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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2012

VOLUME 6 NO 49

“COINCIDENCE OF TIMING”: Current PUSD Troubles Include Delay in Construction of Sierra Madre Middle School

By Susan Henderson



In a telephone interview on Friday with Pasadena Unified School District's Chief Finance Officer John Pappalardo and PUSD Spokesperson Adam Wolfson, Pappalardo used the phrase, “Coincidence of Timing” to describe the correlation between the investigation of the handling of Measure TT projects and the startling revelation that the Sierra Madre Middle School project (also a Measure TT project) had come to a halt.

On Monday of this week, the day before the story broke of the investigation, at a meeting of the SM Middle School Facilities sub-committee, parents were informed that, according to the bids received for the SMMS project, the cost was going to be \$10 million dollars more than budgeted. The increase has been preliminarily attributed to an increase of the per square foot construction costs from \$330 to \$490. Six firms bid on the project and all came in \$10 million dollars over budget.

With that kind of deficit, the project cannot move forward. That news came after months of waiting for Sacramento to approve the plans and other bureaucratic red tape.

Wolfson indicated, however, that the bids are “currently under analysis” and that no decision or recommendations were being made at this point.

If in fact the costs have increased, several parents are already pointing fingers at Sacramento which held up approval of the plans for no apparent reason for months.

The investigation that was opened on Wednesday involves the handling of \$350 million dollars of school construction bond money. It involved five other school construction projects at Madison, Webster, Longfellow Elementary Schools and McKinley and Marshall Fundamental Schools. There is no indication at this point that the Sierra Madre project problems are related.

As a result of the probe, the District did remove Chief Facilities Officer David Azcarraga and suspended the consulting contract of Robin Brown with the Seville Group. Both did work on the Sierra Madre project. Pappalardo will assume Azcarraga's duties temporarily.

Sources also indicated at press time that PUSD Superintendent Jon R. Gundry has been out with health challenges.

At this point, no criminal charges have been filed and an audit has been ordered.

Another PUSD Debacle:
SIERRA MADRE WILL NOT BE VOTING IN MARCH ON PUSD BOARD MEMBER. See story on pg. 3

WINDSTORM - ONE YEAR LATER

On November 30, 2011, Residents Had A ‘Night To Remember’

A little more than a year ago, Sierra Madre and its immediate neighbors suffered through a real night to remember. Howling, sustained winds began around 8 or 9 pm on the last day of November and continued throughout the night. Power was lost by most before midnight and the sound of trees falling, debris flying, and roofs and fences collapsing terrified residents all night long. By day break, the winds

roads and streets from its own resources. The amount of damage from the storm has ranged in estimates from \$6-\$10 million dollars.

The rapid response of our City staff, Police and Fire Departments, our CERT, HAM Radio, and other volunteer organizations minimized the emotional trauma to residents.



LAST YEAR: (above) The power of the wind was evident with this unearthed tree at the corner of Highland and Auburn. The tree destroyed the roof and part of the home as well. TODAY: (below) Life has returned to normal.



had died down and it became very clear that the city had just been through the equivalent of a hurricane, sans the water.

Weather reports indicated that the winds were at least 85 miles per hour or more.

If you want to compare the magnitude of the disaster, consider this, according to the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale used by the National Weather Service, what we experienced was equivalent to a Category 1 Hurricane. (Sustained wind speeds of 74-05 mph.) However, based upon the type of damage sustained, using the same scale, we suffered as though there was a Category 3 storm. The damage attributed to a Category 3 Hurricane is, “Devastating damage will occur: Well-built framed homes may incur major damage or removal of roof decking and gable ends. Many trees will be snapped or uprooted, blocking numerous roads. Electricity and water will be unavailable for several days to weeks after the storm passes.”

(Source: National Weather Service - National Hurricane Center - <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/aboutsshws.php>)

Nevertheless, in true Sierra Madre fashion, we weathered the disaster with little or no outside support from FEMA or other government agencies.

While the event was declared a disaster, our cumulative total damage was not enough to trigger outside aid. The city then was left to repair damage to

Fortunately, there was no loss of life in Sierra Madre or neighboring cities.

Sierra Madre lost a minimum of 103 trees in all, 77 of which were on Parkways. Most of the damage to homes, sidewalks and roads has been completed.

The value of being prepared for emergencies is hopefully the lesson learned by all.

SIERRA MADRE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOC. FIREFIGHTER'S BALL

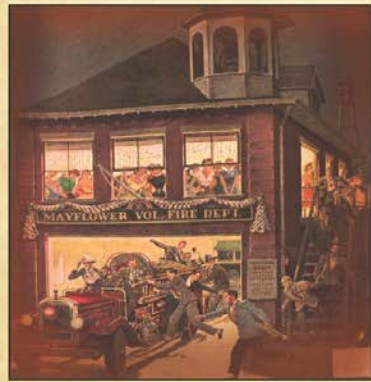
PLEASE JOIN US AT A FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT THE
SIERRA MADRE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION

SATURDAY
December 8, 2012
St. Rita's Church Hall
corner of
Grandview Ave. & Baldwin Ave.
8:00 p.m. to midnight



The Sierra Madre Fire Department (the only all-volunteer fire department in the county of Los Angeles) has proudly protected the people living and working in Sierra Madre and surrounding cities for more than 85 years.

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Weather Wise

5-Day Forecast

Sierra Madre, Ca.

Mon:	Rain	Hi 70s	Lows 50s
Tues:	Ptly Cldy	Hi 70s	Lows 50s
Wed:	Ptly Cldy	Hi 70s	Lows 50s
Thur:	Sunny	Hi 70s	Lows 50s
Fri:	Sunny	Hi 70s	Lows 50s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

CITY OF SIERRA MADRE
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings listed below are held at City Hall 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Sierra Madre, Ca. 626-355-7135

NEXT CITY COUNCIL MEETING:
December 11, 2012 6:30 pm

Wednesday, December 5, 2012	7:30 am	SMTV3 Committee
Thursday, December 6, 2012	3:00	Senior Community Commission Meeting
	7:00	Planning Commission

HOLIDAY HOURS

The Sierra Madre Public Library will be open to the public on Christmas Eve day, Monday, December 24, and New Year's Eve day, Monday, December 31, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. City Hall and the Community Services Office will be open 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The City Hall, the Community Services Office, and the Library will be closed on Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

12/8	Best Used Book Sale (10am-2pm)
12/8	Library Board of Trustees Special Meeting (7pm)
12/8	Ancestry.com free class at Library (10:30am)
12/9	Advent Concert at St. Rita; 4:00 pm
12/10	Storytime at the Library (10am)
12/10	Woman's Club Luncheon & Program - The History of Beads
12/11	City Council Meeting (6:30pm)
12/12	Storytime at the Library (7pm)
12/12	Teen Book Club (4pm)
12/12	Alverno Candlelight Celebration; 7:00 pm
12/15	Alverno Holiday Boutique
12/16	Congregational Church - Christmas Concert
12/18	Community Services Commission Meeting (6:30pm)
12/19	Tree Advisory Commission Meeting (7pm)
12/20	Planning Commission (7pm)
12/20	Community Blood Drive (12pm-6pm)
12/23	Community Candlelight Walk
12/24	Congregational Church Christmas Eve Services
12/24	Volunteer Firefighter Association - Santa & Stocking Give-a-Way
12/8, 12/15, 12/22	Sierra Madre Playhouse Cinderella's Christmas
12/26 to 12/31	ROSE FLOAT DECORATING WEEK

1630 AM
EMERGENCY RADIO &
Free on-air publicity for local events

Sierra Madre's EMERGENCY 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*. The station covers the city of Sierra Madre, plus surrounding areas of Pasadena, Arcadia, and Monrovia. 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.

RADIO FISHBOWL THIS WEEK



LIVE TODAY - Saturday, Dec 8th at 10:00 am
THE BARRY RICH AND LISA SHOW from the Sierra Madre Christmas Tree Lot
283 Sierra Madre Blvd
Come by and meet Barry Rich and Lisa in person while they're on the Web.

TUESDAY - Carol Canterbury's, 'CANTERBURY TALES'
Tuesdays at noon - This Week: Brian Sheridan

THURSDAYS

OUR TRAVEL AFFAIR Listen in every Thursday at noon with your hostess, Catherine Adde, Sierra madre resident and Travel Consultant.....Our show will feature all the fascinating aspects of Travel and our love affair with Travel. You can hear the Premiere Broadcast which aired on Oct 25th show on podcast. Go to: <http://www.radiofishbowl.com/#lshows/vstc1=our-travel-affair>

FRIDAY - VILLAGE INTERSECTIONS - Join Gene Goss on Fridays at 12:00 Noon.

Set your smart phone and or computer browsers to www.RadioFishbowl.com.

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EXCEPT FOR THE 2ND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH,
WHEN WE MEET AT 7:45AM. VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!
JOIN US, MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS, HELP YOUR COMMUNITY,
AND HAVE SOME FUN!

Sierra Madre Police Blotter

November 25 – December 1, 2012

Friday, November 30, 2012

At approximately 7:10 am, police responded to an injury traffic collision investigation regarding a vehicle versus a pedestrian at Baldwin Avenue and Kersting Court. The driver of the vehicle was traveling southbound on Baldwin Avenue and struck a pedestrian who was crossing the street (Baldwin Ave) westbound in the crosswalk at Kersting Court. The pedestrian, an elderly female, sustained severe injuries. She was transported to a local hospital for treatment by Sierra Madre Fire Paramedics. The driver was cited for failing to yield to a pedestrian in the crosswalk and released.

Friday, December 1, 2012

At approximately 2:12 am, an officer observed a traffic violation in the area of Foothill Boulevard and Baldwin Avenue. After initiating a traffic stop, the officer determined the driver displayed objective symptoms of being intoxicated. The driver (a 24-year-old male) failed the Field Sobriety Tests and was subsequently arrested for DUI.

Saturday, December 1, 2012

At approximately 11:53 am, police responded to a hit-and-run traffic collision investigation involving a vehicle versus a pedestrian in the 100 block of West Bonita Avenue. The pedestrian, a male juvenile, was riding his skateboard in the street westbound on the north shoulder of West Bonita Avenue, when he was struck by a vehicle also traveling westbound on West Bonita Avenue. The vehicle a black 4-door SUV (unknown make or model) continued westbound without stopping then made a left turn onto southbound Hermosa Avenue and out of view. The pedestrian sustained minor injuries, but was transported to a local hospital by Sierra Madre Fire Paramedics for treatment and observation.

Saturday, December 1, 2012

At approximately 2:06 am, an officer observed a motorist commit a traffic violation on Michillinda Avenue south of Orange Grove Avenue. After initiating a traffic stop, the officer determined the driver displayed symptoms of being intoxicated. The driver (a 25-year-old male) failed to complete the Field Sobriety Tests and was subsequently arrested for DUI.

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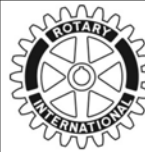
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Sierra Madre Rotary Club

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The Hart Park House



As part of our club's lively weekly meetings, dynamic speakers are scheduled on Rotary's service interests, local community topics and general appeal subjects.

Sierra Madre Rotary operates an active high school service group, the Interact Club, participates in Rotary scholarship, music and essay competitions, raises funds for local and Rotary Foundation causes, recognizes exemplary teachers, offers mini grants for worthy projects, hosts the yearly Elvis in the Park concert and donates hundreds of service hours to community events like the Wistaria Festival, Dickens Village and July 4th Parade.

Visitors are heartily welcomed to meetings. From more information, please visit our website or contact Peggy Beauregard at peggybeau@gmail.com and visit our Facebook page Rotary of Sierra Madre.

www.SierraMadreRotary.com

SM LIBRARY'S BEST HOLIDAY BOOK SALES

With the holidays fast approaching, the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library are offering several opportunities for you to purchase the best holiday gift of all- books. On Thursday, December 6, from 4:00-6:00PM a Friends' members only book sale will be held in the basement of the Sierra Madre Library. This event features newer fiction and non-fiction, lots of coffee table books, cookbooks, collectibles, DVDs, and audio books as well as books for children and teens so you're sure to be able to find something for everyone on your list. Not a member of the Friends? There will be an opportunity for you to join that night.

The following weekend, the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library's Best Used Book Sale is being held on Friday, December 7, from 3:00-7:00PM and Saturday, December 8, from 10:00AM-2:00PM in the library basement and on the back parking lot. Open to the public, this sale features holiday books, newer fiction (including 2012 titles), books on crafts and hobbies, sports titles, coffee table art and contemporary culture books. These items and many other adult fiction and non-fiction books, children's books, audio books, CDs, and DVDs will be available to purchase for your reading and listening pleasure. Tables outside the library will feature hardback and trade fiction and non-fiction for \$1.00 each and paperbacks for twenty-five cents each (or five for \$1.00). All children's books outside are now only 25 cents.

These sales offer high quality, slightly used books that are culled from our library shelves or donated, books that you'll be proud to place in your own library or to give to friends and family. So come early and come often to see what treasures you can find. Proceeds from the Members Only and Best Used Book Sales will be donated to the Sierra Made Public Library to support program and equipment needs. The library is located at 440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. in the city of Sierra Madre and there is parking on the street and behind the library.

CORRECTION:

In last week's edition of the Mountain Views News, the photo that accompanied the story about SMPD Chief Larry Giannone incorrectly identified the woman in the picture as his wife. The woman was actually Superior Court Judge Geanene Yriarte who was administering the Oath of Office.

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GIVING FROM THE HEART



The "Giving Girls" from Sierra Madre, CA, designed and made their own jewelry and hair accessories, and then sold it from Sierra Madre's Kersting Court, on Friday, November 30th, 2012, braving rain and cold weather in support of their chosen cause. The efforts of these inspiring 5th graders, Annalee Longhurst, Maggie Newhart, and Malia Teran, raised over \$160.00 in support of the L.A. CADA Homeless Outreach Project, located on Skid Row in downtown Los Angeles (470-A East 3rd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90013). The "Giving Girls" show the importance making a difference and supporting those in need.

SPENCER MONIZ JOINS ROTARY



Rotary of Sierra Madre is pleased to announce its newest member, Spencer Moniz, a recent graduate of Loyola-Marymount University. Pictured is Spencer receiving a special gift from the President.

Spencer was very interested in finding a match for his service visions. As an Eagle Scout and Crimson Circle member he is passionate about service. His favorite programs was hosting the Hunger Banquet, which is a national convention held to raise awareness of homelessness. He looks forward to creating new programs for Rotary to participate.

Spencer Moniz works for Forest Pharmaceutical as a rep to the San Gabriel Valley. This position allows him to be a resource for doctors while educating them in medications for their patients. He states "It is invigorating knowing and hearing from doctors that the medications I explained to patients are now helping the patients. I feel like I am making a difference each day by representing meds that are truly helping those in need."

He moved to Sierra Madre to live in a town that is very connected where he could walk around town and feel a part of the community.

He also looks forward to working on the Dan Stover Music Contest where High School Seniors compete for the sought after district award at three levels. Last year the district award was \$3000. For more information regarding Rotary or the Dan Stover contest, contact Peggybeau@gmail.com.

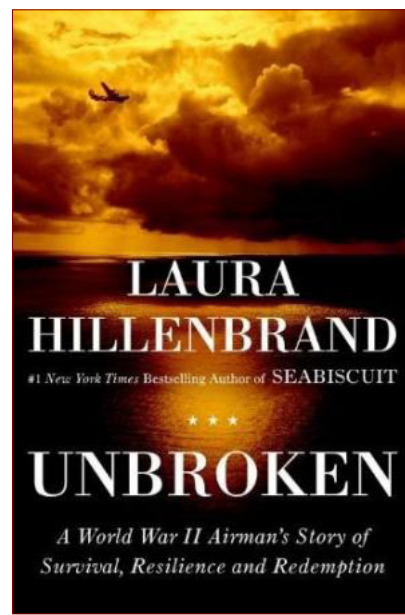
SIERRA MADRE WILL NOT VOTE IN 2013 ELECTION FOR SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES

A press release issued by the Pasadena Unified School District last week, and published in this paper, incorrectly stated that "Voters in Altadena, Pasadena and Sierra Madre will go to the polls March 5, 2013 for the primary nominating election and April 16, 2013 for the general election (if necessary)."

However, it has since been learned that Sierra Madre is in the newly organized District 6 and will not be choosing their candidate until 2015.

A subsequent release was sent on Monday that eliminated that statement.

SIERRA MADRE PUBLIC LIBRARY'S 2013 "ONE BOOK ONE CITY"



Unbroken: a World War II airman's story of survival, resilience, and redemption, by Laura Hillenbrand, has been chosen as the City of Sierra Madre 2013 One Book One City selection by the Sierra Madre Public Library.

In this long-awaited book, Hillenbrand writes with the same rich and vivid narrative voice she used in *Seabiscuit*. Telling an unforgettable story of a man's journey into extremity, *Unbroken* is a testament to the resilience of the human mind, body, and spirit.

On a May afternoon in 1943, an Army Air Force bomber crashed into the Pacific Ocean, leaving only a slick of oil and blood. Then, on the ocean surface, a face appeared. It was that of a young lieutenant, who was pulling himself aboard a life raft. So begins one of the most extraordinary odysseys of the Second World War.

Hillenbrand's moving book has garnered multiple awards including: 2010 Los Angeles Times Book Prize, 2011 Indies' Choice Book Award, 2011 Christopher Book Award, and 2012 American Library Association Notable Books.

