 at 3:30 p.m. all middle school students sixth through eighth grade are invited to join in on the fun with a book discussion of *The Lightning Thief*. Each month join us as we enjoy snacks, create themed crafts and have fun.

The Arcadia Public Library is located at 20 W. Duarte Rd. Arcadia. For more information, please call (626) 821-5566.

## Carols, Choirs, and Cookies

"Joy in This Place" will be the holiday music theme for a Carol-Sing/Cookie-Feast hosted by the Women's Association of the Arcadia Presbyterian Church. Everyone is invited to taste some wonderful home-made Christmas cookies and sing favorite carols on Sat., Dec. 4, at 3:00 p.m.

Several magnificent choirs will be featured. Tabitha Henken will direct the combined choirs of Westminster Gardens, Royal Oaks Manor, and New Hope Presbyterian Church. The 77-voice Arroyo High School Choir will be directed by Jennifer Stanley. Pianist John Brunn will accompany both groups.

Ms. Henken will open the festivities with carols played on the church's beautiful 3-manual organ. A cantata, "Joy in This Place," is the centerpiece of the choral offerings by the combined choirs. The program will conclude with everyone's joining to sing Handel's glorious "Hallelujah Chorus."

This is a marvelous opportunity to usher in the holiday season, and to fill your heart and spirit with joyful music celebrating Jesus' birth!

The Presbyterian Church is located at 121 Alice St., Arcadia. For more information, call 626-445-7470.

## Winter Holidays Around the World at the Arcadia Historical Museum

On Saturday, December 18 at 2:30 p.m., come see how people around the world celebrate the winter holidays! Enjoy an afternoon filled with activities and crafts including a puppet show! Get a henna tattoo and make a cheeky caroler! Seating is limited and families will be accepted in the order that they are in line.

The Arcadia Historical Museum is located at 380 W. Huntington Drive, immediately behind the Community Center. For more information, please call (626) 574-5440.

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# MONROVIA - DUARTE

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## Dunking For Ducks



Santa Anita Family YMCA senior program director, Wendy Towns, daughter Maya, and Ifhika Nuchhal pluck lucky rubber ducks from the Y swimming pool at the annual Rubber Duck Dunk Fundraiser. The event sponsored by The Montgomery Family, Realtor Donna Baker, New Life Evangelistic Church, Lutz & Company, and K.C. and Tzeitel Caracci raised \$3,000 for the Y's Youth and Government program. Funds will help offset travel costs to Sacramento for local teen delegates to the YMCA Model Legislature and Model Court in February.

## Outstanding Community Volunteers Honored



Honored were, from left to right Steve Nicholson, general manager of Performance Nissan, Outstanding Business Person Award; Mario Contreras, Outstanding Youth Award; Sheree Curry, Outstanding Humanitarian Award; Jasmine Castro, Outstanding Youth Award; Sharmar Warner, Outstanding Civic Service Award, and Victor Valenzuela, Outstanding Service to Youth Award. Josephine Tung (not pictured) was honored with the Outstanding Service to Senior Citizens/Disabled Award.

Seven outstanding Duarte citizens were recognized for their community service at the annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast and Duarte Chamber of Commerce Community Service Recognition Awards on Nov. 24. More than 125 civic and business leaders attended the event held at City of Hope's Cooper Auditorium, presided over by Duarte's newly elected mayor, Tzeitel Paras-Caracci and Duarte Chamber Chairman of the Board, Sandi Mejia.

Duarte resident and businesswoman, Sharmar Warner was honored with the Outstanding Civic Service Award for her efforts in "organizing and sustaining the citizens concerned about Azusa Rock mining expansion above Duarte."

Steve Nicholson, general manager of Performance Nissan received the Outstanding Business Person Service Award recognizing his and Performance Nissan's many contributions to the community, including donating hundreds of basketballs for youth programs. Josephine Tung, longtime resident and Duarte Senior Center volunteer, was honored with the Outstanding Service to Senior Citizens/Disabled Award. Tung volunteers with the lunch program five days a week, is "an indispensable member of the kitchen team" and "a role model for all the Duarte Senior Center volunteers."

For her compassion and service to the community's needy, Sheree Curry was honored with the Outstanding Humanitarian

Award. She helped to organize Love Our Children2, Inc., a community food pantry for the needy, coordinate a backpack distribution, Christmas toy distribution, and create a dance troupe for at-risk youth. She also help develop "Set for Life," a non-profit organization to assist the elderly.

Victor Valenzuela, who heads Duarte's Youth Boxing program, which has grown in number of youth involved and overall success of the program under his leadership, was honored with the Outstanding Service to Youth Award. Valenzuela was also recently inducted into the California Boxing Hall of Fame. "With all his knowledge of boxing and talent for teaching, perhaps Victor's greatest ability is being a role model to young people. He models dedication and hard work by working full time at the City of Hope every day and then comes to the Teen Center to work with young people throughout the afternoon, weekends, and evenings."

Two Duarte teens were

recognized as Outstanding Youth. Jasmine Castro, a senior at Duarte High School is the president of the school's Interact Club and a member of the Multicultural Club. She has also volunteered at the Duarte Senior Center, Westminster Gardens, Route 66 Parade, and the Festival of Authors while maintaining a 4.17 grade point average. Mario Contreras, also a senior at Duarte High School is an excellent student and community volunteer. He serves as vice president of the Interact Club, and has given more than 100 hours of volunteer service to a variety of community organizations. He holds a grade point average of 4.07.

The Mayor's 25th annual Prayer Breakfast and 23rd annual Community Service Recognition Awards were sponsored by the City of Duarte, Duarte Chamber of Commerce, Duarte Kiwanis Club and Key Club, Duarte Church and Clergy Association, Royal Oaks Manor, Duarte Woman's Club, and Duarte's Promise - The Alliance for Youth.



Please join us to celebrate the 2010  
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**Saturday, November 27, 2010**  
**6:30pm - 10:30pm**

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## Monrovia Police Blotter

During the last seven-day period, the Police Department handled 495 service events, resulting in 102 investigations. Following are the last week's highlighted issues and events:

### Domestic Violence / Suspects Arrested

On November 14 at 6:30 p.m., officers were dispatched to a residence in the 900 block of South Ivy regarding a domestic violence incident in progress. Through investigation, it was determined that the ex-husband of the victim and his new girlfriend arrived at the ex-wife's house to return their children. The ex-wife became angry and yelled obscenities at her ex-husband. The ex-husband exited his vehicle and threw his ex-wife to the ground and punched and kicked her. The new girlfriend also exited the vehicle and punched the ex-wife. Family members intervened and broke up the fight. The ex-wife sustained visible injuries to her face and body. The officers arrested the ex-husband for domestic violence and the new girlfriend was arrested for battery.

### Mental Evaluation

On November 14 at 8:12 p.m., officers responded to a residence in the 1600 block of Pilgrim regarding an attempt suicide. The subject had a knife and had cut his wrists and arms. When Officers arrived, the subject had fled the location on foot. Containment of the area was set up and a helicopter was requested to assist in the search. The subject was located and a foot pursuit ensued. The subject was still holding the knife, but tossed it and attempted to jump over a residential wall to get away. The officer maintained a safe distance from the subject and deployed his taser, which had an immediate affect. The subject was apprehended without further incident. The subject was taken to a hospital to be treated for his self-inflicted injuries, which were determined to be superficial. He was held for a 72-hour mental evaluation.

### Driving Under the Influence / Suspect Arrested

On November 16 at 9:43 p.m., an officer observed a driver turn east off of Canyon into the westbound lanes of Huntington. The driver saw the officer and appeared to hesitate, stopping in the middle of the lanes. The officer conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle for driving the wrong way on a divided highway. The officer determined that the driver was driving under the influence. The driver was arrested. The driver's blood alcohol level was found to be more than twice the legal limit.

### Grand Theft Auto

On November 17 at 12:23 a.m., an officer was dispatched to the 300 block of Norumbega regarding a stolen vehicle. The victim was visiting in the area and came out to find her tan, 2001 Dodge Durango missing from in front of the home. Investigation continuing.

### Grand Theft Auto

On November 17 at 12:31 a.m., an officer responded to a business in the 800 block of West Huntington. An employee came out from work and discovered his white, 1990 Honda Accord had been stolen. Investigation continuing.

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## Monrovia Christmas Tree Lighting

Come join us on Thursday, December 2nd for the City of Monrovia's Annual Tree Lighting and Holiday Parade. The Tree lighting is scheduled for 6 p.m. at the fountain in Monrovia Library Park, 321 S. Myrtle Avenue. The "Tinsel, Trees & Teddy Bears" Holiday Parade is scheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m. The parade route will begin at the corner of Myrtle and Chestnut Avenues, continuing north and conclude at the corner of Myrtle and Palm Avenues. After the parade, children can visit Santa in Library Park!



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## St. Rita Parish Welcomes New Director of Youth Ministry

On November 7, St. Rita Parish in Sierra Madre welcomed a new member to the professional ministry staff, Theresa Bui Costanzo. Involved with youth ministry for fifteen years, Costanzo comes to St. Rita's via her former profession in international marketing in the health and beauty care industry.

In her years as a UCLA student, she formed a strong bond to campus ministry in the Newman Center at the university, then as a young adult was involved with the youth program at St. Philip the Apostle in Pasadena. After starting a family, she was called to youth ministry, and served as Director of Youth Ministry at Our Mother of Good Counsel in Los Angeles and Confirmation coordinator in La Canada-Flintridge at St. Bede parish.

As a mother of two, the Altadena resident feels she balances a practical, sympathetic and empathetic feel for parents who are juggling schedules and trying to set priorities amidst all of the multitasking demands of today's life. "Yet," she says, "It is important to both me and my husband that we be involved in ministry, especially



Theresa Costanzo

youth." Monsignor Richard Krekelberg, pastor of St. Rita's says he and the interview team were drawn to Costanzo's passion for the Catholic Christian faith, her dynamic enthusiasm and particularly her success at recruiting and developing a dynamic youth ministry team, "whose mission is to provide a faith-filled community for Catholic youths to develop a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and become truly connected with

the church through the relationship they develop and participation in their parish community" in Costanzo's own words.