A month-long series of free events, open to the public, is being planned for February 2013, focusing on WW II. Copies of the book to check out are available at the Sierra Madre Public Library.

Sierra Madre residents have held a One Book One City event for the past 9 years beginning with *The Grapes of Wrath*, followed by *Tortilla Curtain* and *Wizard of Oz*. It became an 'annual' event in 2009 with *Fahrenheit 451*, then *Zorro*, *On Gold Mountain* and last year, *Sherlock Holmes*. One Book One City invites Sierra Madreans to read the same notable book at the same time and encourages everyone to come together to explore literature and its cultural perspective.

For more information, please contact Alice Kuo at 626.355.7186. Sierra Madre Library is located at 440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, 91024.

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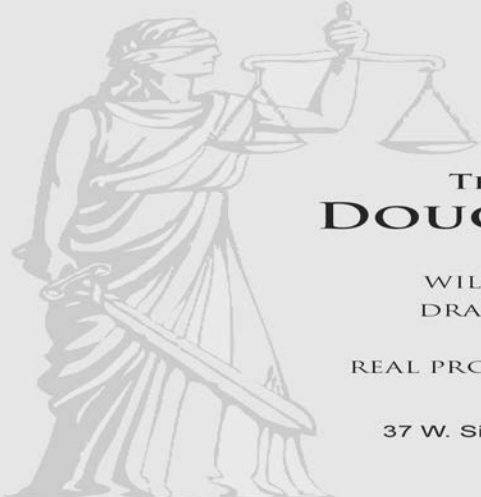


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Detectives Seek Information Regarding Assault

Altadena sheriff deputies are asking for the public's help regarding a call Thursday morning of shots fired Lincoln Avenue and Harriet Street in Altadena. No one was hurt in the incident authorities said.

According to reports, deputies responded to the call around 9 a.m.

Deputies received additional information that the victim had driven to the 300 block of West Mendocino St. Once located, the victim led the deputies to the intersection of Casitas Ave. and Harriet St. where the deputies found evidence that a shooting occurred.

The victim told the deputies that unknown person(s) in a dark colored small SUV type vehicle opened fire on him while he was driving in his car. The victim was not struck by the gunfire, although the victim's vehicle was struck numerous times.

The Altadena Sheriffs are asking anyone with information to call detectives at 626-798-1131.

Partner to prevent or report crime by contacting Altadena Sheriff's Station. Or if you wish to remain Anonymous, call "LA Crime Stoppers" by dialing 800-222-TIPS (8477), texting the letters TIPLA plus your tip to CRIMES (274637), or using the website <http://lacrimestoppers.org>

Pet of the Week



Hazel is an energetic five-year-old, brown and white St. Bernard mix. She loves to play with toys and loves to go for walks. Hazel has also been out on our Mobile Outreach Unit to several community events. An experienced dog owner who is used to having larger dogs would be best for her. She'd love to find a loving home in time for the holidays.

Hazel's adoption fee is \$120, which includes her spay surgery, a microchip, the first set of vaccinations, as well as a free follow-up health check at a participating vet. New adopters will receive complimentary health and wellness exam from VCA Animal Hospitals, as well as a goody bag filled with information on how to care for your pet. She also qualifies for our Seniors for Seniors program for eligible adopters. Ask an adoptions counselor for more information during your visit.

Call the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA at 626.792.7151 to ask about A316856, or visit at 361 S. Raymond Ave. in Pasadena. Adoption hours are 11-4 Sunday, 9-5 Tuesday - Friday, 9-4 Saturday. Pets may not be available for adoption and cannot be held for potential adopters from phone calls or email. Directions and photos of all pets can be found at www.pasadenahumane.org.



Helicopter Crash Initial Report Released

By Dean Lee

The National Transportation Safety Board released preliminary information Friday relating to a Nov. 17 collision in which a Pasadena Police helicopter struck another stationary helicopter at the Benedict Heliport in Altadena sending five people to the hospital with minor injuries.

According to NTSB officials, the two Bell OH-58 helicopters struck one another while one was attempting to park shortly before 4 p.m. Both helicopters sustained substantial damage.

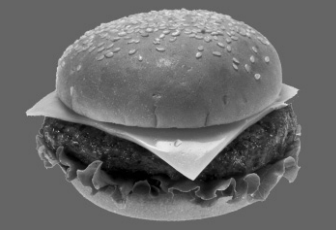
From the official report, one aircraft departed the heliport toward the Rose Bowl to provide traffic support for a football game. About 3 minutes later, another helicopter was moved out

of the hangar and parked immediately adjacent to the west side of Pad 1 placing it in between Pad 1 and Pad 2. The parked helicopter's engine was started and the main rotor blades were turning. A short time later, the Lieutenant on duty walked out of the office and toward the parked helicopter. The left side door of the parked helicopter was open, and the Lieutenant was standing on the landing gear skids when the accident occurred. About 3 minutes later, the helicopter returning from the Rose Bowl was observed approaching from the west on a right pattern for landing to the south on the main landing pad. Once over the main landing pad the helicopter was observed turning left, and then hover-

taxied toward Pad 2. Once the helicopter reached Pad 2 it turned to the right, and as it settled to the ground, the main rotor blades contacted the main rotor blades of the standing helicopter.

The commercial pilot and two passengers of the landing helicopter received minor injuries. The commercial pilot and tactical flight officer (TFO) of the parked helicopter also received minor injuries, one other person on the ground also received minor injuries according to the report.

Pasadena to Celebrate Cheeseburger Week



Restaurants, burger stands, bars and lounges will celebrate Cheeseburger Week with special offerings, creative interpretations of the cheeseburger and cheeseburger alternatives. Ever wonder how a sushi restaurant would interpret the cheeseburger? Are you curious to taste a Latvian-inspired crepe version of a cheeseburger?

Cheeseburger Week celebrates the invention of America's favorite food in its birthplace, Pasadena, California. From January 13-18, 2013, Pasadena salutes Lionel Sternberger for his mastery, insight, innovation and daring in placing a piece of cheese atop a hamburger for the first time in recorded culinary history at the Rite Spot in Pasadena in 1924.

President and Chief Executive Officer Pasadena Chamber of Commerce invites burger lovers to take the Cheeseburger Challenge and celebrate Pasadena's culinary legacy in the city where the cheeseburger was invented. For information visit pasadenarestaurantweek.com.

PCC Library to Offer Extended Finals Hours

The Shatford Library is extending hours for Fall 2012 finals from Monday, December 3- Wednesday, December 12. All study spaces and computer labs will be available during extended hours. Librarians will be at the Reference Desk (2nd floor) for research help. Extended Hours will be as follows:
Monday 12/3- Thursday 12/6
7:30am-11:00pm
Friday, 12/7
7:30am-6:00pm
Saturday, 12/8
10:00am-6:00pm
Sunday, 12/9
12:00pm-6:00pm
Monday, 12/10-Wednesday, 12/12
7:30am-11:00pm
Regular hours will resume on Thursday, 12/13. The library will be closed Mon, Dec 17 - Sun, Jan 6 for Winter Vacation.

Holden Sworn In as State Assembly Member

Assembly Member Chris Holden was sworn in Monday as the representative of the new 41st Assembly District, and the Majority Whip of the Assembly Democratic Caucus. Holden's inaugural legislative effort, also introduced Monday, is a bill addressing economic development and jobs creation. AB 9 notes that California workers and businesses face the harshest economic conditions since the Great Depression. Unemployment in California remains in double digits.

"We need jobs here and we need jobs now. AB 9 represents the first step in my commitment to creating jobs here in the 41st District, and in the State of California. I am honored to begin my service in the Assembly and will leverage all of my resources as a Member of the Speaker's Leadership Team work to improve California's economy."

AB 9 provides the platform to develop, evaluate, and negotiate economic development policy. Mr. Holden has begun to meet with business and labor organizations, and with members of both political parties to explore areas of cooperation and consensus.

Holden represents the 41st Assembly District, encompassing the cities of Pasadena, portions of South Pasadena, portions of East Pasadena, Sierra Madre, Monrovia, La Verne, Altadena, San Dimas, Claremont, and



Upland. He previously served as a Councilmember and Mayor for the City of Pasadena, where he was first elected in 1989. Holden will also be sworn-in at a local ceremony and celebration to be held Sunday, 4 p.m. at Noor Terrace, 260 E. Colorado.

Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard will serve as master of ceremonies and Congresswoman Judy Chu will do the honors as he is sworn in before family, friends and local dignitaries.

Applications will be available for two weeks for Pasadena residents living and registered to vote in City Council District 3 who are interested in seeking appointment to fill the vacancy on the City Council due to Chris Holden's election to the State Assembly.

Applications will be available beginning Thursday, Dec. 13 until Thursday, Dec. 27 from the City Clerk's Office, 100 N. Garfield Ave., Room S228, during regular business hours.

PCC Hall of Famer Recovers From Brain Surgery

Pasadena City College Sports Hall of Famer and football alumnus Jerome Harrison, the only running back in school history to post back-to-back 1,000 yard rushing seasons in 2002-2003, was profiled by CBS Sports during its NFL Thanksgiving Day national broadcast.

In 2011, Harrison was diagnosed with a brain tumor during a routine physical after being involved in a trade.

Harrison played in the NFL for the Cleveland Browns, Philadelphia Eagles and Detroit Lions from 2006 until



last season.

As an All-American at Washington State University, Harrison led the nation in rushing his senior season in 2005. Now 29, Harrison was inducted into PCC's Sports Hall of Fame in 2011 as he attended and spoke at the induction ceremony that year.

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

NASA Announces New Multi-Year Mars Program

Building on the success of Curiosity's Red Planet landing, NASA has announced plans for a robust multi-year Mars program, including a new robotic science rover set to launch in 2020. This announcement affirms the agency's commitment to a bold exploration program that meets our nation's scientific and human exploration objectives.

"The Obama administration is committed to a robust Mars exploration program," NASA Administrator Charles Bolden said. "With this next mission, we're ensuring America remains the world leader in the exploration of the Red Planet, while taking another significant step toward sending humans there in the 2030s."

The planned portfolio includes the Curiosity and Opportunity rovers; two NASA spacecraft and contributions to one European spacecraft currently orbiting Mars; the 2013 launch of the Mars Atmosphere and Volatile Evolution (MAVEN)

orbiter to study the Martian upper atmosphere; the Interior Exploration using Seismic Investigations, Geodesy and Heat Transport (InSight) mission, which will take the first look into the deep interior of Mars; and participation in ESA's 2016 and 2018 ExoMars missions, including providing "Electra" telecommunication radios to ESA's 2016 mission and a critical element of the premier astrobiology instrument on the 2018 ExoMars rover.

The plan to design and build a new Mars robotic science rover with a launch in 2020 comes only months after the agency announced InSight, which will launch in 2016, bringing a total of seven NASA missions operating or being planned to study and explore our Earth-like neighbor.

The 2020 mission will constitute another step toward being responsive to high-priority science goals and the president's challenge of sending humans to Mars orbit in the 2030s.



"What's Going On?"*News and Views from Joan Schmidt***SUPERVISOR MIKE ANTONOVICH SWORN IN FOR 9TH TERM**

The morning may have been dreary and the traffic terrible, but nothing could dampen spirits of 700+ who attended the Swearing in of Supervisor Mike Antonovich for his NINTH term! The Oath of Office was administered by the Honorable John A. Arguelles, Retired Justice of the California Supreme Court. Standing beside the Supervisor were his son, Michael Junior and daughter Mary Christine. Emcee for the event was actor, George Cheung and among the notable guests were Los Angeles Archbishop Jose Gomez and Michael Reagan, son of our former President Ronald Reagan. There were Consulate Generals from 10 foreign nations, City and Town Council Members and many community members. Representing the Monrovia-Arcadia-Duarte Town Council were Linda Sells, John Nicoloro, and Terrence Brown who sat with Monrovia Council Member Becky Shevlin.



The luncheon following the ceremony was sumptuous and I was awestruck by so many attendees. I thought about this great man and how I met him in 1993. After our Town Council formed, he held a breakfast meeting which included the City Councils and City Managers of Arcadia, Monrovia and Duarte. Many friendships began from that meeting that still exist today. I also recall the Community Development Commission coming to a Town Council meeting and speaking of low cost housing. They brought Habitat for Humanity to Duarte and I saw firsthand sixteen families given homes and hope for the future. On a shelf, I have a huge binder overflowing with letters from various county agencies who contacted me after I wrote Supervisor Antonovich for assistance. There isn't enough space to mention all, but here are some noteworthy ones. Supervisor Antonovich is responsible for transit service in the unincorporated area. In the old days, we had to walk several blocks to an incorporated city to get a ride to the doctor's! Now the Monrovia Transit provides that service for all three county areas. There's also the great gym at Pamela Park, where so many great events can be held, and this helped bring the community together. For 20+ years, the residents in lower Arcadia were unsuccessful to get a stop sign at Daines and Tyler. The Sheriff's Department did a sting on cars ignoring the crosswalk law. Many tickets were issued. I gave the info to Jay Gomez, Supervisor Antonovich's Field Deputy at the time, who relayed the info to his boss. A stop sign appeared and ALL residents were thrilled! Other issues involved Parks and Recreation (bathroom doors for stalls at Pamela Park), traffic and lighting issues, animal control, metro bus service, handicapped ramps and much more!

When I think of our Supervisor, I visualize a man who is the champion of youth, seniors and animals. He helped keep our Live Oak and Duarte Library opened and is always trying to educate the public on current issues. I am proud to call Supervisor Antonovich my friend.

LA COUNTY PROPOSED CLEAN WATER MEASURE

The Los Angeles County Flood Control District is proposing to adopt a Clean Water, Clean Beaches Measure, which would establish an annual fee to pay for clean water programs. The proposed clean water fee would be imposed upon property owners within the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, which includes most of Los Angeles County (with the exception of portions of the Antelope Valley), for the purpose of improving water quality and reducing pollution from stormwater and urban runoff.

A mailer was recently sent out to all residents affected by the proposed increase in accordance with state law which also notifies property owners of the right to protest the proposed fee.

The San Gabriel Partnership for Economic Development quickly responded by contacting its members. Their statement is listed below.

In addition, Supervisor Michael Antonovich issued a statement calling a flyer that was mailed out misleading.

Residents are encouraged to study this proposal carefully and, should they object, file a protest by the January 15, 2012 deadline.

From The San Gabriel Valley Partnership For Economic Development:

The County recently sent out notices to residents regarding an important upcoming measure that affects every property owner. The measure is called the Clean Water, Clean Beaches Stormwater Quality Measure and is attempting to pass a parcel fee on all property ranging from about \$10 for a condominium to a maximum of \$50,000 based on size, land use, and expected runoff.

You should have recently received the notice, which contains your proposed fee, as well as more information about the measure and its specific effects on your region. A sample copy can be found at http://www.lacounty-cleanwater.org/files/managed/Document/581/LACWCB_Ballona%20Creek%20Watershed%20Notice.pdf

Also a part of the notice is a tear-off protest portion, which can be signed and mailed in by January 15th to protest the measure. More than 50% of property owners must protest in order to stop the process now. If that is not the case, then mail-in ballots will be sent out in April and must be returned by late May. If passed, the fee would appear on December 2013 tax bills.

We realize that this fee influences our members in conflicting manners, however we wanted to remind you about this important measure and ensure that you are able to make the most informed decision possible.

ANTONOVICH WARNS "CLEAN WATER" TAX FLYER MISLEADING

LOS ANGELES COUNTY—Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich urged county residents to check their mailboxes for the "Official Notice to Property Owners of Public Hearing" which could result in a property tax increase.

"While the mailing looks like junk mail, it is an important document that allows one to protest the proposed parcel tax," he said.

"It is vital that property owners return the protest form to stop this additional tax," he added. "Property owners, schools and businesses already pay flood control taxes and now they are being asked to fork over more money at a time when families are struggling, schools are hurting and businesses are fleeing the state.,"

Residents have until January 15 to file their objection by returning their protest form or protesting at the public hearing on January 15, 2013 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hearing Room of the Board of Supervisors at the Hall of Administration. If a majority of the property owners do not object, the Board of Supervisors can approve a mail-in-ballot to be sent to all property owners in March. Passage requires only a simple majority.

Those who misplaced this mailer, please call (800) 218-0018 or email water.info@dpw.lacounty.gov.

To view sample flyer click the following link: http://antonovich.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/LACWCB_Ballona-Creek-Watershed-Notice1.pdf

REGISTRAR'S OFFICIAL RESULTS VERIFIES FAILURE OF MEASURE J

LOS ANGELES COUNTY — "Now that the Registrar has verified that Measure J has failed, it is vital that we move forward this time with an equitable regional transportation system that includes rail connections to LAX, Bob Hope, Ontario, Palmdale, Long Beach municipal airports and other transit needs," said MTA Chairman Michael D. Antonovich.

Supervisor Antonovich emphasized the need to work with the input and cooperation of all our cities and unincorporated communities. "We must stop undermining communities including the San Fernando Valley, by sending their tax dollars over the hill to the Subway and Expo Line projects. It is wrong to tax some communities to fund the private interest of one."

"Our County's 88 cities and 134 unincorporated communities voters spoke – Measure J was not the answer to developing a cost-effective regional transit system that meets our entire county's current and future needs," he added. "Unlike Measure J, a new plan will not lock funding to communities at their 2004 population percentages, paralyzing the Santa Clarita, San Gabriel, Antelope Valleys and the South Bay's ability to meet their transit needs."