"The development of our ministry to youth here at St. Rita Parish over the past four years," reflected Krekelberg, "has impressed upon us the need to include programming for junior high, high school (including preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation) through young adult. From the more than twenty applicants for the position of Director of Youth Ministry, Theresa Bui Costanzo clearly had the edge by way of previous experience and success in tying all three levels together in a seamless way." Costanzo will direct an expanded youth ministry program planned for grades 6-12 over the next year, as well as the two year Confirmation program. Monsignor Richard Krekelberg, pastor, will complete her introduction to the church community this Saturday, November 20 at the 5:30 Youth Mass, after introductions at all the church's other services and the semi-annual parish welcome event, earlier in November.

For more information on the St. Rita youth programs, contact Theresa Costanzo at the St. Rita Youth office, 626-355-1852, through the parish administrative offices at 626-355-1292 or at [YM@St-rita.org](http://YM@St-rita.org).

## Pasadena High Marching Band And Color Guard Take Top Honors



We're No. 1 - Shuping Deng - Color Guard co-captain, Will Medina - Assistant Drum Major, David Miller - Band Director, Olivia Broslawsky - Drum Major, Yessenia Tellez - Color Guard co-captain, Jozey Martinez - Color Guard Instructor

Last Saturday the PHS Bulldog Marching Band and Color Guard competed in the Moorpark High School Battle of the Bands in the pouring rain and took 1st place in their group to go along with the 2nd and 3rd that they earned in previous competitions.

If you have not had a chance to see the field show, please come out to the All District Marching Band Fest on December 11. You will also be able to see the field performances of Blair, Marshall, Muir and Pasadena High School. The festival will begin at 5:00 on the PHS football field.

The Marching Band will also perform the music from the field show at the PHS Winter Concert on December 15. In addition to the Marching Band, the Orchestra, Concert Band and Jazz ensembles will be performing at this concert in the PHS Auditorium beginning at 7:00 pm.

## A DAY AT CITY HALL

Photos by Vivianne M. Parker



Students from Highpoint Academy in Pasadena get a tour of Pasadena City Hall as Councilman Steve Haderlein who covers District 4 (Hastings Ranch area and East Pasadena) shares the history of Pasadena's unique architecture seen in buildings like City Hall, the Rose Bowl, and the Convention Center.



The center quad is a well-photographed scene with wedding photographers often



framing their shots and models near this fountain. City Hall was built in 1928 in this Roman architecture style. Students got an opportunity to see what the 8 member council view when sessions are held there as they hear the matters of the city at its weekly meetings.

Haderlein explains the design of the time in 1928 where candle lights were being replaced by electric lights so the concept was to make the new products look like the old product.

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E-mail address: [agillick@alverno-hs.org](mailto:agillick@alverno-hs.org)

### Arcadia High School

180 Campus Drive Arcadia, CA 91007  
Phone: (626) 821-8370, Principal: David L. Vannasda

### Arroyo Pacific Academy

41 W. Santa Clara St. Arcadia, Ca,  
(626) 294-0661 Principal: Phil Clarke  
E-mail address: [pclarke@arroyopacific.org](mailto:pclarke@arroyopacific.org)

### Barnhart School

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### Bethany Christian School

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### High Point Academy

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### LaSalle High School

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### Monrovia High School

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### Norma Coombs Alternative School

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### Odyssey Charter School

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### Pasadena High School

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### Sierra Madre Elementary School

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### Sierra Madre Middle School

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## Thankfulness All Around

Every year, our fearless leader and Editor Susan asks us the writing staff, to try to incorporate a little "What we are thankful for" in our columns. Recently I had the absolute pleasure to meet Mike Tyleman leader of the USO. In fact if you didn't hear

### THE CHEF KNOWS

him on my weekly radio show, you really missed out.

The USO was founded in 1941 in response to a request from President Franklin D. Roosevelt to provide morale and recreation services to uniformed military personnel. This request led six civilian agencies -- the Salvation Army, Young Men's Christian Association, Young Women's Christian Association, National Catholic Community Services, National Travelers Aid Association and the National Jewish Welfare Board -- to unite in support of the troops. The United Service Organizations, or USO, was incorporated in New York February 4, 1941.

USO centers and clubs opened around the world in order to be a "Home Away from Home" for GIs. The USO was a place to go for dances and social events, for movies and music, for a quiet place to talk or write a letter home, or for a free cup of coffee and a doughnut. The USO also brought Hollywood celebrities and volunteer entertainers to perform for the troops.

At its high point in 1944, the USO had more than 3,000 clubs, and curtains were rising on USO shows 700 times a day. From 1941 to 1947, the USO presented more than 400,000 performances. Entertainers such as Bing Crosby, Ann Sheridan, James Cagney, Jimmy Stewart, Fred Astaire, the Andrews Sisters, Joe E. Brown, Glenn Miller, Martha Raye and, of course, Bob Hope were just a few of the "Soldiers in Greasepaint" who volunteered their time and talents to tour with the USO.

In 1950, when the United States entered the Korean War, the USO once again brought its vital services and entertainment tours, including Marilyn Monroe, to the troops. This effort continued after the war ended, and the USO expanded to serve the more than one million troops who remained stationed overseas. During the 1960s, as tensions escalated in Vietnam, the USO began to open centers in combat zones. The 23 centers in Vietnam and Thailand served as many as a million service members a month, and the USO presented more than 5,000 performances during the Vietnam War.

Today, the USO today is alive and well, observing 65 years of serving our men and women in uniform and their families around the world. To support troops participating in Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom, USO centers opened in Afghanistan, Kuwait and Qatar. USO centers number more than 120 around the world. Recently, the USO opened the Rocky Mountain USO Center at Denver International Airport and a second center in Kuwait. The USO provides a variety of programs and services, including orientation programs, family events, travel assistance, free Internet and e-mail access, and recreation services. USO entertainment tours continue to boost troop morale and feature such celebrities as Robin Williams, Wayne Newton, Ben Affleck, Gary Sinise, Jessica Simpson, Charles Barkley, John Elway, Drew Carey and Toby Keith.

Military personnel and their families' visit USO centers more than five million times each year. A nonprofit, charitable organization, the USO relies on donations from private citizens, foundations, organizations and corporations. More than 33,000 USO volunteers provide an estimated 371,418 hours of service annually.

I salute you my friends!!! Please listen to this Saturday Nights Radio show. I call it "Dining with Dills". Saturday Night at 9 PM on KABC Talk Radio 790

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Look for this Wine-Tasting Artwork in Mt. Views Publications now until January 31st. Answer the wine trivia question, complete the entry form and drop off at the Sierra Madre Library.

**Drawing Rules** – Limited to one entry per person, per Mt Views publication. Winner need not be present to win General Admission tickets. Completed entry form must be delivered to the Sierra Madre Library during hours of operation, same week of publication. Drawing tickets have no cash value and cannot be refunded. Eligible entry form does not require a correct answer to the trivia question.

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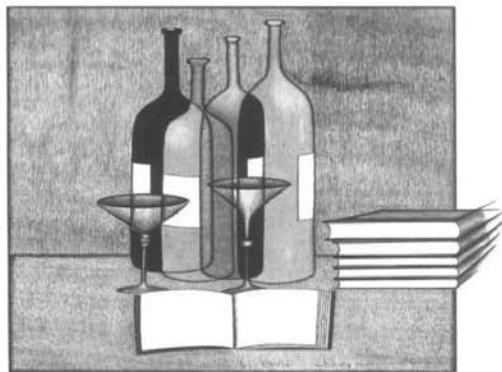
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## HOWARD Hays As I See It

Last week I wrote about the disappearance of "news", and referred to the weeknight shows on MSNBC. On one such show, Rachel Maddow has a segment called "Talk Me Down", in which a disturbing assertion is addressed - and a reasoned explanation given to allay concerns and fears.

Greg tried to do just that in his column last week in the matter of healthcare reform, addressing concerns regarding rescission of coverage due to discovery of "pre-existing conditions." He "talks us down" and eases those concerns by explaining "... just how ridiculous was the claim that the insurance industry was denying insurance to people who had pre-existing conditions". And it's a good thing he did. I, for one, had been troubled by a recent Kaiser Family Foundation report that over the past three years 12.6 million non-elderly adults, 36% of those trying to purchase health insurance directly in the individual market, were denied coverage because of a pre-existing condition. One in ten with cancer were denied coverage, and 6% of already-enrolled, premium-paying cancer sufferers lost coverage once the cancer was diagnosed. Company whistle-blowers have reported incentive offers pegged to the number of customers they're able to kick off the rolls.

Whole categories of illnesses are exempted from coverage if the enrollee has experienced an illness related to that category. Whole families have lost coverage when a single family member has been found with a pre-existing condition. In a number of states, being a victim of domestic violence qualifies as a pre-existing condition, making victims reluctant to report abuse for fear of forever losing health coverage.

But Greg "talks us down" and assures that such rescissions are instead the result of "reckless behavior".

I became concerned when I read in Greg's column of Nobel economist Paul Krugman's "admission ... that death panels will in fact be convened". To "talk me down" on this one I turned to Krugman himself. In August 2009 he wrote that any suggestion of "death panels" in the healthcare legislation was "a complete fabrication". (He also pointed out it was a Republican, Sen. John Isakson of Georgia, who introduced the provision requiring Medicare to pay for voluntary end-of-life counseling, and who himself described any connection to euthanasia as "nuts".)

Krugman cited the "death panels" smear as evidence that "opposition to reform was basic fear-mongering, unconstrained either by the facts or by any sense of decency", pushed by the "lunatic fringe" of those supporting an unsustainable status quo. The quote from ABC THIS WEEK Greg cited was a response to panelist Jake Tapper's suggestion that if Republicans want cost savings, "death panels" could certainly do the trick. Referring to what's in the bill, Krugman explains, "(t)he advisory path, which has the ability to make more or less binding judgments on saying this particular expensive treatment actually doesn't do any good medically and so we're not going to pay for it, that is actually going to

save quite a lot of money."

The difference is that while Democratic proposals sought to ensure taxpayers' money goes to medically beneficial care, Republicans sought ways to divert public funds to private, corporate profit - as with Medicare Part D (with its "Medicare Advantage") enacted during the Bush Administration. That plan, whose \$395 billion cost over ten years estimated at the time it was debated in 2003 jumped to \$724 billion by the time it was enacted in 2006, was rammed through by Republicans not bothering to come up with a way to pay for it.

Somebody needs to "talk me down" because I can't make sense of Republicans preaching fiscal discipline while pushing that bill, borrowing hundreds of billions to subsidize multi-million dollar CEO salaries and shareholder dividends. For that we can turn to disclosure records, where we find that insurance, health and pharmaceutical industries contributed over \$106 million to federal candidates and parties over the past two years alone - no doubt more than was contributed by those who must rely on government subsidies for their medical care. I doubt anybody could "talk me down" form my concern that my congressman, Rep. David Dreier, doesn't know what he's talking about. Last June Dreier signed a petition "to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act." In an interview a week ago on NPR, though, Dreier stated, "We have said all along that we want to make sure that provisions there that are in fact beneficial in ensuring that people have access, without a huge expansion of government, we don't want to repeal."

Did Dreier remember what he'd signed? "We have said all along" there are "provisions ... we don't want to repeal". But the petition refers to a bill to repeal the Act "as if such Act had not been enacted". And who is "We"? The drive was led by Rep. Pete King (R-IA), who vowed to repeal "lock, stock and barrel". Dreier was joined by 172 House colleagues in signing the petition.

What's changed? For one thing, it's clear the public likes a lot of what's in the Affordable Care Act. A Kaiser Health Tracking Poll from earlier this month reports 78% want to keep the provision giving tax credits to small businesses for covering their employees, 72% for closing the Medicare prescription drug "doughnut hole", 71% for helping low- and moderate-income Americans who can't get insured through their employers, and 71% for prohibiting denial of coverage due to those "pre-existing conditions". More importantly, insurance companies have made clear they want to hang on to that provision mandating coverage for everybody - bringing in millions of new customers.

My congressman dismisses the concerns of those unable to secure decent medical care for themselves and their families, but defends the corporate interests which fill his campaign account. He supports total repeal to bring the tea-party crowd to the polls, then falls into line once the election's over.

## MARY Carney



From conception we're in a space of never-ending movement, as mother's blood pumps through her body with its subtle pressure changes whether she's sleeping or "up and moving around." When awake, other vibrations / pressures vary as she walks, bends, stretches, drive or rides in vehicles: we experience 24/7 movement, within which we freely move and stretch in this marvelous liquid environment whenever we wish.

The birthing shock of pressure, light and air, hands touching us and suddenly being constricted by clothes and blankets and winding up alone on a non-moving surface separates us from the warm and surrounding pulsations during our nine months' gestation. Even in primitive cultures, parents find ways to provide gentle, ongoing movement for babies - often just being carried on back, or by older children. In yesterday's world, we tucked babies in cradles, keeping our adult hands free for seated tasks, while a foot pressed/ released (i.e., rocked) the cradle with rhythmic movement that soothed and comforted baby. Today's parents quickly acquire motorized swings to soothe babies while

## From The Inside Out

parents "get on with life's duties." And how many of the youngest babies' parents drive for hours during the night while the baby in back sleeps only as long as movement continues - and wakes up screaming at every stop?

Movement is life - the absence of movement stresses our bodies in so many ways that we literally cannot count them. And so we are encouraged to exercise - walk, jog, run, play one of many kinds of ball, bicycle, climb, gymnastics, yoga, swim ... keep moving, keep active, keep toned, keep strong, keep going.

Which brings me to swings. Who among us does not have a fond childhood memory of some kind of outdoor swing - a rope with a couple large knots or a tire tied to a tree? A swing set in the back yard, or at the nearby playground? Parents often take their kids to a park, plop the kids in the "baby swings" and (maybe) talk with other adults.

Wait! What happened to the adult-sized swings in Memorial and Turtle Parks? Where we find swings, how come they're only for babies? Aren't our parks for all ages? Why can't we adults have swings with seats large enough and comfy enough for our posteriors, so we too can sit and swing gently and talk with a friend, or pump strongly to get up a good movement for a few moments until we let "the cat die down" again?

Occasional visits to the Public Works office at City Hall over the last 10 years elicited: "Oh, swings are too dangerous. Toomuch liability. We can't have swings for adults." The current General Plan Parks and Recreation Committee says - "Oh, there's not enough clearance room for adult-sized swings in Memorial Park. We'd have to take out 3 trees." Horse-feathers! We certainly can have adult swings in our town's several area

parks. A city council member on Sunday I pointed out that there are 4 "older children" swings to the YAC's rear on the east side. So I tried one out. Obviously they are swings for really tall kids - 6' tall, or taller. At 5'5" I had to struggle to get up on tip-toe to get even one hip on the seat (although I eventually managed). And yes, there was certainly enough space around them so I wouldn't hit anyone on either forward or backward swing, and yes, it was quiet, and I had a good swing. However, while we're looking at updating our city's 5-Year General Plan - let's get "larger children / adult" swings back in Memorial Park, plus more elsewhere - the open space south of the library? Goldberg Park? Bailey Canyon? Turtle Park? Beside the Post Office? Every adult I've talked to, while understanding safety concerns, recognizes this hole in Sierra Madre's outdoors life - and the corresponding hole in their hearts because there's no swings for them. Some residents stopped taking their children, because there was "nothing for us". A good swing is one of life's special moments. Just because we're "adults" doesn't mean we don't like feeling young from time to time.

With only 5 minutes (or even just 90 seconds) of swinging (which rhythmically pressure-exercises every cell just like it did when we were still inside mommy) we re-experience what it was like to be young and free, to revel in the delight of soaring toward the sky - back and forth, back and forth, back and forth until the desire to fly is soothed, we slow down, and - once more at peace with life - we move on. For the Swingers Amongst Us - let City Council, our Parks and Recreation folks, and our Public Works department know how much we want our "older child / adult" swings back again in the open space areas near us!

## Senator Huff Thanks Chino Hills Resident for Legislative Contribution

*Mr. James M. Dorn won Senator Huff's 2010 There Ought To Be A Law contest*



Sacramento — Senator Bob Huff (R—Diamond Bar) yesterday had lunch with Mr. James M. Dorn, this year's "There Ought To Be A Law" contest winner, to present him with a California State flag that had been flown over the Capitol.

Senator Huff introduced Mr. Dorn's winning idea as a part of his 2010 legislative package. Senate Constitutional Amendment 30, based on Mr. Dorn's idea, would have established a mandatory 72-hour public review period on all legislation prior to a vote in any committee or on the floor of either house of the California Legislature.

"It was a pleasure to meet with Mr. & Mrs. Dorn and to thank him for his important contribution," said Senator Huff. "Although his idea was defeated by the majority party in Sacramento, Mr. Dorn helped bring awareness to the need for greater transparency in the Legislature."

The flag and accompanying certificate are "rather rare honors," said Mr. Dorn. "I really enjoyed hearing what happened to the idea;

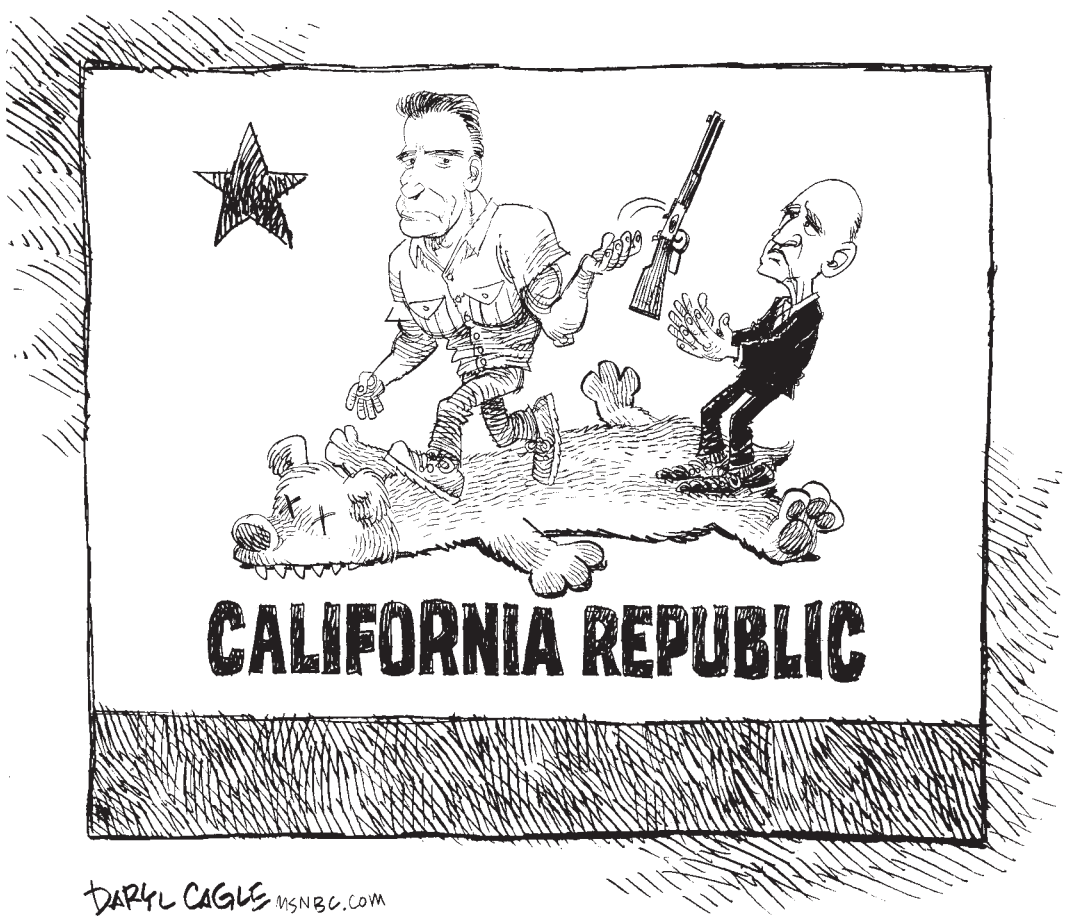
... I doubt that many of our legislators would have taken the time to tell me the tale."