The voters' rejection of Measure J allows our county, cities and unincorporated communities to present a regional transit plan that will include connective rail to our airports and extend the Gold Line to Claremont, Bob Hope Airport, and South El Monte.

**"HAPPY HOLIDAYS" OR "MERRY CHRISTMAS"?**

By Christopher Nyerges

[Nyerges is the author of "Self-Sufficient Home," "How to Survive Anywhere," and other books. He can be reached at Box 41834, Eagle Rock, CA 90041, or www.ChristopherNyerges.com.]

"Merry Christmas!" said my Jewish friend when he greeted me with a smile. "Merry Christmas," I replied. I asked him if it ever bothered him that nearly everyone greets with "Merry Christmas" during December.

"Not at all," he told me. "I mean, Hannukah is over, and I recognize that 90% of Americans are Christians."

"What do you think about people saying 'Happy Holidays,'" I asked.

My friend laughed. "When people ask me that, I ask them, 'What holiday are you referring to?' Most say nothing, but some say, well, it's New Years too."

It was refreshing that my Jewish friend was OK with the "Merry Christmas" greeting. In fact, he liked it. "I don't expect the vast majority to conform to me," he explained.

Fair enough. Then why are we so afraid in our political correctness to say "Merry Christmas"? Are we really worried that it might offend someone? Yes, there are other holidays: the secular Kwanzaa invented by a Long Beach State College teacher for African Americans, New Years (though most Chinese celebrate not January 1 but the Chinese New Years which usually falls in early February), pagans who simply celebrate the solstice, and the month of Ramadan which sometimes falls near December, but not often as it moves forward through the calendar.

On the radio, a Christian man told the radio host that the didn't celebrate Christmas, that it was a lie. The host was shocked. What is the lie, the host asked. The man said that he didn't like the tale of Santa Claus, and that Jesus wasn't born on the winter solstice. The host, in so many words, called the man an idiot.

But the conversation brought back memories of my researching the roots of Christmas back in my teens, when I discovered that Christmas is essentially a pre-Christian holiday. Initially, I found myself disenchanted with that social norm of Christmas celebrations. If this isn't really about the birth of Jesus, I wondered, why should I participate in this pagan practice. But over the years, I have had a different point of view about how to regard this odd Christmas holiday which is really a mish-mash customs from all over the world from various times.

First, a bit of history. Yes, it is true that the so-called "pagans" observed the solstices and equinoxes as their high holy days. In fact, nearly all religions in the past did so. "Pagan" originally referred to the country people who lived outside of Rome-proper, but gradually became a derogatory term for non-Christians.

We do not know when Jesus was born. The scriptures provide clues but no exact dates and no indication that this followers ever made a big deal about the birthday. And who was Jesus? He was a Jewish rabbi, probably an Essene, who observed the Jewish holy days. His followers changed their holy day to Sunday, in part to attract the "sun worshippers," and also to separate themselves from the Jewish Saturday Sabbath. Remember, early Christians were killed and tossed to the lions. But by the 4th Century, Constantine had a vision and declared Christianity the official religion of the kingdom. He Christianized all the "pagan" holy days, which is how The birth of the Sun was turned into the Birth of the Son. In fact, the observation of the winter solstice has been regarded with great reverence for as long as we can tell. During this winter's deep, the sun was in its lowest part of the sky as it rose each day. Four days after the solstice, the rising sun appears to rise further north on the horizon – the sun has risen! This astronomical event has long had great metaphysical and personal value to the millennia of people who have observed and celebrated it.


Though you may have many opinions about whether or not it was fair and square for the church to have stolen and renamed the pagan holy days, that does not make it inherently wrong. In fact, there is no inherent wrongness to it at all. As with most things in life, its value is wholly up to us, to use the timing for spiritual upliftment and evolution.

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ALTADENA-PASADENA SOROPTIMISTS HOST ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION

From left: Soroptimist members Jane Harris, Mary Ann Bennett, Pat O'Fallon, JoAnn Maisterra, Phyllis Howard and Marge Laris at the club's silent auction.

A little rain didn't dampen the spirits of the Altadena-Pasadena branch of Soroptimist International, as the club held its 17th annual Silent Auction on Sunday, Dec. 2nd. This event took place at the Altadena Senior Center from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., where attendees bid on treasures that included Rose Parade seats, paintings by local artists, restaurant gift cards, chic fashion jewelry, and a variety of themed gift baskets.

The members of Soroptimists lent their time and talents to making this event a success. They solicited donations from local businesses, created imaginative gift baskets, baked delicious appetizers and transformed the Altadena Senior Center into a festive shopping environment. At the end of the event, the items went to the highest bidders. Shirley Manning, 1st Vice President and Phyllis Howard, newsletter editor, presented raffle prizes to lucky ticket holders.

This auction is Altadena-Pasadena Soroptimists' largest fundraiser of the year. With a slogan of "Women Helping Women," the mission of Soroptimist International is to assist women and girls in the local community and around the world. Several of the agencies benefiting from the Altadena-Pasadena club's auction include Door of Hope, Ecumenical Council, Cancer Support Community/Silver Saturday, Rosemary Children's Services, and the Soroptimist Women's Opportunity, Ruby, and Violet Richardson awards.

Jane Harris, Silent Auction Committee Chair remarked, "I am so appreciative and grateful to be part of such a resourceful and energetic group!"

To learn more about this organization, visit www.soroptimist.org.

We'd like to hear from you!**What's on YOUR Mind?**

Contact us at: editor@mtnviewsnews.com or www.facebook.com/mountainviewsnews AND Twitter: @mtnviewsnews



HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY PETER ULRICH

Special Thank You and Much More...Arcadia Chamber's Government Forum



Above, left to right, Peter Ulrich, Dominic Lazzaretto, Mark Harsen, Bill Hackett, Steve Johnson, David Monroy.

Story and Photo By Joan Schmidt

What a great informative meeting at the Arcadia Chambers this past Thursday! First on the agenda, there was a celebration marking Peter Ulrich's 90th Birthday. (Peter is the Chair for these great monthly Government Forum meetings.) The ladies had a cake with candles and everyone sang, "Happy Birthday". Certificates were presented to mark this great event from Congressman Dreier (Mark Harmsen), Senator Bob Huff (David Monroy), Assemblyman Tim Donnelly (Steve Johnson) and the City of Arcadia by City Manager Dominic Lazzaretto.

The table turned and the **Chamber** presented Certificates to the representatives of the government officials for their ongoing support all these years - attending meetings and giving updates. They included Mark Harmsen from Congressman Dreier, David Monroy from Senator Huff, Bill Hackett from Assemblyman Portantino, and Steve Johnson from Assemblyman Tim Donnelly. Congressman Dreier and Assemblyman Portantino are stepping down, while Assemblyman Donnelly is heading a new district in the desert. Then someone from Arcadia wondered who will be the new Senator because of the recent legislation that passed. (It had to do with even and odd years, and I am more confused than ever!)

There was a special presentation on the "Clean Water, Clean Beaches measure. 40% of the collected monies would go to local cities, 50% to the Watershed Area groups and 10% to Flood Control District. However, the proposed amounts were large and even schools could be taxed. Brian Mejia from Supervisor Antonovich's office passed out a flyer from the Supervisor warning property owners to be on the lookout for a "Clean Water, Clean Beaches" flyer that needs to be filled out and returned to protect against additional tax. Unfortunately the flyer looks like "junk mail" and many have already thrown it out! If you misplaced it, please email water.info@dpw.lacounty.gov or call **800-218-0018** for a copy.

There are many fun events happening in the upcoming weeks:

- December 9, 2012, (Sunday). 10:00am-2:00pm. Tours of the Queen Anne Cottage located at the Arboretum, 301 North Baldwin Ave., Arcadia. (626) 821-3233.

- December 11, 2012, (Tuesday) There will be an Open House at the new facilities for the Administrative Headquarters of the Angeles National Forest from 2:00pm-7:00pm. Sign in is at 2:00. At 2:30, Welcome and Introduction of Guests and Dignitaries, followed by a Ceremony. From 3:00pm-7:00pm, there will be an Open House, Tours, and Refreshments. Please RSVP to John D. Wagner, jdawagner@fs.fed.us.

- December 15, 2012, (Saturday) 10:00am. There will be a special Completion Ceremony of the Gold Line Bridge at Newcastle Park, 101 West Colorado Blvd., Arcadia. Please RSVP to Lisa Levy Buch (626) 305-7004 or email: llevybuch@foothillextension.com. These monthly government forum meetings are open to the public. Much information is given and there is usually a guest speaker. Meetings are on the first Thursday of each month at the Arcadia Chambers at 8:00 am. The Chamber is located at 388 West Huntington Drive, Arcadia. (626) 447-2159.

Brighter Side Singers to Bring A "White Christmas" to Arcadia AAUW

Thanks to Temple City High School's Brighter Side Singers and composer Irving Berlin, the Arcadia Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) will be treated to a "White Christmas." Performing as a show choir and wearing dazzling outfits, the singers will bring fancy footwork and youthful exuberance to their performance. Popular director Matt Byers has promised that his choristers will sing a variety of songs from the 1950s movie "White Christmas." Of course, no program would be complete without the singing of the much-loved title song, "White Christmas," the top-selling single recording of all time.

The Arcadia Branch of AAUW is inviting the public to come enjoy the Brighter Side Singers' performance at its meeting on Monday, December 10, at the Church of the Good Shepherd's Jordan Hall, 400 W. Duarte Rd., Arcadia (SW corner of Duarte Rd. and Holly Ave.). Socializing and refreshments begin at 6:30 p.m. with the program to follow at 7:00 p.m.

Director Matt Byers says that Temple City H. S.'s Performing Arts Department is busy preparing for its holiday program, "One Magic Christmas." Slated for March 2013 is the 48th spring musical, "The King and I." Byers, an alumnus of Temple City H. S. and a graduate of CSU-Los Angeles, has directed the Singers for over 25 years. Accompanist Jon Howie is also a graduate of Temple City H. S. and CSU-Los Angeles. For more information about Temple City H. S.'s Performing Arts events, please call (626) 548-5053.

Membership in the American Association of University Women is open to all women and men holding a university or college degree, as well as to those with an Associate of Arts degree or its equivalent. For more information about AAUW, please call Tamara Kato at (626) 375-6756 or Patricia Dietrich at (626) 446-8437.

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ARCADIA LIBRARY FOUNDATION DONATES OVER \$16,000 TO THE ARCADIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Arcadia Public Library would like to publicly acknowledge and thank the Arcadia Library Foundation and those who generously support the Arcadia Library Foundation for their generous monetary gift of over \$16,000 so far this fiscal year. This money will be used to fund the two Kaleidoscope Classical Concerts in January and April of 2013; the purchase of additional chairs for the Cay Mortenson Auditorium; the purchase of additional new adult Chinese language materials; the purchase of additional copies of best seller eBooks; updated computer software for the preschool computer stations at the Library; and updated public performance rights DVDS for children's programming. It's not too late to make a tax deductible donation to the Arcadia Library Foundation. For more information, visit <http://www.ci.arcadia.ca.us/home/index.asp?page=806> or call (626) 821-4364.

About the City of Arcadia

Nestled in the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains, Arcadia is an 11.38 square mile community with a population of just over 56,000. Located approximately 20 miles east of downtown Los Angeles, Arcadia is known for combining small-town charm with the conveniences and amenities of a mid-size city. Arcadia is a full-service charter city governed by a five-member City Council, elected at large. Recognized for exceptional education and recreation opportunities and beautiful neighborhoods, Arcadia is also defined as the "Community of Homes" and has twice been designated the "Best City in California in which to Raise Kids" by Business Week Magazine.

COLDWELL BANKER'S ARCADIA OFFICE TO MAKE THEIR 25TH ANNUAL TRIP TO THE UNION RESCUE MISSION

On Monday December 17th, **Dean Griffith** and a group of real estate agents from Coldwell Banker's Arcadia Regional Office will make their annual holiday trip to the Los Angeles Union Rescue Mission. Dean and his fellow agents are collecting new and used clothing, blankets, and any cash or checks that you would like to donate to the Mission. Last year they collected 4 truckloads of clothing & blankets and approximately \$1500 in donations for the mission.

The annual "Trip to the Mission" was started 25 years ago by **Bruce Pfeiffer**, an agent in Coldwell Banker's Arcadia Regional Office. After 20 years of leading the trip to the mission, Bruce handed over his duties to Dean. The Union Rescue Mission's efforts are focused on reducing homelessness throughout LA County and specifically Skid Row. Currently, Los Angeles County has 3% of the nation's total population, but 10% of its homeless population.

Coldwell Banker's Arcadia Regional Office is located at 15 E Foothill Blvd in Arcadia and you can bring your donations into the office until Monday December 17th at 9:00am. If you need assistance or would like your donations to be picked up you can contact Dean Griffith at (626) 664-9163.

ARCADIA POLICE BLOTTER

For the period of Sunday, November 24th, through Saturday, December 1st, the Police Department responded to 923 calls for service of which 108 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

Sunday, November 25:

- At about 11:09 a.m., an officer was dispatched to the Annie Nails, 709 S. First Avenue, in reference to a burglary. Investigation revealed that suspect(s) had broken the front glass door during the late night hours of November 24th to the early morning hours of November 25th, and ransacked the nail salon. The business owner did not notice anything missing. There were no surveillance cameras at the location.
- At about 7:28 p.m., officers responded to the 400 block of Walnut Avenue regarding a traffic collision involving two vehicles. During their investigation, officers discovered one of the drivers was under the influence of alcohol. The 34-year-old, White male was subsequently arrested for drunk driving and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for processing.

Monday, November 26:

- At about 6:11 a.m., officers responded to the 000 block of E. Live Oak Avenue regarding two suspicious males standing outside a building, holding flashlights. Investigation revealed there was an open door leading inside the building. Officers searched the surrounding area and could not locate the subjects. It was unknown if anything was missing from the location.
- At approximately 11:50 p.m., an officer conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle with tinted windows on Colorado Boulevard near Michillinda Avenue. Upon contact, the officer discovered the driver had a suspended license. A consensual search of the vehicle revealed the driver was in possession of methamphetamine and meth pipes. The 43-year-old, White male was arrested for possession of a controlled substance and drug paraphernalia, and was transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Tuesday, November 27:

- Shortly after 8:00 p.m., an officer conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for expired registration on Live Oak Avenue near Santa Anita Avenue. A subsequent investigation and consensual search of the vehicle revealed the driver had a suspended license, two outstanding warrants for his arrest, and was in possession of a stolen license plate. The 20-year-old, Hispanic male was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.
- At approximately 10:20 p.m., officers were dispatched to the Santa Anita Race Track, 285 W. Huntington Drive, regarding a theft. Investigation revealed that suspect(s) stole a television from a wall mounted bracket. There were no surveillance cameras and no suspects were seen or heard during the incident.

Wednesday, November 28:

- Around 5:33 p.m., officers responded to the 000 block of E. Live Oak Avenue regarding a stolen vehicle. Investigation revealed a 1991 black Acura Integra was stolen from the location between 6:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. There were no witnesses or surveillance cameras, and the stolen vehicle was not discovered in the surrounding area.
- At about 8:27 p.m., officers were dispatched to the 1000 block of W. Duarte Road in reference to an auto burglary. A subsequent investigation revealed the passenger side window of the 1990 blue Buick had been damaged, and a CD player was stolen. There were no signs of the suspect(s) in the area.

Thursday, November 29:

- Around 12:05 p.m., officers responded to the 900 block of W. Huntington Drive regarding a commercial burglary. Investigation revealed that suspect(s) forced opened a door leading into the community laundry room, pried open two coin vaults on laundry machines, and stole an unknown amount of coins. No suspects were seen or heard during the incident.

- At about 5:06 p.m., an officer responded to Macy's at the Santa Anita Mall, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding a male employee in custody for theft. The suspect concealed several clothing items in a plastic bag and in his pockets, and exited the store through the employee exit without paying. The 20-year-old, Black male was arrested for petty theft and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Friday, November 30:

- At approximately 8:07 p.m., an officer was dispatched to the 000 block of W. Longden Avenue regarding a theft that occurred earlier in the day at All Seasons Children Center, 2612 S. Baldwin Avenue. The female victim reported her purse had been stolen from her unlocked car while she was dropping off her daughter. Investigation revealed the suspect approached the vehicle while the victim stepped away, opened the passenger door and stole the victim's purse before fleeing in a black sedan. The suspect was described as a Hispanic male, 200 lbs, wearing a black, hooded sweater. The victim can identify the suspect if seen again.

- At about 8:35 p.m., officers responded to the area of Huntington Drive and Morlan Place regarding a physical fight between two male subjects. During the investigation, officers contacted two juvenile subjects, one of whom had a knife in his pocket. The 15-year-old, Hispanic male was arrested for possession of a switchblade, transported to Arcadia City Jail for processing, and subsequently released to his parents.

Saturday, December 1:

- At approximately 2:57 a.m., officers were dispatched to Albertsons, 298 E. Live Oak Avenue, in reference to a commercial burglary. Surveillance cameras revealed a male suspect broke the front glass door, entered the store, and stole several cartons of cigarettes before fleeing the scene. The suspect was described as a White male, 6 ft. tall, thin build, carrying a black backpack.

- At about 9:49 p.m., an officer working a DUI checkpoint stopped a vehicle due to a strong odor of marijuana emitting from it. No marijuana was discovered, but the driver was found to be unlicensed. The 23-year-old, Hispanic male was consequently cited and released in the field.

MONROVIA'S 45TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARADE

By Joan Schmidt

A good time was had by all who attended holiday festivities in Old Town Monrovia. It began with the official tree lighting ceremony at 6:00 pm. The beloved tree used *so many* years was lost during last year's wind storms, but special thanks to **Home Depot** for the new one!

This year's parade theme was **"All That Glitters"**, and believe me, there were many bright lights on the vehicles and on the participants themselves! Prior to the Parade, the announcer mentioned Betty Sanford as one of the judges. This remarkable woman was such an asset on the Monrovia School Board many years. A few years ago, her beloved husband Jules passed away, but Betty has remained an active member of the community and is always willing to help out. Betty is one of the sponsors for the Holiday Festivities in Old Town Monrovia. All Season long, there will be gift wrapping stations, strolling carolers and live music! (Thank you to Betty, Donna Baker, Podley Properties, Courtyard Marriott, Doubletree by Hilton and Will's Sport and Tackle.)

Representing our City were Mayor Lutz, Mayor Pro Tem Joe Garcia, Council Member Tom Adams and wife Sally, Council Member Larry Spicer, City Treasurer and #1 Historian Steve Baker-all in vehicles! Then Council Member Becky Shevlin rode a bike! It was awesome. Police Chief Jim Hunt and wife rode in a classic police vehicle, and two Motor Cops - one was Jim Mead - had begun the parade!

All Monrovia schools participated - from the HS Matching Band and Drill Team, (YAY Wildcats!), Clifton and Santa Fe Middle Schools and all elementary schools!

From Arcadia, ICA parents and students came in full force. I spotted David Schirz and Mom Lisa, as well as the Sarmientos with their three children, the Macias twins and Mariah Saleem!

Neighboring Duarte's Falcon Matching Band also participated and Mayor Margaret Finlay was on hand. Prior to the Parade, Margaret had said, "Monrovia is the Best neighbor!"

Why was this theme chosen? Perhaps because of everyone's FAVORITE Monrovia resident, Kim Rhode, Grand Marshall. Kim put Monrovia on the map at this year's Olympics. She is the ONLY person to win a medal in an individual category five consecutive years! I met Kim at the Duarte Route 66 years MANY years ago. She was either 16 or 17 and had just won her first medal. Years have gone by, but she is the same gracious, unaffected girl I met back then! She hails from El Monte and is very proud to call it her hometown. But she loves living in Monrovia, her home now, and being able to walk from her home to Old Town!

In addition to the schools, there were many scouts and church groups represented. My personal favorite was the Arcadia Indians! There was a truck pulling a large decorated boat and the happy players were on it! Of course Santa was a great favorite, too. Thank you to the City of Monrovia and ALL of its merchants, from Foothill down to Olive and one block east and west. They all made this possible!

A final note. Want to eat with Santa? This weekend Santa will arrive! Ring in the Merry for Breakfast with Santa- Saturday, December 8th, Jake's Roadhouse at 8:45am and Peach Café at 9:45 am. On Sunday, Peach Café at 11:15am.

At Annunciation Parish Hall, 1307 East Longden Avenue, Arcadia, there will be breakfast with Santa on Sunday December 9th, 8-12. There will be prizes, pictures and lots of fun. See you there - we're bringing the grandkids!



ICA students

Monrovia Police Blotter

Highlighted Activity for November 29 - December 2, 2012

Following are the weekend's highlighted issues and events. To see a complete listing of crimes reported, go to the City of Monrovia website at www.monroviapd.org and click on the crime mapping link. Sign up to follow us on twitter for police notifications.

Man Attempts to Lure Teen into Car

On Thursday, November 29, 2012, at approximately 8:10 a.m., a 15-year-old high school student was walking to school in the 500-600 block of West Olive when she was approached by a male white suspect driving a white, four-door, pickup truck, unknown size. The suspect asked the student to get into his vehicle, but the student refused, stating she did not know him. He drove forward and turned onto the 600 block of Monterey, parking along the curb. He waited for the student to approach. As the student approached the vehicle again, the driver offered the student \$200 to get into his vehicle. The student refused, and the suspect left the area. The student notified school officials as soon as she arrived at school.

It is unknown if this is related to the incident which occurred on November 8, but detectives are investigating and are coordinating their investigation with school officials.

Suspect Description: male, white, 30-35 years old, unknown height, thin build, black shaggy hair - medium length, wearing black framed prescription glasses. The victim could not describe the suspect's clothing.

Suspect Vehicle Description: older model, white, four-door, pickup truck.

Residential Burglary

November 30 at 10:50 a.m., officers responded to a residence in the 500 block of North Alta Vista to investigate a burglary that had occurred within the last two days. The victims had been out of town and returned home to discover someone had broken into their home. The suspect(s) smashed the glass backdoor and gained entry into the home. Once inside, they took a purse and some jewelry from the home. The investigation is continuing.

Residential Burglary

November 30 at 4:14 p.m., a burglary was reported in the 800 block of Ridgeside Drive. The location is a vacant residence that is in the process of being remodeled and was left unlocked. The suspects entered the residence and took tools from the attached garage. The suspect(s) then left the location undetected. Investigation continuing.

Elder Abuse / Grand Theft

November 30 at 5:24 p.m., an elderly male subject came into the police department lobby and reported that several guns he owns were stolen from his apartment while he was in the hospital. Further investigation revealed he had begun to associate with two female neighbors, who steadily gained his trust and took over his finances. While he was in the hospital, they went into his apartment and took his property, including bank statements and gold jewelry. He told the investigating officer that he never gave anyone permission to go into his apartment and take his property. A call was made to the female neighbors, who admitted they had his property, but claimed he told them to take it for safekeeping while he was in the hospital. An Adult Protective Services referral was generated. The investigation is continuing.

Parolee at Large - Suspect Arrested

November 30 at 8:11 p.m., an adult male subject was aggressively confronting two people who were waiting for the bus at Magnolia and Huntington. An officer in the area had stopped, noticing the subject, and was waved over by one of the people waiting for the bus. The officer contacted the male subject, who then immediately became confrontational with the officer. Additional officers arrived and the subject was determined to be intoxicated and had been in possession of an open container of alcohol. He was arrested and taken into custody. At the police station, a computer check revealed the subject is a parolee at large and considered armed and dangerous. He has an extensive history of violent crimes. A parole hold was obtained for the suspect.

Possession of Fraudulent Social Security and California Identification / Drinking in Public - Suspect Arrested November 30 at 12:55 p.m., an officer observed a subject with an open alcohol container on Myrtle Avenue. He stopped and detained the subject. The subject presented a fraudulent identification card. He was subsequently arrested and booked. The investigation is continuing.

Fight in Progress

December 1 at 1:55 a.m., officers were dispatched to a possible fight in progress at a hotel in the 900 block of Fifth Avenue. Several subjects were detained, and one male subject was checked by Monrovia Fire Department paramedics after reporting he had been sprayed with pepper spray. He declined medical treatment and officers could not confirm the fact he was sprayed with pepper spray. One female subject was arrested for a warrant. All of the subjects were detained and field interview cards were completed. All persons not staying at the hotel left the premises.

Grand Theft Auto

December 2 at 9:10 a.m., a vehicle was reported stolen from the 400 block of Los Angeles. The vehicle is a red, 1996 Honda Civic, which was taken from the street in front of the victim's home. The investigation is continuing.

DUARTE RESIDENTS: HOME BURGLARY ALERT

The City of Duarte and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department want residents to be aware that a home burglary has occurred in the Chimes Area of Duarte, specifically in the 2000 Block of Royal Oaks Drive. Please note, increased County Sheriff's patrols and other security measures have already been implemented in the area in light of the recent burglary activity.

On Tuesday, December 4, 2012, between 11:45 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. while the occupants were away from the home, unknown person(s) smashed a rear bedroom window and entered the home and stole two collectable coins and a passport. There were no witnesses.

Deputy Wayne Goodrich would like to remind residents not to leave any valuables inside your vehicle. Two vehicle burglaries were reported early last week in the Royal Oaks Area of Duarte, specifically in the 2500 and 2600 Blocks of Sunndale Drive. There were no signs of force entry or witnesses. The suspect(s) reportedly stole valuables that were left in the car ranging from tools to electronics.

Important tips to remember to help keep your neighborhood and family safe:

- Make your home look occupied, leave the TV, radio, or lights on, or your dog in the backyard.
- Lock all doors, windows, and garage doors before you leave the house or go to bed.

- Use motion detector lights outside.
- Don't allow daily deliveries of mail, newspaper or flyers to build up while you are away. Arrange for the post office to hold your mail, or a friend or neighbor to collect them regularly.
- Push-button locks on doorknobs are easy for burglars to open. Install deadbolt locks on all your outside doors.
- Keep your yard clean and bushes and trees trimmed. Do not give burglars a place to hide.
- If you have an alarm system, use it, even if you leave for a short period of time.
- If you do not have an alarm system buy signs that say you have an alarm and place them around your home.

If you have any information that can assist in the investigation of these burglaries please contact Special Assignment Deputy Wayne Goodrich at the Duarte Sub Station by calling (626) 357-7938, ext. 320.

Should you witness a crime in progress, please call 911.

If you would like to leave an anonymous tip, you may do so by calling the Sheriff's Satellite Station Crime Tip Hotline at (626) 357-7938, ext. 462.

Tips can also be e-mailed duartecrimetips@lasd.org. If you see suspicious persons or vehicles in your neighborhood, please report them by contacting the Temple Sheriff's Station at (626) 448-9861 or (626) 285-7171.

COMPASSIONATE RESCUE PRESENTS TO DUARTE KIWANIS



Alan and Vokouhi Unell were inspired to start their own non-profit - Compassionate Rescue - after realizing the global issue of clean drinking water. 884 million people have no access to clean drinking water on a daily basis, and Compassionate Rescue has created a number of ways to help - one child and one community at a time. With the help of Sierra Madre Rotary Club and other local organizations, they are raising money for "Life Straws". These Life Straws can be used for a full year, and are a simple mechanism to clean the water as it is being drunk. Additionally, Compassionate Rescue coordinates building wells in needed areas - the current project is in Asaba, Nigeria.

Vokouhi shared her personal inspiration - she grew up in Armenia and being the youngest daughter, her job was to haul water for the family from the nearby river. In her culture, the assumption was that girls did not need education - that their jobs were to haul that water for the entire family. So, providing wells, not only saves lives lost to disease, it is changing the futures of many young women who now have the potential of education.

The Duarte Kiwanis Club has lunch meetings the first, third and fifth Tuesdays of the month at Westminster Gardens. For further information on speaking or joining the club, contact Dr. Diane Hernandez at drdiane@drhernandezoptometry.com.

DUARTE VOLUNTEERS INVITED TO HELP DECORATE CITY OF HOPE'S 2013 ROSE FLOAT

City of Hope and City of Duarte have designated Sunday, Dec. 30 "Duarte Day," an opportunity for local volunteers to work on City of Hope's especially significant 2013 Tournament of Roses Parade float. The world-class biomedical research, treatment and education institution founded in 1913 in Duarte, will officially launch its Centennial festivities as a participant in the Rose Parade on New Year's Day.

"Helping to decorate a Rose Parade float that will be seen and enjoyed by millions of parade viewers around the world is a fun and exciting way to kick off the new year. Volunteering to work on the City of Hope float is a great opportunity for our Duarte residents to salute the City of Hope's 100 years of life-saving work," said Deputy City Manager, Karen Herrera.

City of Hope is recognized worldwide for its compassionate patient care, innovative science and translational research, which rapidly turns laboratory breakthroughs into promising new therapies. "The Journey to CURE," theme of City of Hope's 2013 Rose Parade float, depicts a colorful oversize lab. The float was built by Phoenix Decorating Co.

Decoration site for the City of Hope float is Rosemont Pavilion, 700 Seco St., in Pasadena. Volunteers must be at least 13 years of age or over. Opportunities are available for 80 volunteers who will be split into two work shifts of 40 persons each. The first shift will work from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The second shift from 4 p.m. to completion. Each volunteer will receive a t-shirt and commemorative City of Hope Centennial lapel pin. Volunteer information packet is available below.

For those who would like to support the City of Hope float decorating efforts, but are unable to volunteer, there is another way to help. Purchase a rose that will be used on City of Hope's float. Roses can be purchased for \$20 each online at www.cityofhope.org/buy a rose. The vial that will contain the rose can also include a personal message.

To volunteer for Duarte Day float decorating, call Karen Herrera at Duarte City Hall, (626) 357-7931.

PLAN MONROVIA HOSTS ALL-BOARDS & COMMISSIONS WORKSHOP

As a precursor to the community workshops to be held in December and January, Plan Monrovia brought together members from the Planning Commission, Community Services Commission, Historic Preservation Commission, Library Board, Youth Commission and the Old Town Advisory Board to ask the question:

What are the most important things the City should focus on over the next five years?

Through an interactive process, each Commissioner and Board member voiced what they believe to be the highest priorities for the community, and then voted on the top five.

Interested in what they had to say? Check back on our website www.PlanMonrovia.org to view the results later next week.

Can't wait to give ideas? Join the 70 other Monrovia residents who are submitting their ideas online- everything from community gardens, to dining options at the new Gold Line station. Just click here.

Tuesday, December 11, 2012
Community Workshop 1

Monrovia Community Center
119 W Palm Avenue, Monrovia, CA
7:00- 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 12, 2012
Community Workshop 2
Calvary Chapel Monrovia
123 W Pomona Ave, Monrovia, CA
9:00- 11:00 a.m.

SIERRA MADRE CHRISTMAS TREE COMPANY

283 W Sierra Madre Blvd. in Sierra Madre
(next to Arnolds Hardware)



Fresh Cut Noble & Douglas Fir Trees
All sizes—Stands and Delivery Available
Guaranteed to be more fun than Home Depot!

Bring this ad and get **10% off** any tree purchase.

OPEN NOW

Monday—Thursday 12 noon to 8 pm

Friday Saturday 9 to 9

Sunday 9 to 8

Sierra Madre Christmas Tree Company is locally owned and operated by the Moran, Alden and Heydorf families.

Ixora Floral and Shabby Dog

with Sierra Madre Fire and Police Departments
and Toys for Tots

Holiday Event and Toy Drive

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2012
1-5 PM

Celebrate the holidays with The
Shabby Dog and Ixora Floral Studio.

Bring a new, unwrapped toy for
Toys for Tots.

Meet our local firefighters and
police officers.

Refreshments and Secret Santa Raffle!

31 and 35 E. Montecito Ave. Sierra Madre

www.postermywall.com



ALVERNO HIGH SCHOOL
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE
THE CHRISTMAS SEASON WITH A BELOVED
AND TIME-HONORED TRADITION



CANDLELIGHT CELEBRATION

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12

7:00 P.M.

VILLA DEL SOL D'ORO

ENJOY THE BEAUTY OF ALVERNO'S CAMPUS AS THE
CANDLELIGHT PROCESSION LEADS YOU THROUGH A
LIVE REENACTMENT OF THE STORY OF CHRISTMAS—
FROM THE ANNUNCIATION TO THE BIRTH OF JESUS.

*A FESTIVE CHRISTMAS RECEPTION WILL FOLLOW. PLEASE
DRESS WARMLY. EVENT WILL HAPPEN RAIN OR SHINE.*



• 200 NORTH MICHILLINDA AVENUE • SIERRA MADRE • CA • 91024 •

DayOne presents
CherishingChildren



Join us as we celebrate and embrace the
children in our community by providing
FREE GIFTS to youth ages 3-17.

Where: 175 N. Euclid Ave.
When: December 14, 2012
Time: 5:00-8:00pm

****Gifts provided until we run out!**

Gift donations are greatly appreciated
and can be dropped off at:
Day One 175 N. Euclid Ave. Pasadena, 91101

4 TONS OF SNOW ON THE LAWN!!!!

DayOne presents
CherishingChildren

During these difficult economic times some families are struggling more than others.
In DOing our part to help local youth and families who have the greatest need, Day
One Youth Advocates have organized a very special toy drive to ensure that the
holidays are special for everyone. Toys for youth ages 3-17 will be provided on a first
come first serve basis (one toy per youth limit-until we run out).