The "There Ought To Be A Law" contest is underway again this year. All submissions must be received by Friday, December 3, 2010. Like Mr. Dorn, the winner will be invited to join Senator Huff for lunch and will receive a California State flag that has been flown over the Capitol. Proposals can be submitted by filling out a simple form on Senator Huff's website at [www.senate.ca.gov/huff](http://www.senate.ca.gov/huff).

"With only 10 days left to enter, I hope to hear from small business owners, educators, parents and any constituent with an idea to improve California through my 2011 'There Ought To Be A Law' contest," said Senator Bob Huff.

The contest winner will be announced in January 2011.

Senator Bob Huff serves as the Senate Republican Caucus Chair and represents portions of Los Angeles, Orange and San Bernardino counties.



DARYL CAGLE MSNBC.COM

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<b>What DO You Think?</b> We'd like to hear from you! Contact us at: <a href="mailto:editor@tnviewsnews.com">editor@tnviewsnews.com</a> or <a href="http://www.facebook.com/mountainviewsnews">www.facebook.com/mountainviewsnews</a>		
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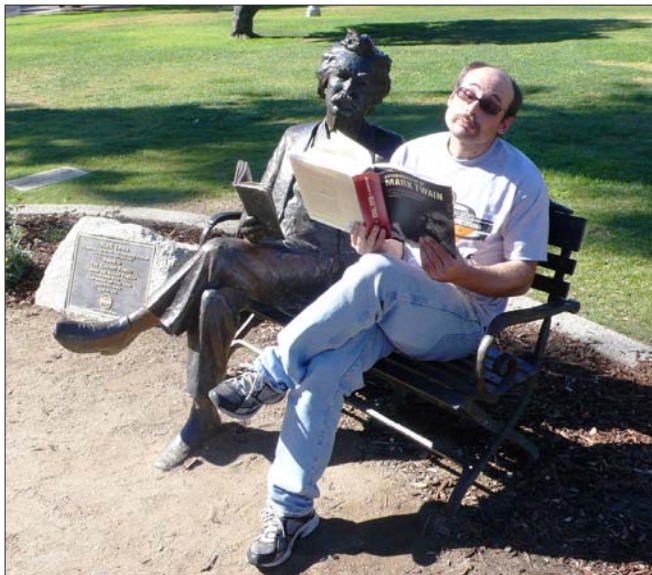
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**Mountain Views News Mission Statement**  
The traditions of the community newspaper and the concerns of our readers are this newspaper's top priorities. We support a prosperous community of well-informed citizens. We hold in high regard the values of the exceptional quality of life in our community, including the magnificence of our natural resources. Integrity will be our guide.

## STUART Tolchin.....On LIFE HOW DO WE WANT TO LIVE



Perhaps it's all connected to Mark Twain's 175th anni-versary. Everywhere I look Mark Twain seems to pop up. There's a Huck Finn sandwich at The Only Place in Town and there's a Mark Twain Statue on a park bench right in front of the Monrovia Library. My two kids are born on the same date, November 28th, just two days before the date of Mark Twain's birth it seemed appropriate to buy this huge 737 page Autobiography of Mark Twain and realize that it's only Volume 1. Right now I'm rereading Huckleberry Finn and I'm beginning to understand something new about what freedom means... Throughout the book Huck wrestles with questions of right and wrong. He is accompanied on much of his journey by the escaped slave Jim whom at first Huck regards as a being much less worthy than a White Man; but Huck soon learns the error of his thinking and the error of his whole culture. Huck undergoes a kind of reverse initiation out of civilization and learns to measure Jim's worth according to his own instinctive sense of justice and brotherhood, rather than the beliefs of society. Still Huck is unable to completely ignore what has been drilled into him and worries that he will be forever condemned to hell if he continues to aid Jim. Huck's willingness to risk Hell is a decision of great moral magnitude. Americans, including Huck, have many options and have the power and the freedom to make choices that will determine the kind of life we live. Often our freedom of choice is obscured by simple habit or corporate sponsored education and over exposure to the banality of mass-media. Nevertheless, the options are present as are the risks and in the end we may regret our choices; but we do have the power to choose. All right, that is the question facing us today. How do we want to live and how do we want to influence the lives of our children and loved ones? Society's rules keep changing as to what is acceptable and desirable. In the 1950's pre-marital sex faced public disapproval. Living together before marriage and having children out of wedlock was unthinkable at least among my White college-bound friends. None of my friends had divorced-parents and up until the Viet Nam War we had few political differences with our families. Almost everybody's father had fought in World War II and even though we were almost all Democrats everybody sort of liked Ike. Well along came the war and along came drugs and along came the sexual revolution (although my friends and I were mainly non-participants) and along came Civil Rights and

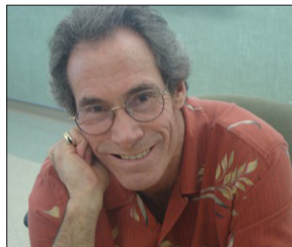


Aaron Tolchin

Police Brutality and Watergate and things were soon very different. My friends and I probably all worried about being "normal" but we never talked about it. We knew no homosexuals and had no association with people of different races or different values. How boring it all sounds. Okay, times are different now. Almost all of my friends are divorced. Many have had children out of wedlock and increasingly the whole idea of marriage seems irrelevant. Race and sexual-preference seem to matter less and less. There may appear to be greater options but the chronic anxiety concerning our future and our children's future has not disappeared. Uncontrolled drug-use is a major problem and the reigning heroes of the society are the athletes and movie stars and other "celebrities" who seem to live lives that are completely out of control. Do Charlie

Sheen and Lindsay Lohan really represent the true aspirations of a society? Mark Twain mercilessly criticized a hypocritical and elitist society and demanded change and above everything respected moral clarity. The quote on the plaque next to him at the Monrovia Library contains one of his most famous and enduring statements, "The man who does not read good books has no advantage over the man who can't read them." I think this statement is once more an assertion of freedom. We have the choice to learn from experience and to take advantage of our education and our opportunities any make decisions in a changing world. Maybe one way we might begin to help ourselves and our kids to clear our heads is to top literally stop and sit on a park bench for awhile. We might even happen to find Mark Twain right next to us and might spend some time thumbing through his autobiography. Maybe we will find the clarity to utilize all of our advantages and recognize our actual options. It would be nice to rise above contemporary chaos and take pleasure in our Freedom to choose. Sure, we might choose to go back to the TV and watch Dancing With The Stars or we might actually find ourselves more in touch with the blanket of Stars and miracles constantly around us but generally obscured. We have the option.

## HAIL Hamilton My Turn



### Lies, Coverups and Conspiracy Theorists

I had an epiphany the other day; a moment of clarity that has changed my view of the role the United States has been playing in the world for the last 63 years. I feel like Rip Van Winkle waking up after a long slumber with a huge hangover. It now seems to me American history since WWII is all about conspiracies--yes, I used the "c" word--most of which relate to our National Security State as established beginning in 1947, clinching with further developments in Iran, and Guatemala occurring during the early Eisenhower years, 1953-55. This was a result of the profound rearrangement of the CIA under Director Allen Dulles. According to Eisenhower's papers, the president was never short on second thoughts about these changes, long before his famous Farewell Address. With the vast amounts of power and profit available to those in government, you don't have to buy the premise of every conspiracy theory out there to realize that--no matter how big or small--private collusion for personal gain, and a subsequent cover-up by those involved, is going to occur at some point or another. Likewise, there would be few incentives for later politicians to shed light on the events, and many more incentives, both professionally and privately, to keep their big mouths shut. Hypothetically speaking, can anyone think of any recent, powerful American political leaders who largely avoided intensive scrutiny by the press, encouraged governmental secrecy, and displayed a notable interest in enhancing their private wealth while in office? Better still, can you think of two such upstanding celebrities, perhaps with a shared background going back some years, recently using their public office for self aggrandizement? This is not to point the finger, but simply to note that the extremes of long-held ideology, paired with the potential for wealth and the accumulation of power, would provide fertile grounds for conspiratorial behavior to be encouraged, rather than reduced. Does anyone remember ABC news

reporter Chris Bury, at a conference in Philadelphia, labeling noted FBI whistleblower Colleen Rowley a conspiracy theorist on camera after she critiqued the Bush administration's curious activities before 9/11. Now the phrase "conspiracy theorist" is wielded as an all-purpose put-down by some, and unwillingly adopted by others who now question the 'official story' surrounding any number of events. Have you ever wondered who's really calling the shots? I have, and it's my considered opinion it's not our elected officials, at least not at the national level. Former CIA agent Ray McGovern asked this question in a December 2009 article entitled "Are President's Afraid of the CIA?" In his article McGovern described how former President Harry S. Truman was censored by the Washington Post and later cajoled by Warren Commission member Allen Dulles (remember him?) for writing an incredibly strong editorial condemning the CIA for becoming, in effect, a policy making, rather than a policy implementing organization. Does anyone see a pattern in all the crap that's happened since the 1960s? What about the murders of JFK, Malcolm X, MLK, and RFK, the Vietnam War, the War on Drugs, and Watergate? And what about the more recent malarky like Iran-Contra, Panama, 9/11, Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Wall Street Meltdown? Do we really know why these things have happened, who has been behind them, and who has benefited from them? No, not by a long shot. I think what we do know is really a bunch of lies we've been told to coverup what have been real conspiracies perpetrated on the American people. Why are those responsible for watching out for us--the national press corps and the Justice Department not doing their jobs? How many dedicated reporters and investigators are thwarted by superiors on the payroll of those being investigated? How often are they told a story or case has been closed because it's "better to let sleeping dogs lie," when in reality "those dogs aren't sleeping at all, they're training, getting ready... for the next conspiratorial assault on the American people." If I sound disillusioned it's because I am. I'm also damned mad!

## DISCOVERING THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

by Christopher Nyerges



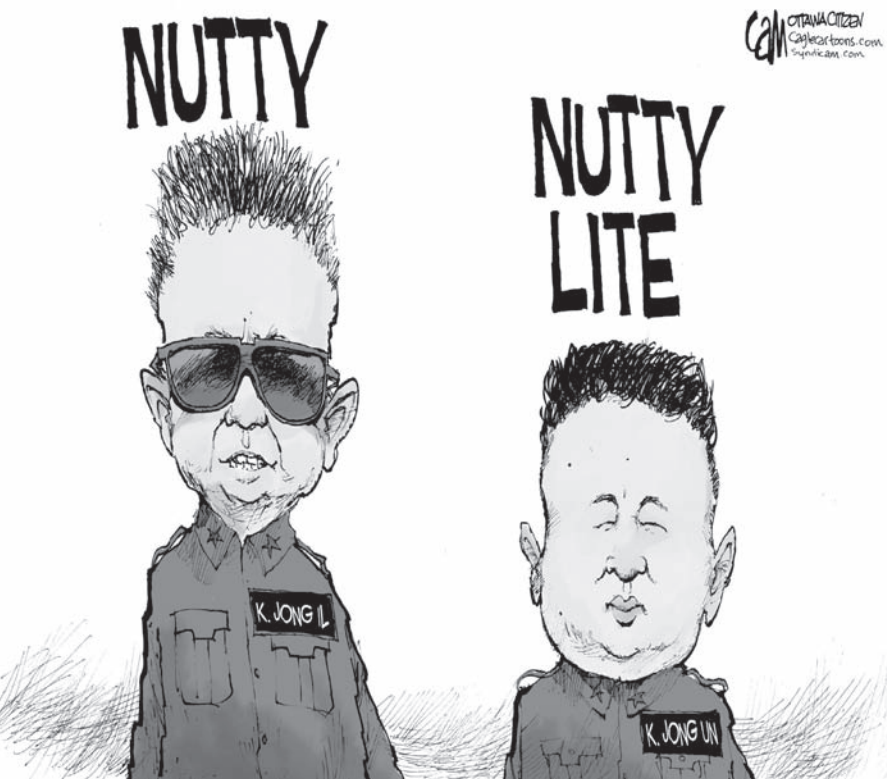
Sometimes we get so caught up in the problems of now and tomorrow that we simply disable ourselves to live in the moment and enjoy the miracle of life. I'd been so focussed on solving my own and other people's problems, of growing older, of seeing friends die, of the consequences of financial mismanagement. I'd barely realized I'd fallen down the rabbit hole of not seeing the incredible that is before me. After a late night meeting, I drove home, nearly mid-night, through the Arroyo Seco and along the Rose Bowl. The coolness of the night was refreshing, invigorating. I breathed deep and found myself looking anew at the enchanting hillside landscape that has always been hidden in plain view. I realized I'd been looking but not seeing. A lone coyote runs along the rode. Further along, a skunk hides from view by swiftly descending a storm drain. A melodic bird sings. The landscape is alive and bright, and I marvel at the late-night runners still engaged in their exercises. Though my body aches with the scars of aging, I found that my mind was fresh, young, awakening again after a long sleep. I felt 17 again (or was it 14?) when I felt that I was immortal, eternal, a part of all things. I breathed deeply, and found great joy in the Eternal Now that was before me, the Eternal Now which always is. I experienced this same Eternal Now when running and motorcycling through the Arroyo Seco years ago, and when I would stand in the rain and feel its miracle. I had been feeling anxious, worried, concerned, and though nothing had changed, I now felt free, hopeful, curious. I wanted to share, and I began to sing and think of poetry. But I quickly realized there is nothing that needs to be done. To experience the moment is sufficient, to go fully into the beauty of the moment, and to feel the past, and present, and future, all ripe with possibilities and discoveries, all in this moment. I could now see the lights of the city and the peaks of the Angeles Forest with its occasional twinkling lights. I come by

here every day, but somehow this was a new land, a magical land, the land of my mind. I began to wonder about the lot of man, working endlessly at jobs that are not enjoyed, to pursue more and better things, never defining real goals except maybe "retirement," which is not a real goal. I felt sad, and a gust of wind sobered me up, telling me to be concerned about my own choices, to refine my own daily actions and not to dwell on whatever it is that other people do or do not. The wind freed me of yet another pointless anchor--the thinking about what "other people" do or don't do. Be here now. Wasn't that the title of an old hippie book? Be here now. Easy to say, hard to do. But it has become the main dictum in my inner religion, and though I have no church, the Arroyo Seco is the closest I've found. It is my homeland, my place of work and dreams, my place of endless adventures and ongoing discoveries. It is my Walden Pond, my Field of Dreams, my Golden Pond. It is simultaneously nothing and everything. It is a vehicle through which I continually find myself, still that same Self, still in that same body (for now), still eager to learn and to grow. I finally got home and stood outside looking at the stars, feeling the cool evening wind. It felt good to be "up," and to know the fight is not over. I could feel the meaning of Bodhi-Dharma's insightful words: "Fall down seven times, get up eight! Life starts from NOW." And I began to realize, isn't that the Christmas message? To rise again from the darkness, to be reborn again from the depth of the winter, to rediscover our inner self and our neighbor in this darkest time of the year? I felt a deep inner appreciation for whatever it was that provided me with this insight, this knowledge that I am apart of everything and everyone. I realized then that to truly experience the real meaning of Christmas I needed to create the environment so that the Christ-within can be born again within my own soul.

*Nyerges is the author "Self-Sufficient Home," "How To Survive Anywhere," and other books. He can be reached at [www.ChristopherNyerges.com](http://www.ChristopherNyerges.com) or Box 41834, Eagle Rock, CA 90041*



"AND TO THINK, JUST THE OTHER DAY I WAS WORRIED ABOUT STRANGERS TOUCHING MY JUNK AT THE AIRPORT."



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Looking Up

with Bob Eklund

Planet from Another Galaxy Discovered

An exoplanet orbiting a star that entered our Milky Way from another galaxy has been detected by a European team of astronomers using a 2.2-meter (87-inch) telescope at the La Silla Observatory in Chile. The Jupiter-like planet is quite unusual, as it is orbiting a star nearing the end of its life and could be about to be engulfed by it—giving tantalizing clues about the fate of our own planetary system in the distant future.

Over the last 15 years, astronomers have detected nearly 500 planets orbiting stars in our cosmic neighborhood, but none from outside our Milky Way has been confirmed. Now, however, a planet with a minimum mass of 1.25 times that of Jupiter has been discovered orbiting a star of extragalactic origin, even though the star now finds itself within our own galaxy. It is part of the so-called Helmi stream—a group of stars that originally belonged to a dwarf galaxy that was devoured by our galaxy, the Milky Way, in an act of galactic cannibalism about six to nine billion years ago. The discovery was announced Nov. 18 in Science Express.

“This discovery is very exciting,” says Rainer Klement of the Max-Planck-Institut für Astronomie (MPIA), who was responsible for the selection of the target stars for this study. “For the first time, astronomers have detected a planetary system in a stellar stream of extragalactic origin. Because of the great distances involved, there are no confirmed detections of planets in other galaxies. But this cosmic merger has brought an extragalactic planet within our reach.”

The star is known as HIP 13044, and it lies about 2,000 light-years from Earth in the southern constellation of Fornax (the

Furnace). The astronomers detected the planet, called HIP 13044 b, by looking for the tiny telltale wobbles of the star caused by the gravitational tug of an orbiting companion.

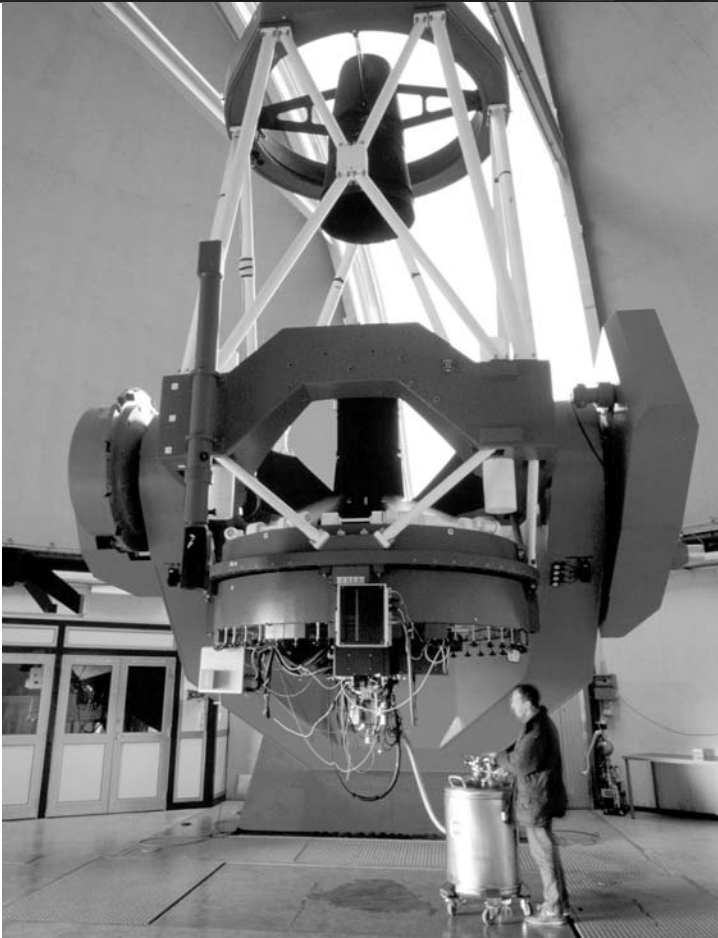
Adding to its claim to fame, HIP 13044 b is also one of the few exoplanets known to have survived the period when its host star expanded massively after exhausting the hydrogen fuel supply in its core—the “red giant” phase of stellar evolution. The star has now contracted again and is burning helium in its core.

“This discovery is part of a study where we are systematically searching for exoplanets that orbit stars nearing the end of their lives,” says Johny Setiawan, also from MPIA, who led the research. “This discovery is particularly intriguing when we consider the distant future of our own planetary system, as the Sun is also expected to become a red giant in about five billion years.”

HIP 13044 b is near to its host star. At the closest point in its elliptical orbit, it is less than one stellar diameter from the surface of the star (or 0.055 times the Sun-Earth distance). It completes an orbit in only 16.2 days.

The star poses interesting questions about how giant planets form, as it appears to contain very few elements heavier than hydrogen and helium—fewer than any other star known to host planets. “It is a puzzle for the widely accepted model of planet formation to explain how such a star, which contains hardly any heavy elements at all, could have formed a planet,” Setiawan says.