4 TONS OF SNOW ON THE LAWN!!!!

•music• toys• photos• snow

Gift donations are greatly appreciated & can be dropped off at:

Day One @ 175 N. Euclid Ave. Pasadena, CA 91101

For more information contact us at: (626) 229-9750

staff@dayonepasadena.org, www.dayonepasadena.org

This material was made possible by Substance Abuse Prevention Control, SAPC



INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY CELEBRATION

Please join Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard and the
United Nations Association Pasadena

Sunday, December 9, 2012 • 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Pasadena Central Library — Donald Wright Auditorium
285 East Walnut Street

Keynote Speakers Focusing on Water Sustainability:

Hadiara Diallo: Wells Bring Hope Project
Pierre Mainguy: Community First Initiatives

Two non-profit organizations striving to provide clean, safe water
to rural villages in West Africa and Cambodia

Exhibits:

Pasadena Water and Power: 100 years of Quality, Reliable Municipal Water Service
Caltech: A Self-Contained, PV-Powered Domestic Toilet and Wastewater Treatment System
Muir High School urban farm project: Muir Ranch
JPL: Research on Global Warming
Urban Homestead
Friends of the Peace Pilgrim

Video Presentation:
"The Universal Declaration of Human Rights"

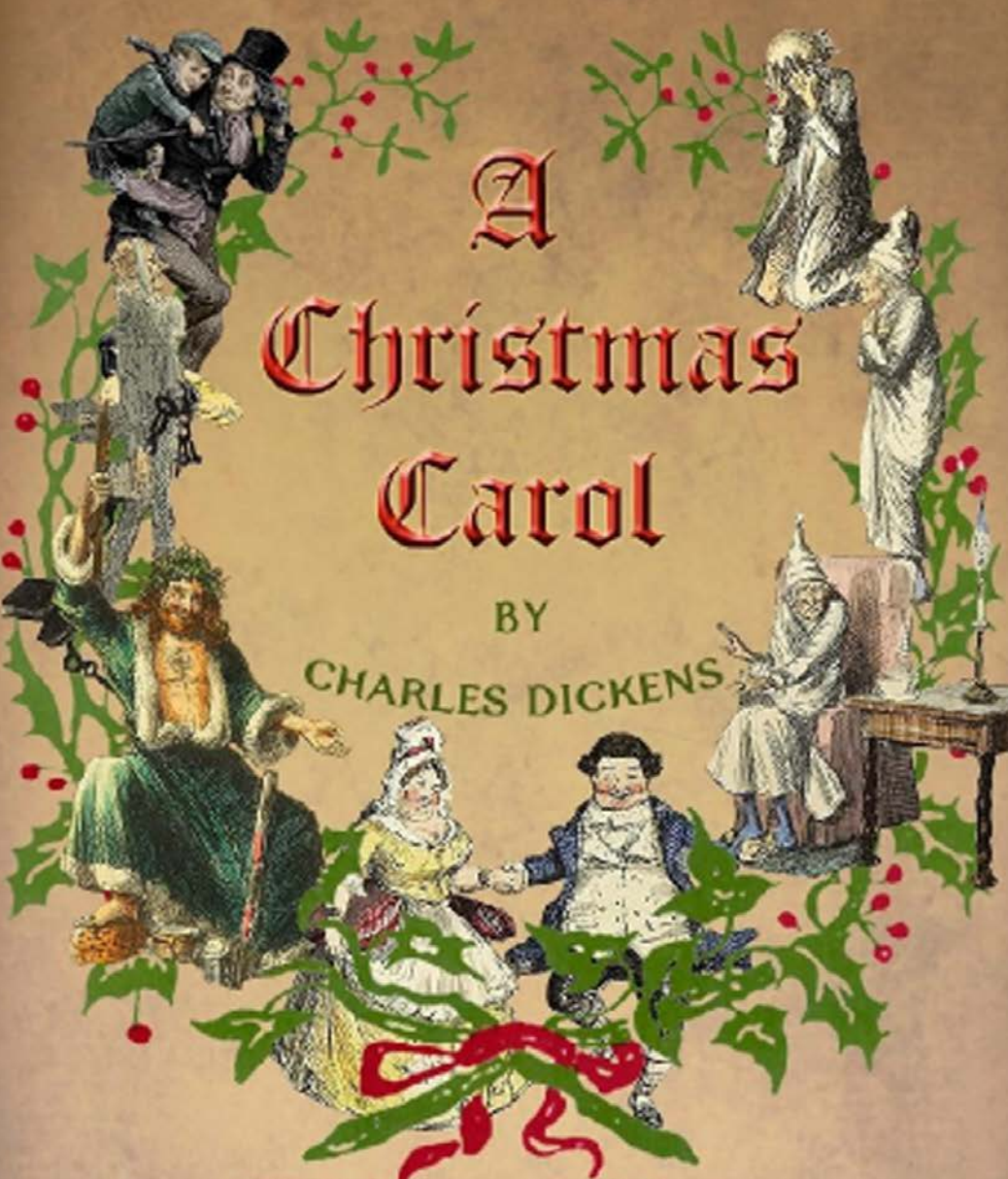
All are welcome at this **FREE** community celebration

Additional Information: www.unapasadena.org or rstone@cityofpasadena.net

(*Please consider bringing a pair of gently used shoes to be recycled in our community)



Sierra Madre Playhouse



NOV 23 - DEC 23

Adapted & Directed by Christina Harris

Music Direction by Rich Dembowski

www.SierraMadrePlayhouse.org - 626.355.4318

ALVERNO HIGH SCHOOL TO HOST ANNUAL CANDLELIGHT CELEBRATION

Candlelight Celebration includes a choral performance and a living Nativity

Sierra Madre, CA – Alverno High School will host its annual *Candlelight Celebration* on Wednesday, December 12 at 7:00 p.m. at the Villa del Sol d'Oro on the Alverno High School campus. *Candlelight Celebration*, an annual Christmas tradition at Alverno, celebrates the Christmas story through a live reenactment beginning with the Annunciation and concluding with the Birth of Christ.

Upon arriving on campus, guests will be provided with a candle and led to south side of the Villa where the procession will begin at 7:00 p.m. Following an introduction by the President and Vice-President of the Alverno Student Union, guests will be led around the Villa making several stops on

their own journey to "Bethlehem." Each stop signifies an important part of the Christmas story and guests are invited to join in Christmas carols led by the Alverno choir at this time.

Once guests have reached "Bethlehem" on the north side of the Villa, they will be able to enjoy a performance from Alverno's dance students before being invited into the Villa for a final choral performance by both students and alumnae.

A festive reception in the Villa will immediately follow the procession and performances. Alverno would like to invite all members of the local community to join them for this beloved and time-honored Christmas tradition. Guests are encouraged to dress warmly as the event will happen rain or shine.

Alverno High School is located at 200 North Michillinda Avenue in Sierra Madre.

About Alverno High School

Alverno High School is a Catholic, private, college preparatory school for young women

dedicated to preparing them to function in a society as informed, knowledgeable persons, who have the requisite skills to make and implement mature decisions about complex problems. Enlivened by the spirit of its Immaculate Heart Community sponsors, and mindful of the Franciscan roots of its founders, Alverno's program—academic, spiritual, aesthetic, social, and physical—is shaped by the staff, trustees, and students in light of the world for which the students are being educated. Alverno's mission is to empower each young woman to be exactly the person she wants to be and since 1960, Alverno has empowered more than 4,100 women to meet that goal. For more information about Alverno High School, please call 626-355-3463 or visit www.alverno-hs.org.

Alverno High School will offer eight different opportunities for sixth, seventh, and eighth grade girls to visit our 13-acre campus in the fall to learn more about Alverno's academics and programs.

APPLICATION PERIOD FOR THE 2013 RONALD McDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES® OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM IS NOW OPEN

What: In today's economic climate, paying for a college education is a top concern for high school students and their parents, especially when considering that most families will be in student loan debt years after college graduation. To help alleviate the financial strain that comes with funding a college education, Ronald McDonald House Charities® (RMHC) of Southern California will award \$328,000 in scholarship funds to deserving high school seniors who reside in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura counties.

In 2013, the organization will award 104 scholarships through its four programs including: Ronald McDonald House Charities /African American Future Achievers, RMHC/Asian Pacific American Students Increasing Achievement (ASIA), RMHC/Hispanic American Commitment to Educational Resources (HACER) and RMHC/Scholars.

Who: To be eligible for the scholarships, applicants must be currently-enrolled high school seniors who are eligible to attend a two- or four-year postsecondary institution following graduation. They must be legal U.S. residents, be less than 21 years of age and have a minimum 2.7 grade point average.

Where: The online application period will be open until Dec. 20, 2012, and interested students should visit <https://aim.applyists.net/RMHC> to apply.

When: Application period deadline is Thursday, Dec. 20, 2012.

About Ronald McDonald House Charities® (RMHC) of Southern California

For more than 30 years, RMHC of Southern California has been committed to providing comfort, care and support to children and families in Southern California. RMHC of Southern California is dedicated to creating a community where children and their families embrace life and healing with a sense of hope, enthusiasm, courage and joy by operating six Ronald McDonald Houses, Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times, two Ronald McDonald Family Rooms and a Community Grants Board.



CALL-FOR-ENTRIES: RED RIBBON WEEK 2013! BE PART OF HISTORY BY CREATING NEXT YEAR'S NATIONAL THEME

(Entry deadline is December 10th <http://redribbon.org/enter>)

Win \$500 Worth of Red Ribbon Merchandise For Your School

The National Family Partnership® (NFP) announces its annual call-for-entries for the new theme of next year's Red Ribbon Week®. "The winner will receive national acclaim and recognition," said Peggy Sapp, NFP's volunteer president. "The winning slogan and design will be used throughout 2013 at thousands of schools and communities across America." In its 28th year as the nation's largest and oldest drug prevention campaign, Red Ribbon Week® reaches 80 million people each year throughout the United States. The winner will receive \$500 worth of Red Ribbon Week® 2013 merchandise for their K-12 school.

HOW TO ENTER THE CONTEST:

Entries must be received by December 10th, 2012 via email to redribbon@nfp.org (or via mail to National Family Partnership, 2490 Coral Way, Miami, FL 33145). Please include your name, school, telephone number and email address. Contest rules and full details are available at www.redribbon.org/enter.

HELPFUL HINTS:

Red Ribbon Week® is celebrated in schools across America, with large banners and signs hung from marquees and fences. Themes and designs should work within this context. Themes should be brief and as catchy as possible (The 2012 theme was "The Best Me Is Drug Free™." 2011's theme was "It's Up To Me To Be Drug Free™." The theme for 2010 was "I Am Drug Free: Choices = Consequences™.") Other recent annual slogans include "100% Me Drug Free™," "Look At Me I'm Drug Free™" and "Drug Free Is The Key™" While the red ribbon should be prominently featured in the design, it is not required. Please refer to the red ribbon logo at www.redribbon.org. And last, don't be afraid to use other colors (in addition to red) in your entry.

NATIONAL RECOGNITION:

The winner will be recognized at the 2013 Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America's (CADCA) Annual Leadership Forum (which brings together more than 2,500 participants representing community anti-drug coalitions from across the country, the media, government leaders, addiction treatment professionals, researchers, educators, law enforcement, and faith-based leaders). The winning slogan will also be recognized via Red Ribbon Week®'s national media relations and social media campaigns.

About Red Ribbon Week® and the National Family Partnership (NFP)®
Red Ribbon Week® is the nation's largest and oldest drug prevention campaign, reaching 80 million people each year. The NFP spearheaded the national campaign in response to the 1985 death of DEA agent Kiki Camarena, who was abducted and murdered by drug traffickers in Mexico. The NFP was established in 1980, and is a national leader in drug prevention, education and advocacy. Its mission is to lead and support our nation's families and communities in nurturing the full potential of healthy, drug-free youth. For more information, please visit www.redribbon.org or www.nfp.org.

Your Ad Could Be Here!
Call Patricia at 626-818-2698 Today!

FORD MOTORS SUPPORTS EDUCATION THROUGH THE 2012 HEART BEHIND THE OVAL COMMUNITY CHALLENGE

- Heart Behind the Oval Community Challenge is open to all U.S. high school seniors and college students with a demonstrated commitment to their communities
- Public voting determines three winners who each receive a \$2,500 college scholarship and a \$2,500 grant to complete a future service project
- Students may enter this year's contest on the Ford Blue Oval Scholars Facebook page until Dec. 14 with a video or photo essay showcasing their current community work and outlining a future project they could complete with more funding

The 2012 Heart Behind the Oval Community Challenge is underway, with the general public registering support for their favorite contest entries through daily online voting. For this year's contest, Ford Motor Company Fund invited high school seniors and college students to showcase their commitment to their communities in a brief video or photo essay. Students can submit their entries until Dec. 14.

The three entries with the most online votes will receive a \$2,500 college scholarship and a \$2,500 grant to a partnering nonprofit to complete a future service project. Wild Card prizes, including a \$1,000 college scholarship and a \$1,000 project grant, will be awarded to two entries chosen by a Ford Motor Company judging panel.

For more information or to enter and vote for the 2012 Heart Behind the Oval Community Challenge, please visit <http://apps.facebook.com/fordblueovalscholars/>

About Ford Motor Company

Ford Motor Company, a global automotive industry leader based in Dearborn, Mich., manufactures or distributes automobiles across six continents. With about 172,000 employees and about 65 plants worldwide, the company's automotive brands include Ford and Lincoln. The company provides financial services through Ford Motor Credit Company. For more information regarding Ford and its products worldwide, please visit <http://corporate.ford.com>.

Bean Town's Annual Christmas Benefit

Bring Your Camera ! & take a picture with Santa Claus

On Dec 15, from 1pm-3pm.

All Donations Go To The Sierra Madre School Annual Fund.

Come one, come all, the more the merrier!
A photographer will be on hand if you forget your camera.

48 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre Ca, 91024
(626) 355-1596

SCHOOL DIRECTORY

Alverno High School
200 N. Michillinda Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
(626) 355-3463 Head of School: Ann M. Gillick
E-mail address: agillick@alverno-hs.org

Arcadia High School
180 Campus Drive Arcadia, CA 91007
Phone: (626) 821-8370, Principal: Brent Forsee
bforsee@ausd.net

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

Barnhart School
240 W. Colorado Blvd Arcadia, Ca. 91007
(626) 446-5588 Head of School: Ethan Williamson
Kindergarten - 8th grade
website: www.barnhartschool.org

Bethany Christian School
93 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
(626) 355-3527 Principal: James Lugenbuehl
E-mail address: jml@bcsliions.org
website: www.bcsliions.org

Clairbourn School
8400 Huntington Drive San Gabriel, CA 91775
Phone: 626-286-3108 ext. 172
FAX: 626-286-1528
E-mail: nward@clairbourn.org

Foothill Oaks Academy
822 Bradbourne Ave., Duarte, CA 91010
(626) 301-9809
Co-Principals Nancy Lopez and Diane Kieffaber
info@foothilloaksacademy.org
preschool@foothilloaksacademy.org

The Gooden School
192 N. Baldwin Ave. Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
(626) 355-2410 Head of School: Patty Patano
website: www.goodenschool.org

High Point Academy
1720 Kinneloa Canyon Road Pasadena, Ca. 91107
Headmaster John Higgins
626-798-8989
website: www.highpointacademy.org

LaSalle High School
3880 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Pasadena, Ca.
(626) 351-8951 website: www.lasallehs.org
Principal Bro. Christopher Brady, FSC

Monrovia High School
325 East Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016
(626) 471-2800 Principal Darwin Jackson
Email: schools@monrovia.k12.ca.us

Odyssey Charter School
725 W. Altadena Dr. Altadena, Ca. 91001
(626) 229-0993 Head of School: Lauren O'Neill
website: www.odysseycharterschool.org

Pasadena High School
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(626) 798-8901 Principal: Gilbert Barraza
website: www.pasadenahigh.org

St. Rita Catholic School
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Principal Joan Harabedian
(626) 355-9028 website: www.st-rita.org

Sierra Madre Elementary School
141 W. Highland Ave, Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
(626) 355-1428 Principal: Esther Salinas
E-mail address: salinas.esther@pusd.us

Sierra Madre Middle School
160 N. Canon Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
(626) 836-2947 Principal: Garrett Newsom
E-mail address: newsom.garrett@pusd.us

Walden School
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www.waldenschool.net

Weizmann Day School
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(626) 797-0204
Lisa Feldman: Head of School

Wilson Middle School
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(626) 449-7390 Principal: Ruth Esseln
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(626) 795-6981 Website: www.pusd@pusd.us

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THE REEL DEAL: by Ben Show

Movie Reviews Especially for Teens & 'Tweens

RISE OF THE GAURDIANS



This is a new classic. It brings life back into the fairy tales that seemed to have lost their magic. Santa, the Tooth Fairy, the Easter Bunny, and the Sandman get a modern take, as well as gain a powerful new ally.

Jack Frost (Chris Pine) has no idea where he came from or what his purpose is. All he knows is his name. The only problem is that no one believes in him, so no one can see him. For 300 years he wanders the Earth, bringing snow days and winter fun to children, even though he is unseen, until one day when he is summoned to the North Pole to become a Guardian. However, as he soon learns, the only reason he is there is because an ancient enemy, Pitch Black (Jude Law), aka the Boogeyman, has returned to frighten children worldwide with his Nightmares. How can his new power be beaten?

This movie is laced with magic and will make anyone a true believer in the Big Four, as they are referred to in the movie. I believe that 'Rise of the Guardians' is a modern day children's classic.

DILLS' GREEK VACATION- AS HEARD ON RADIOFISHBOWL

This past week I was a guest on Catherine Adde Travel Show, in case you missed it.....
Thomas Wolfe wrote a book titled 'You Can't Go Home Again' but throughout the years there have been different variations of that familiar title. Ah but this man lived in an era that didn't include airbuses now did he? It has been some 40 years that I departed Greek Soil. I recently returned to Greece and am excited to share my experience with you. If it is history that you seek, there is plenty of that to enjoy, if you are looking for relaxation then this your spot, how about superior cuisine? I will attest that the worst meal of the trip wasn't really all that bad. Yes, Greece has something for everyone.

Getting There: It's a long flight, with choices of airlines and layovers in Toronto, Washington and New York. We traveled on Air Canada and had a layover in Toronto. As a beer drinker, a few Molson's at the airport restaurant helped make the time go by fast. One warning though, if you are using dollars they will give you back Canadian currency, so my suggestion is to use your credit card. Unless you want to have a couple of dollars as a keepsake. Once you make it to Athens, you'll have the choice of a taxi, renting a car, or if you are on a tour like we were then someone will greet you at the terminal. My suggestion is that if this is your first trip a taxi or hotel shuttle would be prudent. However, if you are on the islands, renting a

TABLE FOR TWO by Peter Dills
thechefknows@yahoo.com

car is safe and easy.