You can contact Bob Eklund at: [b eklund@MtnViewsNews.com](mailto:b eklund@MtnViewsNews.com).



Ask jai.....

Ask jai is a weekly column that will strive to honestly answer your job search questions relating to job searching techniques, networking skills, resume writing and interviewing. The employment situation is getting better, however, it is still a challenge finding where the jobs are located and how to get past the “gate-keepers”. As an Executive Recruiter I was privy to working directly with Corporate Recruiters and understanding their process in selecting which candidates to interview and hire. I will candidly answer your questions, possibly bluntly answering your questions, but I will be totally honest. My objective is to help you achieve your employment goal.

**Q: I read an article recently that said that some employers are only considering employed candidates for their positions. Is this against the law? Jonathan**

Dear Jonathan:

If this is not a law it should be. This would seem to be a form of discrimination. I suspect these employers are not actually advertising or publicly stating that they will only consider employed candidates for their open positions. However, what employers do behind closed doors in regards to how they make their hiring decisions, is and will always remain confidential. Do not let some article like this keep you from seeking employment. Continue to apply for positions that match your skills, experience and education. Submit an effective resume that addresses the employer's requirements and qualifications. Write a dynamic cover letter that focuses on your accomplishments and states your interest in their company and the position. Do not let statements, newspaper articles or anyone keep you from pursuing a position you are interested in being considered as a candidate.

**Q: Is it OK to go around recruiters and directly contact the hiring manager. Would it be considered inappropriate or healthy assertiveness? Audrey**

Dear Audrey:

It would depend on if the recruiter is working for you or the employer. There are two type of recruiters, agency and in-house. The agency recruiter is retained or commissioned by an employer to fill a position. The agency recruiter recruits, screens and selects a candidate to present to the employer. This type of recruiter is working on your behalf and the employer. Their goal is to recruit the ideal person who will eventually be hired by the employer. The employer expects the recruiter to partner with them in their search for candidates. A hiring manager might consider it inappropriate behavior for a candidate to go around the recruiter and directly contact them. This action might also reflect badly on the recruiter and hurt a candidate's chances at being hired.

If this is an in-house recruiter, who is employed by the company, I would advise you to also be cautious. You do not want to offend anyone and possibly lose an employment opportunity. The right thing to do in either situation is to ask the recruiter for permission to directly contact the hiring manager and state your reasons. If the in-house recruiter or agency recruiter approves, then go for it. If they do not approve, you will have to trust and leave it in the hands of the recruiter.

The holiday season is approaching quickly and many of us will be shopping online. Estimates are that in one day alone last year --Cyber Monday on December 1 (the cyber version of Black Friday)--\$846 million was spent in online shopping. With the increased volume of online shopping, it's important that consumers understand the potential security risks and know how to protect themselves and their information. The following tips are provided to help promote a safe, secure online shopping experience.

Secure your computer. Make sure your computer has the latest security updates installed. Check that your anti-virus/anti-spyware software is running and receiving automatic updates. If you haven't already done so, install a firewall before you begin your online shopping.

Upgrade your browser. Upgrade your Internet browser to the most recent version available. Review the browser's security settings. Apply the highest level of security available that still gives you the functionality you need.

Ignore pop-up messages. Set your browser to block pop-up messages. If you do receive one, click on the "X" at the top right corner of the title bar to close the pop-up message. NEVER click on a pop-up! If you are interested in what the pop-up is promoting, go to the website on your own, not through the link in the pop-up. Legitimate companies do not use pop-ups.

Secure your transactions. Look for the "lock" icon on the browser's status bar and be sure "https" appears in the website's address bar before making an online purchase. The "s" stands for "secure" and indicates that the webpage is encrypted. Some browsers can be set to warn the user if they are submitting information that is not encrypted.

Use strong passwords. Create strong passwords for online accounts. Use at least eight characters, with numbers, special characters, and upper and lower case letters. Don't use the same passwords for online shopping websites that you use for logging onto your home or work computer. Never share your login and/or password.

Do not e-mail sensitive data. Never e-mail credit card or other financial/sensitive information. E-mail is like sending a postcard and other people have the potential to read it.



Do not use public computers or public wireless to conduct transactions. Don't use public computers or public wireless for your online shopping. Public computers may contain malicious software that steals your credit card information when you place your order. Criminals may be monitoring public wireless for credit card numbers and other confidential information.

Review privacy policies. Review the privacy policy for the website/merchant you are visiting. Know what information the merchant is collecting about you, how it will be used, and if it will be shared or sold to others.

Make payments securely. Pay by credit card rather than debit card. Credit/charge card transactions are protected by the Fair Credit Billing Act. Cardholders are typically only liable for the first \$50 in unauthorized charges. If online criminals obtain your debit card information they have the potential to empty your bank account.

Use temporary account authorizations. Some credit card companies offer virtual or temporary credit card numbers. This service gives you a temporary account number for online transactions. These numbers are issued for a short period of time and cannot be used after that period. This is the safest method of shopping online.

Select merchants carefully. Limit your online shopping to merchants you know and trust. Confirm the online seller's physical address and phone number in case you have questions or problems. If you have questions about a merchant check with the Better Business Bureau or the Federal Trade Commission.

Keep a record. Keep a record of your online transactions, including the product description and price, the online receipt, and copies of every e-mail you send or receive from the seller. Review your credit card and bank statements for unauthorized charges.

KATIE Tse .....This and That



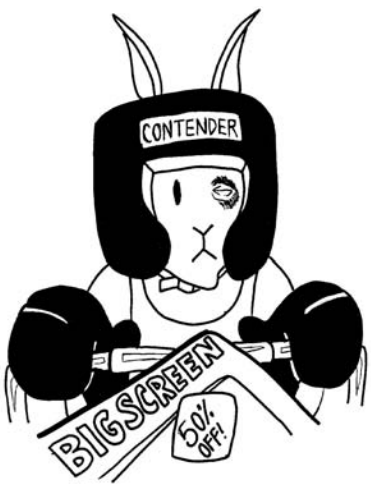
FRIDAY FROM HELL

Have you suffered a concussion, maybe a fractured rib or two? I, for one, am in a perfect Zen state of wholeness in body and spirit because I did not

participate in Black Friday. You realize that they call it “Black” Friday because that might be the color of your eyes if you dare to venture into the shopping mayhem.

I hate to shop, always have, always will. I remember in college one of my classmates regaled us with her yearly tradition of hitting the outlets malls at 4 am Friday morning. (I hear some stores now open as early as 11 pm Thursday night!) I guess if you're going to do this, you probably want to feast light, since the only thing I want to do after Thanksgiving is sleep for two days. Don't get me wrong; I clip coupons and totally appreciate the thrill of getting something for a fraction of its regular price. Cereal, shampoo, granola bars, it's all good!

But for me, the fun stops at the end of the frozen food section. I've seen footage of women trampling each other and degenerating into fistfights over designer wedding dresses in New York. And every year parents nationwide beat each other to bloody pulps over the latest toddler fad --talking Elmo's, Cabbage Patch Kids (I'm dating myself!). Sorry, but I'd rather pay a few extra bucks and keep all my teeth in tact.



One of my coworkers recently introduced me to tag team Black Friday shopping. Apparently he and a couple willing friends map out the store ahead of time, so that on the big day they follow a tightly choreographed strategy to efficiently nab their targets. Strength in numbers allows them to quickly stack and push heavy items. I wish I could harvest their organizational skills and stamina.

These days, I need an interpreter just to explain what all the popular new gizmos are. Excuse my ignorance, but what is a Magnavox MBP5130/F7 Blu-ray player? Furthermore, what do its features, a Blu-ray profile 2.0 (BD LIVE) 24fps, VUDU, Netflix and Wi-fi mean?

Okay, I admit I know and adore Netflix, but is VUDU a silicone effigy that you stab with a plastic stylus --some techie way of vicariously mutilating your enemies long distance?

One increasingly popular Black Friday trend I might take advantage of is the online sales. If I can get the same deals sitting in my PJ's from the comfort of my swivel chair, why would I consider exposing myself to the holiday madness?

In my research on Black Friday sales tactics I ran across an interesting ploy by which retailers offer cocktails to prospective customers in hopes of loosening their wallets. I guess I've just never been in the right store at the right time, because no one has ever tried to ply me with alcohol to get me to buy anything. Maybe it's because I've never tried to buy a Magnavox MBP5130/F7 Blu-ray player. I noticed that a George Foreman Super Deluxe Indoor Grill is available from Target for \$28. Maybe if I go there they might offer me a gimlet, but somehow I doubt it.

RICH Johnson



I have to include Paul Lynde, Charley Weaver, George Gobel, Joan Rivers and Rose Marie. If those names ring a bell it's probably because you were a fan of Hollywood Squares.

Fortunately through the miracle of the internet I could compile a list of some of the best Hollywood Square questions and answers. They were all asked by game show host Peter Marshall.

Paul, do female frogs croak?

**Paul Lynde:** If you hold their little heads under water.

Charley, which of your five senses tends to diminish as you get older?

**Charley Weaver:** My sense of decency.

Charley, when a couple has a baby, who is responsible for its sex?

**Charley Weaver:** I'll lend him the car. The rest is up to him.

Paul, you're on your first visit to Japan and you head right for the Kabuki. Why?

**Paul Lynde:** It was a long plane ride.

Charley, if you're going to make a parachute jump, you should be at least how high?

**Charley Weaver:** Three days of steady drinking should do it.

Paul Lynde, according to the World Book, is it okay to freeze your persimmons?

**Paul Lynde:** No. You should dress warmly.

Joan, your baby has a certain object that he loves to cling to. Should you try to break him of his habit?

Joan Rivers: Yes. It's daddy's turn.

Paul Lynde, in what state was Abraham Lincoln born?

**Paul Lynde:** Naked and screaming like the rest of us.

Paul, can you get an elephant drunk?

**Paul Lynde:** Yes, but he still won't go up to your apartment.

Hollywood Squares

Because George, what are “Do It,” “I Can Help,” and “Can't Get Enough”?

**George Gobel:** I don't know, but it's coming from the next apartment.

George, if you find someone lying unconscious in the street, should you do anything?

**George Gobel:** I'd probably crawl around him I guess.

Paul, why do Hell's Angels wear leather?