Where to stay: In Athens there is a list of five star, four star and three star hotels. We stayed at the Metropolitan just outside of Athens, and while the hotel was clean and a great view of the port, I wouldn't say it was five star. But I liked that it had a view and was away from downtown Athens that is congested and a bit dirty with graffiti and scooters everywhere. Once in Santorini and Mykonos, the accommodations are very nice, in fact while our hotel in Santorini El Greco, wasn't on the beach it reminded me of staying in a storybook village: very upscale and with four different pools. In Mykonos there are many small/boutique hotels very close to the beach, while our accommodations were close to being cramped, I will call it cozy.

To tour or not: If you have traveled to Athens or any other surrounding Islands before, I don't see any need to sign up for a tour. We did and I am glad we did, but it was the consensus of our group that if any of us were to return, that you could easily do it on your own. We agreed that once if you have seen the ruins and the stadium, that none of us would spend much time in Athens.

Getting Around: Big difference in getting around in Athens and getting around in Greece. First of all it's much hotter in Athens then it is in the islands, and as I mention in when to go July and August have is severe heat. My mother to this day reminds me of the 100+ day in July when I was born on a US Army base. The buses in Athens are usually filled with locals and would opt for taking a taxi or even the tram. On the Islands I do recommend the buses, many of them are new, air-conditioned and dependable, a bus ride is about \$1.40 euro. On the islands you can rent a scooter by the day, it looks fun, but I was warned that many a kid has seen the hospital by crashing into the wall on a narrow road. Getting from island to island is done by Ferry, a boat that costs about \$45 euro. There are airplanes that do fly from the Athens Airport to Santorini/Mykonos, and when I return I will take advantage of them, but for your first visit it adds to the fun of the trip. Bring a book or a crossword puzzle. If you aren't on a guided tour tickets can easily be purchased at the port.

When to go: Athens is hot, I mean temperature hot, in fact many workers and vendors take off August to visit friends and families elsewhere. If you are there to relax and get a tan, then by all means July would be OK, however just visiting the Acropolis in June we were overheated and water was our best friend, I couldn't imagine a July tour of Athens. My suggestion is early June or late September.

Dollar v. Euro: Those looking for bargains, we found that even though Greece is in a financial crisis, they haven't put out the distress flag yet, when shopping you can always ask for the best price. I was warned that dinners can easily run \$60 euro, while I did see that price tag, it was very few and in between. I did notice that the restaurants closest to the water were pricier. A tip is to go to supermarkets, not the markets and buy

beer, water and fruit and have it in your hotel refrigerator. The fruit there is some of the best I've had. The beer and sodas at the hotel can be twice or three times as much as getting them at the market or a Kiosk.

Dining in Greece :

Originally I was going to give a few reviews of the restaurants that I visited, and after collecting business cards of places that I dined, I came up with this conclusion, where ever you go, you really can't go wrong. You want affordable dining? They have it. Want to dine on or near the beach? Yes, fish and chicken are the most popular items that we came across both in Athens and in Santorini and Mykonos. The items on the menus at each restaurant are very similar. You won't find too many steaks or burgers, yes, they are available but there are no beef cattle being raised in Greece. We enjoyed the Greek Salad and the Rocket Salad pretty much with every meal. You'll find that the Greek Salad has no lettuce, and is made up of cucumbers, olives, tomatoes and Feta Cheese. Something I found odd, the extra charges on the bill, first when they ask if you want bread, we always say yes, there is an additional charge of 2 to 3 euro. Plus sit down restaurants have a cover charge, no not the night club admission, this is a sitting charge, this charge gives you the privilege of sitting at your table for as long as you want, I think this was initiated more for the locals that like to sit for hours and conversing over cigarettes and espresso. *Note.. everyone smokes, even while they are working. One spot that did stand out in Athens, near our hotel was Restaurant Kalypso. The food was above average and the waiter even assisted us with our Greek language lessons. We returned there while waiting for our flight home.*

Tipping: This isn't as big of a deal that it is in the states. Workers are working for what is called a "living wage", don't ask me to explain a living wage, I am restaurant reviewer not workers rights lawyer, however you won't get the typical service that you'd expect from the waiters, it's not bad, it's "are you ready to order" your food is brought and you might not see your server again, at least until you flag them down/ and I did a lot of flagging down. My suggestion is 10 to 12 % tip. Taxi Cab drivers same thing, a couple of euro are sufficient. As with any trip leaving the chambermaid and if you are on a tour, a tip is suggested.

Sightseeing: The first day is full of sight seeing, visit the Acropolis, Zeus Statue, Temple of Poseidon, and the Stadium, an afternoon at the beach in Athens is also a pleasant way to end your day in Athens, a day in Athens? Yes, I found Athens to be hot, congested and plain dirty. If you want to see the ruins, I took a boat trip to the Island of Delos. There is a small admission charge once you get there, but you will get a sense of the history of Greece. One of the highlights of the trip was our seven-mile hike on The Santorini; we started at Fira and ended our walk in OIA, beautiful walk looking the cliffs and sights of the Volcano's and the Aegean Sea. Two other musts while we are on Mykonos we took a small boat along the shore and you have your choice of five beaches, a beach for everyone, a party beach, a topless beach, we opted for Elia, plenty of sand and chairs to enjoy a relaxing day sun bathing. Santorini has been voted top ten sunsets in the entire world. We took the Sunset Cruise that was quite relaxing and is a must; another bonus is the boat stop briefly at one of the volcanic hot springs, hot? No, but quite warm.

Is Greece Safe?: Yes!! On our first day on our vacation we stayed just a few miles from downtown, it wasn't till we went to downtown did we see any police presence, you are more likely to be hit by a scooter then witness any crime that goes for the Islands of Santorini and Mykonos as well.. In fact on the Islands we noticed no police at all, I mean none. I was surprised by the text messages and facebook postings asking me if I was OK? Just like Los Angeles, some areas are better then others, if you are looking for a demonstration I am sure if you wait long enough you can find one. **Opal!!!** *There is more!! Please listen to my radio show at it's new time Saturday afternoon at 6 PM Talk Radio KABC 790 AM, or email me at thechefknows@yahoo.com*



Perfect for Christmas Dinner!

INGREDIENTS

- 1 pork rib roast with 6 ribs (about 4 pounds), chine bone removed and ribs frenched
- 3 cups fresh parsley
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 tablespoon fennel seed, crushed
- 3 cloves garlic
- 1/3 cup golden raisins
- Salt and pepper
- 1/4 cup dry white wine, such as Sauvignon Blanc
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 2 cups chicken broth
- 1 tablespoon grainy mustard

DIRECTIONS

- Let pork sit at room temperature 30 minutes. Preheat oven to 400 degrees. In a food processor, puree parsley, oil, fennel seed, and garlic until smooth. Add raisins; pulse until finely chopped. Season with salt and pepper.
- On a cutting board, hold a knife parallel to bones of pork and cut down about 2 inches, being careful not to remove ribs.
- Turn pork so bones lie flat against board. Steadying pork and holding knife horizontally, continue to cut, unrolling pork, until you have a flat 1 1/2-inch-thick piece. Season with salt and pepper.
- Evenly spread herb mixture on top, leaving a 1/2-inch border. Tightly roll pork toward bones and secure with kitchen twine between bones. Season generously with salt and pepper. Place pork in a heavy-bottomed metal roasting pan.
- Roast until an instant-read thermometer inserted in center reads 145 degrees, about 1 hour. Transfer pork to a cutting board, tent with foil, and let rest 30 minutes. Pour pan drippings into a measuring cup and skim fat. Set pan across 2 burners.
- Add wine to pan and cook over medium, scraping up browned bits with a wooden spoon, until wine is reduced by half. Whisk in flour, then slowly whisk in broth and pan drippings. Cook, whisking, until gravy is thickened, 4 minutes. Stir in mustard and season with salt and pepper. Cut pork into chops and serve with gravy.

Purchase your roast from **Taylor's Old Fashioned Meat Market*** in **Sierra Madre** and the butcher will be happy to remove the chine bone (backbone) and french -- scrape clean -- the ribs. But don't trim the roast -- a thin layer of fat keeps it juicy.

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Looking Up
with Bob Eklund

SATELLITE REVEALS NEW VIEWS OF PLANET EARTH AT NIGHT

Scientists have unveiled an unprecedented new look at our planet at night. A global composite image, constructed using cloud-free night images from a new NASA and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) satellite, shows the glow of natural and human-built phenomena across the planet in greater detail than ever before.

Many satellites are equipped to look at Earth during the day, when they can observe our planet fully illuminated by the Sun. With a new sensor onboard the NASA-NOAA Suomi National Polar-orbiting Partnership (NPP) satellite launched last year, scientists now can observe Earth's atmosphere and surface during nighttime hours.

The new sensor, the day-night band of the Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS), is sensitive enough to detect the nocturnal glow produced by Earth's atmosphere and the light from a single ship in the sea. Satellites in the U.S. Defense Meteorological Satellite Program have been making observations with low-light sensors for 40 years. But the VIIRS day-night band can better detect and resolve Earth's night lights, providing researchers with valuable data for a wide variety of previously unseen or poorly seen events.

"For all the reasons that we need to see Earth during the day, we also need to see Earth at night," said Steve Miller, a researcher at NOAA's Colorado State University Cooperative Institute for Research in the Atmosphere. "Unlike humans, the Earth never sleeps."

The day-night band observed Hurricane Sandy, illuminated by moonlight, making landfall over New Jersey on the evening of Oct. 29. Night images showed the widespread power outages that left millions in darkness in the wake of the storm. With its night view, VIIRS is able to detect a more complete view of storms and other weather conditions, such as fog, that are difficult to discern with infrared, or thermal, sensors. Night is also when many types of clouds begin to form.

"The use of the day-night band by the National Weather Service is growing," said Mitch Goldberg, program scientist for NOAA's Joint Polar Satellite System. For example, the NOAA Weather Service's forecast office in Monterey, Calif., is now using VIIRS day-night band images to improve monitoring and forecasting of fog and low clouds for high air traffic coastal airports like San Francisco. According to Goldberg, VIIRS images were used on Nov. 26, the Monday after Thanksgiving, to map the dense fog in the San Francisco Bay area that resulted in flight delays and cancellations.

Unlike a camera that captures a picture in one exposure, the day-night band produces an image by repeatedly scanning a scene and resolving it as millions of individual pixels. Then, the day-night band reviews the amount of light in each pixel. If it is very bright, a low-gain mode prevents the pixel from over-saturating. If the pixel is very dark, the signal is amplified.

"It's like having three simultaneous low-light cameras operating at once and we pick the best of various cameras, depending on where we're looking in the scene," Miller said. The instrument can capture images on nights with or without moonlight, producing crisp views of Earth's atmosphere, land and ocean surfaces.

"The night is nowhere as dark as we might think," Miller added.

You can contact Bob Eklund at: b eklund@MtnViewsNews.com.



This image of the continental United States at night is a composite assembled from data acquired by the Suomi NPP satellite in April and October 2012. The image was made possible by the satellite's "day-night band" of the Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS), which detects light in a range of wavelengths from green to near-infrared and uses filtering techniques to observe dim signals such as city lights, gas flares, auroras, wildfires and reflected moonlight. Credit: NASA Earth Observatory/NOAA NGDC

JUST FOR BEST FRIENDS



by Chris Leclerc

OLD DOGS, NEW TRICKS

Innovative Ways to Care for Your Elderly Canine Companion

Ever wonder if there was more you could have done, or could be doing to keep your older dog healthier and happier in its golden years? Well, I often think about what I could have done to provide a better quality of life to my beloved girl, "Lady" when she started showing signs of her age before she passed away 11 years ago. She was at least 19 or 20 years old at the time, based on her estimated age of 2 when I adopted her from the El Segundo SPCA. Back then I was nowhere near

as informed as I am today about the health and emotional needs of an elderly dog. Although I know for sure she got plenty of love and tender care, I can't help thinking of how much more I could have done to keep her comfortable as her final day approached.

Now that my current dog "Tater" is moving into the senior stage of her life, I am so pleased to have the many information resources made available by the internet and by my veterinarian, Dr. Sylvia Domotor, who has gained a wealth of knowledge about caring for elderly dogs over the many years she's been in practice. Dr. Domotor's wise advice to owners of senior dogs is to recognize that they are indeed old and are unable to do many of the things they were able to do when they were young. It is really no different from what happens when we humans get old. "Patience is number one" she said in a recent conversation regarding caring for older canines. "Sometimes we forget how old they are. Dogs are considered seniors at 7 and that is when they begin to lose their hearing, their eyesight and their olfactory senses. Understanding why an elderly pet might poop or pee in inappropriate places, or fail to respond to a recall is very important in having patience with them."

Although manufacturers do tend to exploit the ever-growing market for elderly pet care products, statistics indicate that dogs are living longer these days, presumably due to improved technology in veterinary care and the development of innovative products to help accommodate the special needs of our furry senior friends, and keep them more comfortable. Specially formulated kibble, therapeutic beds, specialized food bowl designs, ramps to help "Fido" get up into the car, restraining harnesses for the ride, diapers for incontinence, dietary supplements, herbs and holistic remedies designed to cosset a senior dog through its last years are among the many new products found on the shelves of most pet supply stores today. Doting pet owners find it hard to resist blowing the bundle to help their four-legged family member, and I am most definitely one of them. I can't count how many times I have walked out of the store or vet's office thinking, "There goes this week's dog-walking profits! I guess the money just goes from one dog to another, but she's worth it!"

Besides the many products now available to help keep a senior pet comfortable and as healthy as possible, spending quality time with an older dog is extremely important for their mental and physical health. I have recently noticed that my girl Tater, who will be 11 years old in March, has become more demanding of my attention than ever before; I attribute most of that neediness to her age. Her favorite time of day is when I come home after walking several dogs, and lay up on the couch where she insists on joining me for an afternoon nap. I always let her lay with me, even though she is quite enormous and takes up all the space, because I can tell she needs that time with me. She lets out a low groan, and lays her huge head on my shoulder where she falls asleep and snores right into my ear. I am not looking forward to the day when she can't get herself up on the couch, but when that happens I guess I'll have to get her a specialized stair step that will allow her to climb up where she knows she'll get a fine ration of hugs and loving!

I find it amazing how human's priorities change when it comes to caring for an elderly dog. I was truly touched when I heard that singer Fiona Apple had cancelled the South American leg of her tour last month, so she could fly back home and stay with her ailing 14-year old pit bull "Janet". Considering how much money she must have forfeited to make that choice, not to mention disappointing thousands of ticket holders, that says a lot about how much Fiona Apple loves her dog. In one part of a heart-warming apology letter to her fans, Apple wrote: "I know she is coming close to the time where she will stop being a dog, and start instead to be part of everything. She'll be in the wind, and in the soil, and the snow, and in me, wherever I go. I just can't leave her now, please understand. If I go away again, I'm afraid she'll die and I won't have the honor of singing her to sleep, of escorting her out..."

As dog lovers, I think we can all relate to what Fiona Apple is going through, and understand why she made it a priority to spend quality time with her beloved old girl, Janet versus continuing her tour. I can't think of anything that could keep me away from Tater when her time is close in coming. They give us so much unconditional love, and nothing - including money or fame can possibly compare to that.

PET OF THE WEEK: PENELOPE #A4134671

Meet a real sweetie, the lovely Penelope (A4134671). Penelope is an agreeable three year old tricolor female Beagle/Spaniel mix who was found and brought to the Baldwin Park Animal Care Center on November 23rd. Weighing twenty-five pounds, Penelope walks very well on the leash and was apparently an indoor pet. She likes small dogs and we think she will be a wonderful companion for children. Super affectionate, this medium-energy girl wants to be with you at all times - she is quite the lap dog. Penelope will be a fantastic indoor pet and companion for absolutely anyone. To watch a video of Penelope please visit: www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lzi818v6nIo



To meet Penelope in person, please see her at the Baldwin Park Animal Care Center, located at 4275 N. Elton St., Baldwin Park, CA 91706 (Phone: 626-430-2378 or 626-962-3577). She is currently available now. For any inquiries about Penelope, please reference her animal ID number: A4134671. The shelter is open seven days a week, 12 pm-7 pm Monday-Thursday and 10am-5pm Friday-Sunday. This is a high-intake shelter with a great need for adoptions. For more information about Penelope or the adoption process, please contact United Hope for Animals Volunteer Adoption Coordinator Samantha at Samantha@hope4animals.org. To learn more about United Hope for Animals' partnership with the Baldwin Park Shelter through its Shelter Support Program, as well as the many dogs of all breeds, ages, and sizes available for adoption in local shelters, visit <http://www.unitedhope4animals.org/about-us/shelter-support-program/>.

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JASMINE’S CORNER

Book Reviews by Jasmine Kelsey Williams

MARILYN & ME: A PHOTOGRAPHER’S MEMORIES

By Lawrence Schiller



As we continue into the early days of December, the next choice follows the example set from the previous selection and follows the non-fictional route, this time providing the reader with another enchanting read and one that is considerably lighter in volume. Copyrighted in 2012, ‘Marilyn & Me’ is one part autobiography and one part memoirs, all told from the perspective and experiences of Lawrence Schiller, who is both author and photographer. In eight wonderfully executed short chapters, Lawrence showcases his times and experiences with the iconic Marilyn Monroe, who was viewed as America’s Sweetheart and sex symbol of her time. Also included with each chapter is a black and white photo of Marilyn herself, highlighting her simplest moments in front of the camera to a photo that reveals a peek into her personal life, along with an excerpt of an interview with Marilyn from Vanity Fair.

In just eight chapters and totaling in only 114 pages, Lawrence recounts his memories and encounters with Marilyn with excellent clarity and with a hint of nostalgia. Although readers may find this a shorter read than previous choices, it

will be a refresher for those who wish to who wish to take this book on the run or during travel. Schiller’s tone is both crisp and insightful, never faltering when he brings the reality of what he knows to the reader. Even in the light of Marilyn’s death Schiller still maintains his tone throughout the book, providing not just a strong sense of resolve to the reader, but one that wonderfully gives a peek into the life of a legendary icon.



SEAN’S SHAMELESS REVIEWS:

Review By Sean Kayden

SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK

When the first trailer debuted for Silver Linings Playbook, I had my reservations about it. It seemed too nice, too safe, especially for writer/director David O. Russell (The Fighter, I Heart Huckabees, Three Kings). I was also afraid of it being a formulaic quintessential Hollywood romantic comedy. While the ending was predictable, it was the finale you were rooting for all along. What separates

this picture from others in the genre are the strong multifaceted characters, the impeccable balance of both drama and comedy, and keen sense of insight on the subject matter at hand. Silver Linings Playbook is a strong showcase in all aspects—intelligent writing, perceptive direction, and razor-sharp efforts from the talented ensemble of actors.

Bradley Copper plays Pat Solatano, a substitute teacher getting released from state institute for beating up the man his wife was cheating on him with. Determined to turn his life around, Pat will do whatever it takes to win back his wife despite the circumstances that stand in his way. However, he isn’t allowed to speak to her because of a court-ruled restraining order due to his violent nature and temperamental mood swings. In the mean time, his mother and father want the best for their son and have him be a part of their obsession with the Philadelphia Eagles. Pat’s dad, played by Robert DeNiro (seriously his best role in years and one worthy of a supporting Oscar nomination) is a superstitious bookmaker. His superstitions play a significant role in the film, but ultimately he just wants to reconnect with his son, who’s seemingly lost and driven to get his wife back that may not even love him anymore. However, Pat meets Tiffany, a girl with her own baggage and deeply ingrained problems after the death of her husband. The two individuals form an unconventional and rather unlikely friendship after Pat reluctantly agrees to team up with her for a dance competition. In return she gives a letter he wrote to his wife. With the Philadelphia Eagles season on the line, the dedication it’ll take for Pat to practice for this dance competition and the unreserved optimism in him that his wife will take him back, the movie’s storylines blend effortlessly together. Silver Linings Playbook is more than a character-driven story, it’s exceedingly far more gratifying than a typical rom-com, and with characters you actually care about and root for, the overall package is undeniably difficult to dismiss.

What easily could have been a tame and rather lame one-dimensional dud ended up being an invigorating, emotionally packed gem that is brutally honest, sincere, quite humorous and surprisingly uplifting. The film has everything you could possibly want: drama, laughter, romantic elements, family dynamics and the sense of authenticity within each and every supporting character. For a film that tackles the themes of changing your life for the better and finding that silver lining, it truly exceeds on nearly all accounts.

Grade: 4.5 out of 5

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One Of A Kind: *Featuring unique homes and gardens and the people who create them*

Story by Chris Bertrand Photo courtesy of George and Barbara Fawrup



LOCAL COUPLE HELPS GROUP RENOVATE CHURCHES AND CAMPS FROM THEIR RV

George and Barbara Fawrup recently retired from their busy careers in the Department of Justice and accounting respectively. Never ones to let the grass grow too long under their feet, the Sierra Madre couple decided to combine their wanderlust with service by joining a

group called the Mobile Missionary Assistance Program (MMAP).

The Fawrups had learned about MMAP nearly two decades ago when Harriet and Otis Cobb, friends at Alhambra First Baptist Church, told of their adventures with the organization when they regularly "disappeared" for about a month at a time. "Then it went off our radar for a number of years," said George Fawrup.

According to the organization's website, MMAP is a non-profit charitable Christian "retired couples that travel in RV's for the Lord and help out where needed. The MMAP life is a fun life. We enjoy what we do because we get to travel, help others, fellowship with other adventurous folks and best of all serve the Lord in a meaningful way... on the North American Continent... working on selected projects at Christina churches, camps, missions, orphanages and other similar ministries. The work involves construction, renovation and remodeling... Each project lasts three weeks, with members working four days a week for seven hours a day. All members are financially independent and self supporting and provide their own medical insurance."

After the Fawrups retired, they received an unexpected gift from George's parents, a 38' diesel pusher motor home. "We wanted to honor God for the generosity of George's parents," reflected Barbara. "We recalled the Cobb's stories and after an Internet search found MMAP. We joined the organization in May, 2011, and have served on 9 projects to date.

Their projects vary widely. "They range from starting from scratch with new construction, to major remodels, and as minor as maintenance and repairs. In the past MMAP has built churches from the ground up," according to the Fawrups.

The organization tries to take advantage of the climate and seasons, according to the website, by "choosing projects in the best climactic conditions - moving South in the winter and north in the summer months." Though the project is available across the continent, the Fawrups prefer to remain within a few hours of home and family, so stay within California.

Couples with self contained recreational vehicles (RV's) from all walks of life have been part of the teams the Fawrups have been assigned to on their nine projects so far. Of the four to six couples on each project, "There are actually very few that previously worked in construction," said Barbara. We've worked with a doctor, a truck driver, a college professor, and federal/state/county/city workers involved in various professions, among others."

The Fawrups have experience in managing commercial

properties and the attendant maintenance, and are knowledgeable about many aspects of construction, and can help teach others who are able but not skilled or trained in the project at hand. There is always a project coordinator who understands and is trained in the skills needed for the project. One time it might be laying tile, or insulating a building. Another time it might be painting or making draperies for a room or structure.

When an actual church new construction project is in the works, a team of twelve couples is assembled. Then the project is extended to three months at one location.

Only once did they arrive at a project that wasn't a good fit for the group. A new roof was planned for an Orange County church, and it was determined that it was a project better suited to a contractor, so they group went down the list to other needed projects at the church.

Some couples actually live in their RV's full time, and travel from project to project, giving their time to remodel churches and camps and other Christian based structures, while enjoying a low cost way to travel and see different areas of the country. "The projects provide a parking space with full hook-ups without cost. Projects are scheduled across the United States every month of the year and are a three week duration," explained Barbara. With the four day "work" week on Monday through Thursday, couples have time to explore their new environs on the days off.

The minimum number of projects required from a member is three per year, for a total of nine weeks' commitment annually, but many couples do much more. The Fawrups love the program, and have worked on nine since 2011.

George Fawrups commented on their enthusiastic participation in the MMMP projects, "We give of our time, talents and abilities. In return, we get the ability to serve directly in the various Christian ministries across the United States and help them fulfill the visions God has given to them. We have direct 'hands-on' partnerships in churches, camps, homeless missions, women's shelters and orphanages across the United States and Canada."

So many of the organizations would never have the funds to make the repairs and improvements the group performs. George recalls a particularly rewarding experience. Our very first project was in Idaho at a camp about 90 minutes north of Boise, in a rural location. The camp was run by Christian missionaries who had to raise their own support. The camp did not generate sufficient income as it provided low cost camperships to allow as many children as desired the ability to attend." Barbara continued, "The camp would have never been able to afford the work we were providing. The men built a large playground and exercise stations from trees that had blown down in a storm in the previous year. The resulting playground would have been the envy of any organization providing recreation to children. The ladies remodeled a home that housed the staff. One afternoon, the ladies were out and got talking with people in the nearby town. When we told them why we were there, one person commented that her kids would be thrilled to hear about the new playground as

they regularly attended summer programs there."

The Fawrups appreciate the flexibility of their volunteer work in the program, and that they aren't required to do any of the fundraising to put the projects together, but always feel that this organization is definitely the right direction for them to use their talents during retirement, and regularly feel they get divine reinforcement. Barbara chuckled, "It seems that on every trip we have taken that God gives us a reminder that He is in the project with us. On our first trip to Idaho, we experienced that early on. Northbound on I-15 in Utah we lost a tire on the motor home and limped into Cedar City. For hours we searched every tire dealer in town and no one had the right size. It was either hours to St. George or Salt Lake City to find a replacement. In frustration and exhaustion we found a parking spot out of the way behind a truck stop with a tire service bay that had already told us they didn't have the replacement. It was only after all of our best efforts that we remembered that we were on this trip to serve God and not ourselves. Suddenly we felt embarrassed that we were frustrated. We stopped and prayed to God that we were on His mission, not ours, and asked help in deciding what to do.

I then took the dog for a walk near the tire shed where two workers were taking a break outside. We struck up a conversation and I told them I was the one who called about the tire they didn't have. One worker looked at me, looked back at the motor home. I swear I could see a light go on in his head. He just recalled he had a special ordered metric tire that was never picked up. It might be the right dimensions. After careful measurements and calculations, they determined it was the correct size. Apparently, God had already stocked the right tire in the right place for us, but wanted us to recognize that before he revealed it to us," she laughed.

The Fawrups just returned from a nearby project in Arrowhead Springs in San Bernardino. The 1800 acre site was developed at the location of a natural landmark that appears to be an arrowhead carved into a hillside above some naturally occurring hot springs. It is now owned by a descendant organization of Campus Crusade for Christ, now called CRU.

Native Americans considered it a spiritual monument. In the 1800's it became a Sanatorium for tuberculosis and respiratory ailments. Various hotels had iterations at the site over the years. Before Palm Springs and Las Vegas became the go to spot for celebrities, Arrowhead Springs was the spot to see and be seen for movie stars



and the rich and famous. "Elizabeth Taylor spent her first honeymoon in the penthouse suite," according to the Fawrups, and "Esther Williams, of swimming fame, filmed a movie at the Cabana Pool there, and countless stars vacationed in the many bungalows there."

The Fawrups explained, "After a period of disuse, Campus Crusade for Christ (now CRU) obtained the property in the early 1960's. Restoring and improving the property, CRU utilized the site for 31 years before moving to Florida. The resort served as a training ground for missionaries, as well as a retreat and conference center for southern California and beyond. Many a happy couple had their weddings on the expansive lawn in front of the hotel. With over 20,000 full time CRU missionaries and 225,000 CRU volunteers worldwide, Arrowhead Springs Resort memories span the globe among the many who started with their training there. It is the goal of CRU to now pass on this asset to another organization that will embrace its heritage and continue its legacy of bringing service to the surrounding communities and the world."

In January the Fawrups head to Camp Maranatha in Idyllwild for yet another project.

If you are interested in the work of this group, contact Mobile Missionary Assistance Program for more information by visiting www.MMAP.org, or contact them at MMAPHQ@gmail.com, (909) 795-3944. The Fawrups keep a blog of their adventures at MMMP at <http://fawrup.blogspot.com/>.

More information about the future possibilities of Arrowhead Springs is available through the listing broker, Jones Lang LaSalle Real Estate. www.joneslanglasalle.com.



Tips of the Trade: Real Estate Revealed

by Luther Tsinoglou Realtor®

THINKING OF SHRINKING

It's not just the economy - there are lots of reasons that people choose to downsize. It could be retirement, a recently emptied nest, or just plain "maintenance fatigue." Whatever the reason, plan your new lifestyle carefully.

When you search for a smaller home, don't forget that Location is still the key ingredient. Even if you don't have kids or they've flown the coop, a good school district and proximity to public transportation and recreation are still the best bets for retaining value.

If this will be a retirement move, think about the future and seek out homes on one level, or at the very least, with the master bedroom on the ground floor. For practicality's sake, at least one bathroom should be handicap-accessible or easily remodeled as such. Even if you don't think you'll need it later on, your visitors might appreciate the convenience.

If downsizing to you means less maintenance, you may be tempted by town home or condominium living, but be aware of "hidden costs," like annual or monthly homeowners association fees. Check recent association meeting reports to see if there is a building renovation planned, as you could be hit with an assessment fee in the future, too.

There are a lot of considerations in advance of your move, so ask an agent for more advice and enjoy your new lifestyle!

Luther has been licensed and practicing real estate since 1992. He specializes in residential and income property in the Greater San Gabriel Valley. Luther Tsinoglou has again been named a top producing sales agent with Podley Properties for 2011, making the top 10% at the company overall. Luther can be reached at his direct line (626) 695-8650 or at luther@tsinoglou.com

FIVE STEPS TO EXTEND THE LIFE OF YOUR HOLIDAY TREES AND PLANTS, ENHANCE YOUR INDOOR DÉCOR AND REDUCE STRESS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON by Melinda Myers

The holidays can be a wonderful, yet stressful time. Reduce stress and enhance your families' enjoyment this season by increasing the benefits of holiday décor and gifts and by taking a few shortcuts to properly care for holiday trees and plants.

1. Keep your Christmas tree looking its best by keeping the tree stand filled with water. Make this a daily chore for someone trying to stay on Santa's nice list.

Don't worry if good help is hard to find. Purchase or make your own self-watering device. Use a decorative tin or plastic bucket set in a box and wrapped to hide its presence. Fill it with water and run a piece of plastic tubing from the bucket to the tree stand. Weight each end of the tubing, so it stays at the bottom of the reservoir. Test before leaving town to make sure it is in working order.

2. Add some holiday plants this year. Many studies have shown that indoor plants can boost mood levels, reduce fatigue and even lower stress.

Plus, it's easy to extend the life of your holiday plants. Place them in a cool bright location away from drafts of hot or cold air. Water thoroughly and often enough to keep the soil moist. Pour off any excess water that collects in the saucer, basket or foil wrap to prevent root rot.

Save time and improve your plants growing conditions by placing pebbles in the base of the saucer or foil to elevate the plants above the excess water. As the water evaporates, it increases the humidity around the plants. Or purchase one of the saucer inserts, like rubber grids, that work the same way.

3. Use nature-inspired decorations that provide enjoyment throughout the holiday season and beyond. Colorful stems, white painted allium seed heads and wooden stars can add beauty throughout the holidays and much of the year. Red wood wreaths are festive enough for the holidays and timeless enough to leave hanging on your wall year round. Luminaries can be used to light the entrance to your home or the path to your outdoor living space during warmer months. Use a few roosting pocket bird houses to decorate trees and greenery and then move them outside for the birds. These decorations can provide beauty and enjoyment way beyond the holiday season and remove some of the pressure to take down all of the holiday decorations by a certain date.

4. Spruce up indoor plants with a few holiday flowers, spangles and lights. Place a few cut flowers in floral picks filled with water. Place these in one or more of your houseplants for some seasonal color. Or add one of the miniature poinsettias, kalanchoes or cyclamen to a large planter. Simply sink the flowering plant, pot and all, into your houseplant container. Replace the small flowering plants as they fade or the seasons change.

Add colorful stems, ribbons and winter branch lights to your houseplants and planters for a bit of seasonal sparkle. Branch lights are also a festive way to light an entrance, bathroom, or other out of the way space. Look for lights with timers to extend the life of the batteries and reduce your workload.

5. Increase value and extend enjoyment with gifts that give twice. A tabletop spruce tree, perfect for any size home can add greenery and fragrance long past the holidays. And, once the weather is suitable for planting, move your tree into the garden. Or re-gift it to a friend or relative looking to expand their landscape. Make this a holiday you can relax, enjoy and remember throughout the coming year.

For more gardening tips and information, visit www.melindamyers.com



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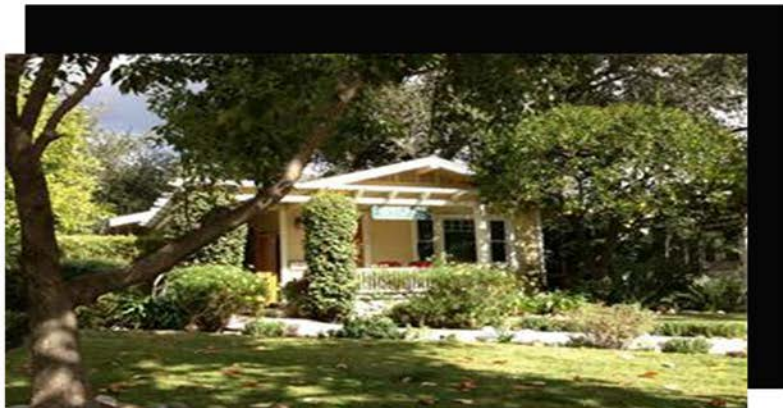
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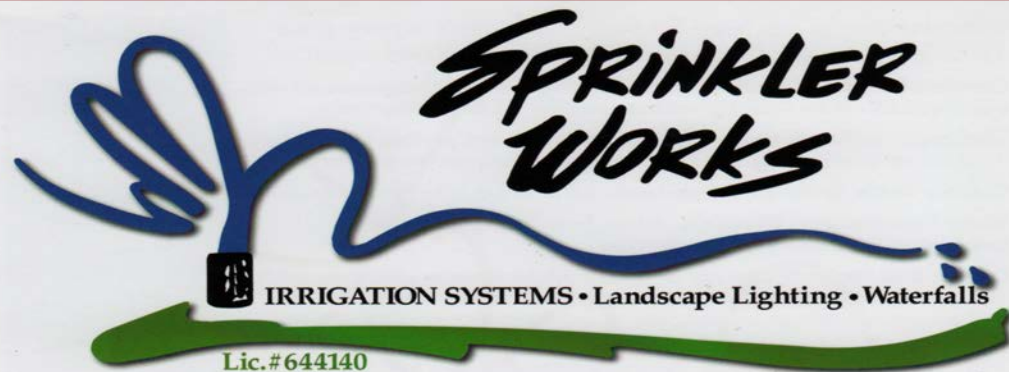
This home is in need of some 2013 pizzazz! The lot is tree lined with mature landscaping. There is a pool in center of yard with a fully permitted over 600 square foot guest house/maybe office! You also have a large garage and a driveway that can hold many cars. The main house is 3 bedroom 2 bath, there are hardwood floors and some vinyl flooring. This would be a great project for the right Buyers!!!