**Paul Lynde:** Because chiffon wrinkles too easily?

Paul, it is considered in bad taste to discuss two subjects at nudist camps. One is politics. What is the other?

**Paul Lynde:** Tape measures.

George, true or false: A pea can last as long as 5,000 years.

**George Gobel:** Sometimes it sure seems that way...

Paul, when you pat a dog on its head he will usually wag his tail. What will a goose do?

**Paul Lynde:** Make him bark.

**Peter Marshall:** According to Ann Landers, is there anything wrong with getting into the habit of kissing a lot of people?

**Charley Weaver:** It got me out of the army!

**Peter Marshall:** Back in the old days, when Great Grandpa put horseradish on his head, what was he trying to do?

**George Gobel:** Get it in his mouth.

**Peter Marshall:** Who stays pregnant for a longer period of time, your wife or your elephant?

**Paul Lynde:** Who told you about my elephant?

**Peter Marshall:** Why do sheep sleep huddled together?

**Paul Lynde:** Because Little Boy Blue's a weirdo!

My friend, singer Jane Fuller is performing here in Sierra Madre, on the next two consecutive Saturdays. December 4th, she is performing at Corfu Restaurant just west of Baldwin on Sierra Madre Blvd. If Mediterranean and Greek food are your passion come enjoy music and a great meal. If Italian food floats your boat, Jane will be performing one week later, December 11th, at Café 322. Just east of Lima also on Sierra Madre Blvd. And finally, we are now officially in the pre-Christmas frenzy. Along with the gifts you plan on blessing friends and relatives with this season, include the gift of your time and attention. Your time is very reasonably priced and may be the most valuable gift you can give.



## One Of A Kind: *Featuring unique homes & gardens and the people who create them* Story and Photos By Chris Bertrand



Chris Bertrand

### 1926 Arts and Crafts Style Home in Sierra Madre

Five of the twelve units of the new Sabine (www.SabineSouthLake.com) townhome project on South Lake in Pasadena are already sold. Surj Soni, one of the owner developers at Legendary

Developments, LLC, comments, "We're excited that our first project in Pasadena has been so well received, especially in this economy, and we're pleased that the buying public appreciates the quality and aesthetics of our project."

No stranger to high end projects, Legendary Developments has also been well received in two other recent projects, one in Hollywood near Sunset and La Brea called Legendary Place, and a five story project, Terra Bella, on Cordova in Pasadena, which is imminently due for completion. Very careful to deliver the right product to the right target market, Legendary utilized research focus groups to fine tune their residential offerings while in the design phase.

We designed this small neighborhood for two types of buyers: the professional couple and empty nesters ready to downsize from a large elegant home. We set out to attract those who are accustomed to the quality and spaciousness of a San Rafael, Linda Vista or Oak Knoll style home.

"When we started, we didn't see many condos available for those interested in upper end urban living within Pasadena. We specified solid doors, elegant bathrooms, high ceilings, generous millwork, real hardwood floors... all on a true custom level. Nothing off the shelf."

Soni and his wife, Milena, were both deeply involved with the design of the project. "Milena had a huge hand in the design. She made sure every square inch utilized the right kind of amenities, storage and quality. She put a lot of her heart and soul into Sabine."

The stunning bathrooms are outfitted with heated floors, 74" jetted tubs when possible, hidden medicine chests, drawers with outlets to hide all those things that used to clutter up the counter, and beautiful backlit onyx counters. "We took a translucent stone, onyx, and lit it from underneath," says Soni. "At night, instead of a night light, the counter imbues a soft beautiful light instead, right through the countertop."

"We incorporated a significant green component into the project, with very high end windows with low energy quotients for minimal loss, solid doors plus solar. Six units have solar units intended to supply about 45% of the electricity use for those townhomes. The



other six, while they don't have their own solar units, benefit from the Sabine unit for the HOA, which significantly reduces the cost of the monthly fees. It's not often you find a complex of this caliber with monthly fees of on \$428."

The Mansard roofs and strong vertical lines with lush courtyard gardens and fountains set the urban living tone for this sophisticated French style home, with all the right bells and whistles, yet without pretentiousness.

Even the garages are carefully designed. Completely private, one can run down to the car in pajamas, or leave a trunk open when unloading groceries since each garage has its own rolling door in the underground level, opening directly to the townhome. "One of our major advantages is

accessibility and walkability to a true urban lifestyle; you'd be hard pressed to need a car unless you left the area," reflects Soni. "We're at the top of the tony Oak Knoll residential neighborhood, with nearby homes from 3-12 million. Yet our location is completely walkable for almost any need."

Within a block are both the Fresh & Easy and Pavilions grocery stores, plus both Starbucks and Peets coffee, for whichever brand of caffeine suits you. Forty restaurants are also within easy walking distance. A Macy's store is just a few blocks north, surrounded by dozens of independent and chain retailers for a shopper's haven. Of the seven remaining townhomes available at Sabine, four include an in house elevator from the private two car garages, through three living space levels to the roof top terraces, some including an outdoor fireplace.

Sabine's townhomes range from 2100-3100 square feet and start at \$1,200,000. Located at 633 S. Lake Avenue in Pasadena's South Lake district, visit the project website at www.SabineSouthLake.com or call 626-790-7507 for more information.



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## Tips of the Trade: Real Estate Revealed

by Luther Tsinoglou

# WHEN LESS COSTS MORE

"Timing the market" in real estate doesn't work the way it does with stocks. Homes are bought and sold more out of necessity than to make an easy buck. However, some indicators give a clue when it's a good time to buy. Like now!

Despite the fact that rates are low and prices may still drop, now is the time to move if you have good credit and funds for down payment. It would be a mistake to "wait and see" if rates or prices fall any more. Why?

Rates are low now because of federal bailouts, but continued low rates can fuel inflation. Fear of inflation causes "the Fed" to raise those rates. Waiting for a lower price on a home while interest rates rise could make the home more expensive.

Example: purchasing a home now for \$177,000 at 5% could make the total cost

around \$370,000 by the end of the loan term. But what if you wait for prices to fall more, and next year you get that home for \$160,000. You saved \$17,000 - right? Wrong!

If rates rise 2% during that time, you could pay over \$400,000 over the life of the loan - \$30,000 more than if you bought now! If the math is still fuzzy to you, call me and I'll be glad to crunch the numbers with you. You'll be glad you did.

Luther Tsinoglou has just been named the top producing sales agent in Dickson Podley Realtor's Sierra Madre office for 2009, making the top 10% at the company overall. Luther has been licensed and practicing real estate since 1992. He specializes in residential and income property in Southern California. Luther can be reached at his direct line (626) 695-8650 or at luther@tsinoglou.com.

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH**

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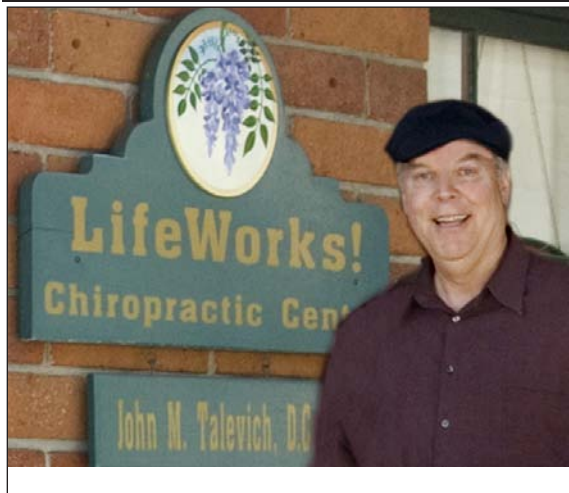
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YOUR HEALTH MATTERS  
Today's Subject:

With Apologies to Norman Rockwell



Dr. John Talevich, D.C. has practiced in Sierra Madre for thirty years. His clinic, LifeWorks! Chiropractic, offers patient-specific approaches to the alleviation of pain and individually tailored wellness programs.

The iconic images of the American holidays captured on film, in writing, and in art reflect the wonderful spirit of the season. The heartfelt stories of the returning soldier, the prodigal son and the redeemed soul resonate with each of us. But underneath all of this warmth is the real-life stress associated with seasonal expectations (over the top) and family (potential minefield). Rather than seeing these as inevitable artifacts of a long year coming to an end, and the predictable behavior of family members, we can use these circumstances to heal relationships.

I grew up in a family of twelve with an occasional in-house guest. There was always

plenty of kindling to go around, waiting to be ignited, during our family gatherings! Even though all of my siblings are caring, spiritual and responsible people, the deep fault lines are always there, ready to swallow up even the most well-intentioned. The sacrificial lamb might carry the new gripes and fresh wounds into the new year. Families are just messy! So, because this column is designed to be brief, let me offer two simple ideas that may change your holiday experience for the better:

People come together for the purpose of healing. In the Hebrew tradition this is known as tikkun, a word meaning "fixing." We can always use more tikkun, more awareness of what can be compassionately addressed in our families.

Setting an intent is very powerful. In the Hawaiian traditions, there is a practice known as Ho'oponopono. If one carries this within and repeats it (silently) both with people and when alone, it can shape our thinking and reactions. It is this:

I love you.  
Thank you.  
I'm sorry.  
Forgive me.

This can be said in any order that seems best to you.

In closing, I hope we can all remember the spirit of family, friends and holiday and embrace the ongoing need for healing in this beautiful life we have.

Have a great week! Dr. John

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BINGO

Sponsor Bingo Prize

Pasadena Highlands, an independent and assisted living community, is proud to provide a special gift basket on the first Tuesday of each month. Accredited In-Home nursing care will provide a special prize on the 4th Tuesday of each month. Bingo takes place every Tuesday at 1:30 pm in the Hart Park House / Senior Center in Memorial Park. The game begins at 1:30 pm but those wishing to play must arrive 10 minutes before to secure your Bingo cards. Join us on the 1st & 4th Tuesday of each month for your chance to win these special prizes.

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TICKETS

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Hart Park House / Senior Center  
Sierra Madre Library



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Recipe of the Week:

TURKEY RICE BAKE

INGREDIENTS:

- 6 slices bacon
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1/4 cup sliced onion
- 2 cups cooked rice
- 1 package (10 ounces) frozen chopped spinach or broccoli, cooked and drained
- 2 tablespoons chopped pimiento
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 can (10 3/4 ounces) condensed cream of mushroom soup
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- turkey slices, 6 to 8 large slices or enough sliced turkey for 6 people
- 1/2 cup fine dry bread crumbs
- 1 tablespoon melted butter

DIRECTIONS:

Cook bacon until crisp. Drain on paper towels then crumble. In 2 tablespoons of the drippings in the same skillet, cook onion and celery until just tender. Combine the rice, bacon, onion, celery, spinach, pimiento, and 1/4 teaspoon of salt. Combine the soup and sour cream then stir half of it into the rice and vegetable mixture. Spoon mixture into a lightly greased 11x7-inch baking dish. Arrange turkey slices over rice and vegetable mixture. Spoon remaining soup and sour cream mixture over turkey. Toss bread crumbs with butter and sprinkle around edge of casserole. Bake in a preheated 350° oven for 30 to 35 minutes, until hot and browned around the edge. Serves 6.

Sierra Madre  
DECEMBER EXCURSION  
- SOLD OUT -

Friday, December 17th - Christmas Show - 10:30 am to 4 pm at the Candlelight Pavilion Theatre in Claremont.

Cost per person is \$58.00 for lunch, show, transportation & tip.  
Waiting list is available for this excursion, please call 355-7394.

November Birthdays:



Alberta Curran, Carmela Frontino, Lena Zate, Valerie Howard, Janice Kacer, Flo Mankin, Dollie Morant, Joan Ruggles, 'Mike' Ruggles, Lois Stueck, Jean Wood and Shirley Yergeau

Meals-On-Wheels

Meals are delivered to home-bound seniors by volunteer drivers through the YWCA Intervale Lunch Program M-F (with frozen meals for the weekend.) Call the YWCA at (626) 214-9460 or Darlene Traxler at (626) 355-0256 for more information.

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Lunch Café — November Menu				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Squash Soup & BBQ Pork Sandwich	2 Lentil Soup & Baked Chicken	3 Salmon or Stuffed Bell Pepper	4 Vegetable Soup & Burgundy Beef	5 Chicken Soup & Sub Sandwich
8 Tomato Soup & Turkey ala King	9 Soup & Salmon or Pork Chop	10 Navy Bean Soup & Roast Beef	11 Veterans Day Center Closed	12 Split Pea Soup & Hawaiian Chicken
15 Corn Soup & Oven Fried Chicken	16 Albondigas Soup & Tostada Salad	17 Beef Stew with Boiled Potatoes	18 Tomato Soup & Tuna Sandwiches	19 Broccoli Soup & Spaghetti
22 Soup & Hot Roast Beef Sandwich	23 Baked Ham & Sweet Potatoes	24 Thanksgiving meal Turkey & Corn-bread Stuffing	25 Closed Happy Thanksgiving	26 Center Closed
29 Navy Bean Soup & Salisbury Steak	30 Soup & Chinese Chicken Salad			Reservations, please call (626) 355-0256



## X-Country Season Ends for Alverno's Blakely



### Photos and Story By Lara L. Larramendi

The Alverno cross country season that began in September ended for the Jaguars' top runner, Eryn Blakely as she finished 33rd out of 117 competitors in the CIF Southern Section X-Country Division 5 Finals at Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut on Saturday, November 20, 2010. Heavy rains overnight and throughout the morning, forced officials to run for the first time in several years, the X-Country Finals on the Mt. Sac alternate "rain course", a flat and paved 3.15-mile course instead of the regular rugged and hilly 3-mile course. Blakely's finish time was 21:41 slower than the 20:24 that she posted at Prelims the previous week on the regular course. Only the top 5 finishers, not on a qualifying team, advance to the CIF State Finals in Fresno's Woodward Park on November 27. Blakely expressed disappointment and was not pleased with her performance. Nonetheless, the future looks bright for Blakely, only a sophomore. "Eryn is truly a talented runner who has continually improved throughout the two cross country seasons that she has been training with me", states Alverno X-Country Coach Ken Berry. "What I see in Eryn is that she is this untapped resource who is continually learning how to push herself through difficult practices and races. And because of her competitive nature – unbeaten in all league races in two years – she will continue the steady improvement that she has shown". 2011 Alverno X-Country Season looks promising.



Top: Sophomore Eryn Blakely, in the rain finishing her 2010 CIF-SS Cross Country finals run on the Mt. Sac track. Above, Right: Sophomore Eryn Blakely, Jaguar (teammate Audrey Davy) and teammate Miranda Akkari, happy the rain has stopped (temporarily) and the race is over.

The prospects for next season look very good. Returning varsity runners Eryn Blakely, Ashley Haylett, Jessica Lopez, Francesca Rueda and Adrianna Martinez improved throughout the season. Showing good form and improving at season's end was Bella Daniels-Campos. Returning as the defending Horizon League 2010 JV champions with potential to move up to varsity next year are Devny Osuna, Andrea Gochez-Wilson, Reagan Dowd, Victoria Pintado, Nicolette Rodriguez, Madi Daniels-Campos and Holly Coates.

Coach Berry commented that he is "looking forward to our next season with a new level of excitement, eager to see Eryn, her returning Alverno teammates that continue to improve and excel. Watch out for the Alverno Cross Country team next year!"

## Common Runners' Injury: Stress Fractures Of The Foot; Repetitive Impact On Feet Can Increase Risk Of Damage

(NAPS) — Stress fractures of the foot are becoming more common in runners, especially first-time marathoners, according to the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons.



The growing popularity of marathons among beginning runners has contributed to the increase in repetitive stress injuries, including stress fractures of the foot, seen by foot and ankle surgeons. Often, first-time marathoners enter a race with little or improper long-distance training. The lack of experience coupled with the repetitive impact placed on the feet during the run can produce enough stress to cause hairline breaks in the bones of the foot.

"Runners who increase their mileage too quickly or change to a more intense phase of training may be more susceptible to a stress fracture due to the increased force placed on the bones," said Alan MacGill, DPM, AACFAS, a foot and ankle surgeon from Boynton Beach, Florida. "A general rule of thumb for runners is to increase the mileage by no more than 10 percent each week. Runners who are training also need to have adequate rest time in between runs to help decrease the risk of injury."

Runners at all levels of experience are also at higher risk for stress fractures if they wear improper shoes while running or training, suffer from flatfoot or other foot deformities, or have osteoporosis.

Signs of a stress fracture can include pain, swelling, redness and possibly bruising of the area.

"Stress fractures can occur anywhere in the foot and can eventually lead to a complete break of the bone if left untreated," Dr. MacGill explained. "Early diagnosis and treatment are important to ensure proper healing."

If a break is suspected, Denver foot and ankle surgeon John McGarry, DPM, FACFAS, advises runners to immediately follow the RICE protocol: Rest, Ice, Compression and Elevation. If pain and swelling last longer than a few days, a visit to a foot and ankle surgeon for an X-ray and diagnosis is in order.

In most cases, treatment includes rest and immobilization with casting of the foot. Surgery may be required in certain instances to repair and stabilize a stress fracture that has progressed to a full fracture.

Runners can take action to prevent repetitive stress injuries in their feet by wearing supportive athletic shoes and slowly building up their activity levels according to their abilities. "If a runner suffers from abnormal mechanics in the foot, such as overpronation or hypermobility, custom orthotics can also be helpful to prevent these injuries," Dr. McGarry said.

For additional information on stress fractures and other foot injuries, visit ACFAS' consumer website, [www.FootHealthFacts.org](http://www.FootHealthFacts.org).



### Written By Bobby Eldridge

If you want to add 15 more yards to your tee shot-in three months, do what I did. I have a confession to make. Less than 24 months ago, my great friend Harvey Mackay asked me if I wanted to play 18 holes the following week. I had cut way back on my golf both playing and practicing for the past couple of years and I was not looking forward to this round of golf.

By the time I reached the 12 hole he (74 year old) Harvey had outdriven me four times. Harvey was playing to a 9 at the time and he is a great driver of the golf ball. I should say straight driver of the golf ball with an average of 225 yards. If I hit it well I was maybe 15 yards past him. However if I missed the tee shot a tiny bit, I was hitting first onto the green.

When I walked up to the 13th tee, I remember it as thou it was yesterday, I decided that I was going to do something about my golf game. The first thing I needed to do was start practicing and the second thing was to CATCH UP with the game. It was passing me by. The game was changing (getting longer) and I was stuck in neutral.

The next morning I ordered a Momentum Heavy Hittable Driver off of the internet with overnight delivery. I could hardly pick it up. I took it to the range, swung it five times and almost feel over. That is when I decided that I needed to come up with a routine so I could take advantage of my new club.

I decided that I was going to swing the club 25 times, three days a week whether I was at the golf course or not. In the backyard I went every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Once I started using it at the practice facility I then came up with another way to use it. During practice sessions I swung it three times for every six balls I hit. I like to hit three draws, three fades, three straight shots and then three swings with the heavy driver.

On days that I play, I have another routine that I have used for years. I hit three shots with every club in my bag. Now my routine includes swinging the heavy driver one time every time I change clubs.

OK, I know you are dying to hear the results. The only reason I am not going to tell you how much further I am hitting the ball is that everybody is different. The one thing I will tell you is that I am back. I have caught up with the sport and... well ok, I am at least 20 yards further off of the tee and 1.5 clubs longer with my irons. BUT, I have been VERY committed to this process. I have not missed a day in two years.

### VERY IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

#1. Warm up before you pick up a heavy driver and start swinging it

#2. Even thou it says it is a HITTABLE club, make 200 practice swings with it before you start hitting balls. You have to get use to it first.

#3. This is NOT an overnight fix for short tee shots. Stay committed to see results.

#4. I added 15 yards in the first three months, I kept going so I can keep what I have!!!

#5. Harvey Mackay (USE YOUR HEAD TO GET YOUR FOOT IN THE DOOR) is a genius at dishing out great business advice. I took advantage of his lesson to me.

Start using a HITTABLE HEAVY DRIVER today and you will add 15 more yards to your tee shot-in three months, like me.

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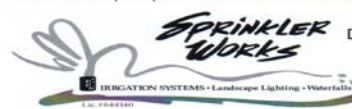
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