373 W. Sierra Madre Bl. Sierra Madre



\$775,000

Perfect for live work BUYERS!! Zoned Residential Professional! Adorable craftsman type cottage with newly built addition that has 2 master suites and a den (all built in 2007), there is also a 3rd bedroom with a another bath. Porch surrounds the front yard with pretty garden; back yard has private garden setting .



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By Pat Birdsall

CAN SOCIAL SECURITY CHECKS BE GARNISHED?

*Dear Savvy Senior:**I have some outstanding debts and would like to find out if my Social Security checks can be garnished. What can you tell me? Old and Indebt*

Dear Old:

Whether your Social Security benefits are garnishable or not depends on who you owe. Banks and other financial creditors, for example, can't touch your Social Security checks. But if Uncle Sam is collecting on a debt, some of your benefits are fair game. Here's what you should know.

Creditor Protections

If you have credit card debts, medical bills, unpaid personal loans or pay day loans, you'll be happy to know that your Social Security benefits are safe from your creditors (those you owe).

But, be aware that your creditors can still take legal action against you to recover what you owe them, and depending on your state's law, they may be able to garnish your wages and tap into other allowable assets, if you have any. But they can't take the money you receive from Social Security. Nor can they touch Supplemental Security Income (SSI), veterans benefits, federal employee and civil service retirement benefits, and benefits administered by the Railroad Retirement Board Administration.

To ensure your Social Security or other government benefits are protected from creditors, you need to have them direct deposited into your bank account, or to a Direct Express Debit MasterCard account (see godirect.org). Benefits deposited by check into your bank account aren't protected. Also, be sure you don't transfer your benefits to another account, or else the protection is void. And don't have credit cards or other loans at the bank where your benefits are deposited. Money owed to a bank, if it also holds the deposit account, can be frozen.

Government Garnishment

If, however, you owe money to Uncle Sam, it's a very different story. The federal government can garnish a portion of your benefits for repayment of several types of debts, including federal income taxes, federal student loans, child support and alimony, nontax debt owed to other federal agencies, defaulted federal home loans and certain civil penalties. (If you receive SSI, those benefits cannot be garnished under any circumstance.)

How much can actually be garnished depends on what you owe for. If you owe back taxes to the IRS, 15 percent of your Social Security benefits can be taken each month until the debt is paid in full. The government uses the Federal Payment Levy Program to garnish your payments.

If you owe money on a student loan – it doesn't matter how long ago you were in school – the first \$750 of your monthly benefits is off-limits to garnishment. After that, the government can shave off up to 15 percent.

And if you owe past or current child or spousal support you could lose as much as 50 to 65 percent of your benefits. Delinquent child support and alimony cases are processed through the national Court Ordered Garnishment System. In these situations, the maximum reduction to your benefits depends on the state where you live. The garnishment is limited to either the maximum allowed under state law or the maximum under the Consumer Credit Protection Act, or CCPA, whichever is less.

You also need to know that before your Social Security benefits are garnished, you'll receive several letters of notice from the IRS, and be given ample opportunity to make a pay arrangement. If you don't, the agency will start docking your monthly checks.

Get Help

If you believe your accounts are being frozen or garnished improperly, you'll need to seek legal help. The American Bar Association provides links to free and low-cost legal help in your area at findlegal-help.org. Or, call the Eldercare Locator at 800-677-1116 for referrals.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit SavvySenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.



KATIE TseThis and That

REGIFTING --AND OTHER NEFARIOUS CHRISTMAS ACTS

Regifting --it's the sinister snake that slithers around nearly every Christmas. You know it's tacky, yet you build a rationale upon the failing economy and the fact that you've received a bunch of junk that you have no intention of using.

Walking through any store between November and January, you'll find a surplus of pointless items screaming out, "I'm so utterly generic that you could give me to your girlfriend, boss, or nephew!" Typical products include chocolate, popcorn, coffee, tea, and lotion. (Okay, lotion's probably more suited for your female recipients, but it still sends the message, "I have no idea what you are interested in, nor do I care!")

It's easy to be a commonplace regifter, but to tactfully "recycle" your presents, there are a few ground rules.

- 1) Don't regift in the same context. For example, if your coworker gives you a collection of mini coffee bags from Starbucks, you can't regift it to your boss or any of your other coworkers. Despite the multitude of Starbucks' products out there, you can't turn around and give it to someone who might be seen by the person who originally gave it to you.
- 2) Don't regift handmade items. Most of us don't do handwork or "create" any tangible objects using our God-given abilities. Examples of such gifts are knitted things, paintings, drawings, sculpture, and other works of art that take considerable time and skill to create. Anyone who doesn't do handwork cannot appreciate the sweat, time, and concentration that goes into a knitted sweater, crocheted blanket, or sewn quilt. (Okay, you don't have to actually DO these things, but you at least need to know the amount of labor that goes into them.)

Those are the essential rules of polite regifting. But what do you do when you don't know if someone is going to give you a gift? This question becomes particularly critical when you really don't want the other person to feel obligated to give you anything. Therefore, you can't give them something first (because then they'll feel that they have to return the favor). But you must still be ready to present them with a gift if they do give one to you. This presents a quandary. The best solution, I've found, is to have a small stock of items that are appropriate for my friends/relatives/coworkers (see aforementioned list), that are also things I would enjoy using if I never need to actually give them away!

For example, if you like caramel corn or chocolate, have a couple packages ready to give to that unexpected friend if they surprise you by giving you something. That way, you're covering your gift-giving butt without wasting money on things that you'll throw out.

Well, that's all the advice I have for you regarding Christmas shopping. There's only a few weeks until Christmas, so keep calm and carry on. Remember, you can't take care of others if you neglect taking care of yourself. So, buy a few chocolate towers and call it a night.

PASADENA SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE CHANGES HOURS

Since November, the Pasadena Social Security office is open to the public Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. – a reduction of 30 minutes each weekday. In addition, beginning January 2, 2013, the office will close to the public at noon every Wednesday.

Most services do not require a visit. Applying for retirement, disability or Medicare benefits, signing up for direct deposit, replacing a Medicare card, obtaining a proof of income letter or a change of address or telephone number can be done online at www.socialsecurity.gov or by calling 1-800-772-1213. Hearing impaired may call our TTY number, 1-800-325-0778.

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FYI: About the California Telephone Access Program (CTAP)

Every day, specialized California Phones from the California Telephone Access Program (CTAP) enable over half a million Californians to stay connected. There's a phone for every need. **Big Buttons-** It's easier to see these buttons so it's much easier to dial your call. **Amplified-** Enhanced volume control makes it easy to hear almost every word. **Flashing Light-** This phone features a red light that flashes for incoming calls. **Captioned-** Allows you to read incoming conversation in text, plus have a moderately amplified handset to help conversations flow smoothly. **Picture Dial-** It's not always easy to remember a number—but you never forget a face. Speed dialing is a snap with this phone. **Speech Assist-** CTAP offers a range of phones specially designed to address stuttering and other speech related issues.

CTAP is a program of the California Public Utilities Commission Deaf and Disabled Telecommunications program. It is funded by a small surcharge that appears on all telephone bills in California. (CA Relay Service & Communications Devices Fund.) The phones are available to all California residents. Individuals can receive free phone equipment with the certification of a medical doctor, a licensed audiologist, a qualified state agency, or a hearing aid dispenser.

Download an application and fill it out using their web site www.californiaphones.org or call: 1-800-806-1191.



... **There are many spaces left for new plaques at the Veteran's Memorial Wall.** If you or a friend, family member or neighbor served in any of the United States military branches the criteria for inclusion is simple: You must have lived in Sierra Madre for at least one year sometime in your life and have a picture of yourself in uniform. **Please call Dave Loera, Commander of VFW Post 3208, to be included and for more information: (626) 355-3382. We'd be proud to have you!**

You can help: This week the Veteran's group is: **Paralyzed Veterans of America.** For more than 65 years, PVA has been on a mission to change lives and build brighter futures for our seriously injured heroes—to empower these brave men and women with what they need to achieve the things they fought for: freedom and independence. Please visit their website: www.pva.org to see how you can help.

HELPFUL HINT: To easily wipe away soap scum, etc. from your chrome fixtures, simply pour a small amount of rubbing alcohol onto a cleaning cloth or a paper towel and wipe it away, you don't have to apply any pressure. Alcohol kills germs and is streak free. Pretty amazing!

FOR YOUR FUNNY BONE

When Dan found out he was going to inherit a fortune when his sickly father died, he decided he needed a woman to enjoy it with. One evening he went to a singles bar where he spotted the most beautiful woman he had ever seen. She took his breath away. "I may look like an ordinary man," he said as he walked up to her, but in just a week or two, my father will die, and I will inherit 20 million dollars." Impressed, the woman went home with him that evening and three days later, she became his stepmother.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Pat Karamitros, Joan Hufnagel, Marie Pedersen, Mary Alice Cervera, Carole Horejsi, Shirley Anhalt, Mignon Grijalva, Helen Reese, Levon Yapoujian, Toni Buckner, Bonnie Garner, Lottie Bugl, Pat McGuire, Sheila Woehler, Arlie Hahn, Nan Murphy, Eleanor Hensel, Sylvia Curl, Elizabeth Levie and Gayle Licher. *To add your name to this distinguished list, please call the paper at 626.355.2737. YEAR of birth not required.

Quote of the Week: Retirement means no pressure, no stress, no heartache...unless you play golf. ~Gene Perret~

ACTIVITIES: Unless listed differently, all activities are at the Hart Park House (Senior Center) 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre



YMCA San Gabriel Valley Intervale Senior Café:

Monday-Friday at 12:00 Noon

(Participants are urged to arrive no later than 11:45 A.M.)

All seniors 60 and up can take part in the lunch program. There is a suggested donation of \$2.00 for those 60 and over and \$3.75 for non-senior guests. Daily reservations are necessary as space is limited. Please call 24 hours in advance...626.355.0256

Free Blood Pressure Testing: On the 2nd **Tuesday** of the month from 11:00 am-12:00 pm: A nurse from Methodist Hospital, Arcadia volunteers to do the readings. No appointment necessary.

Bingo: Every Tuesday afternoon from 1:00 pm- 3:00 pm Cards are only .25c each!

Free Chair Yoga: Every **Wednesday** morning from 11:00 am-11:45 am. Volunteer Teryl Willis offers this class that focuses on senior yoga techniques. It is geared toward gentle movements, breathing techniques and balance improvement. No reservations are necessary.

Free Legal Consultation: Pasadena attorney Geoffrey Chin volunteers on the 2nd **Wednesday** of the month. He focuses on estate planning, trusts, wills, probate, conservatorships and business law. ***Appointments are a must!** Please call: 626.355.7394 to make yours. ** Conflicting court schedules can occasionally cause cancellations.*

Birthday Celebrations: The 2nd **Thursday** of the month the Senior Center celebrates the birthdays of our patrons at 12:30 pm. Please join us for free cake and ice cream and **"celebration."** (The cakes are provided due to a generous donation from the Sierra Madre Civic Club.)

Game Day: Every Thursday at 1:00pm. Poker is usually the game of choice, or should I say chance? Board games and other card games are also available. Outside, on the patio, a beautiful, one-of-a-kind chess table is anxious for players.

Free Strength Training Class: Every Friday from 1:00 pm -1:45 pm Conducted by long-time volunteer Lisa Brandley. The class utilizes light weights for low-impact resistance training. Weights are provided by the Sierra Madre Senior Center. It's a great way to stay in shape and to socialize with your peers. (Gossip included)

Senior Citizens Club: Every **Saturday**-at the Hart Park House (Senior Center) Brown bag lunch at 11:30am; Club meeting at Noon; Bingo 12:30- 3:30 pm Only .25c per card... For more information call Pat at 626.355.7290

EXCURSION: California Science Center- Cleopatra Exhibit And IMAX Movie (Los Angeles, Ca.)

Date: Friday, December 14, 2012
Departure: 9:00am from the Hart Park House
Lunch and Activities: 10:00am- 2:00pm
Return to Hart Park House: 3:30 pm (time approximate)
Cost: \$32.00 (does not include lunch)

Come discover more than 150 priceless Egyptian artifacts that had been swallowed by the sand and sea after a series of earthquakes and tsunamis nearly 2,000 years ago. The exhibition features colossal statues, jewelry and coins from Cleopatra's lost palace in Alexandria, and reveals the excavation process involved in recovering these hidden treasures. A complimentary audio tour, told in her voice, provides compelling insights into Cleopatra's time.

After the IMAX movie, patrons can either visit the other exhibits or have lunch on your own at the California Science Center. For more information visit their web site: www.californiasciencecenter.org

To make reservations and to get more information call the Park House at (626) 355-7394

Senior Movie Program: Free Movies are shown on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month.

The films, one contemporary and one vintage, are chosen by the seniors themselves. **This month's selections are:**

December 12- White Christmas (1954) An American Holiday musical film starring Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye and Rosemary Clooney. It's about a successful song-and-dance team who become romantically involved with a sister act who team up to save a failing Vermont inn. (Songs by Irving Berlin)

December 26- Mamma Mia (2008) a musical/romantic comedy film adapted from the 1999 Broadway musical of the same name; based on the songs of pop group ABBA. Meryl Streep heads the cast, playing the role of single mother Donna Sheridan. Pierce Brosnan, Colin Firth and Stellan Skarsgard play the three possible fathers to Donna's daughter, Sophie (Amanda Seyfried). **Start time: 1:00 PM** in Sierra Madre's City Council Chambers, 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.

Leonora Moss

9 Kersting Court Sierra Madre, Ca. 91024
626-355-1180

EXTRAORDINARY CUSTOM FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS



Oftentimes we are easily distracted by the latest headline-grabbing cyber threat making the rounds and as a consequence we sometimes overlook the threats that we are most likely to face in our online travels. This is a problem of perception where the threats we think we face turn out to be different from the threats we actually face. For a statistical taste of the real world, here are the three cyberthreats we are most likely to encounter as home users:

1. Socially-Engineered Trojans - Socially-engineered Trojans are the primary method of attack faced by home users. In this instance the home user browses to a trusted website and is prompted to run a program that contains a trojan. Usually the website has also become a victim of foul play and has been temporarily compromised by hackers. The website then tells users they are infected by viruses and need to run fake antivirus software. Also, they're nearly out of free disk space and need a fake disk defrager. Finally, they must install an otherwise unnecessary program, often a fake Adobe Reader or an equally well-known program. The user executes the malware, clicking past browser warnings that the program could possibly be harmful, and the evil deed has been completed. Socially engineered Trojans are responsible for hundreds of millions of successful hacks on home users each year. Against those numbers, all other hacking types are just background noise.

2. Unpatched Software - Coming in a distant second is software with known, but unpatched exploits. The most common unpatched and exploited programs are Java, Adobe Reader, and Adobe Flash. It's been this way for a few years now but programs with auto-load and auto-update features such as these employ are routinely overlooked for updating and as such they've become attractive targets for the bad guys on the internet.

3. Phishing Attacks - Security vendors estimate that upwards of 70% of all email circulating the internet is spam of some form. Anti-spam programs and security measures have made great strides in keeping the worst of it at bay but during that same time frame the bad guys have made tremendous strides in crafting their product. It's often helpful to think of an effective phishing email as a corrupted work of art. On the outside everything looks great. Sometimes the fake email even warns users not to fall for other fraudulent emails. The only thing that gives them away is the rogue link asking for confidential information.

While this short list is by no means exhaustive (or complete) these are the big three that compose the major portion of the serious threats we face as home internet users. Fortunately for us, serious damage from these and other threats online can be avoided by ensuring that your computer is outfitted with the most recent service packs and updates for your operating system and applications. Also ensure that your computers' firewall and anti-virus\anti-malware protection is fully operational and up-to-date. These simple steps will go a long way in keeping the 3 amigos far away from your computer.



BUILDING YOUR CONNECTIONS ON LINKEDIN

LinkedIn is a great place to showcase your professional knowledge and skills.

Some people like to keep their LinkedIn connections to a select few while others want to grow a large network of new people. Sometimes you will see [LION] next to a persons name on LinkedIn. That means they are open to accept networking invites from anyone. LION stands for LinkedIn Open Networker.

I recently read about a tool called TopLinked.com. It helps you build a larger network on LinkedIn and other social media platforms. This could be a good tool for the LIONS who want to give their list a boost. I've heard reports that people get hundreds of invites a day with this tool.

Some of the best networking opportunities on LinkedIn are in the "Groups." There are tons of open groups that you can join. Search for groups in the upper right search tool, just select "groups" from the pull down menu and type in a topic. You can also start private groups. Groups are a great place to find people you want to add as a connection in your LinkedIn network.

The other area I like on Linked in is the "Answers." You can ask a question or answer questions about lots of different topics. This is a great way to build your credibility and establish your expertise.

Participation is the key on LinkedIn. Take a little time to join a group, add your voice to a conversation or answer a question and see what happens.

About MJ: MJ and her brother David own HUTdogs, a creative services business that specializes in Social Media Education for business owners. Join their conversation on Facebook and get good tips and tricks about social media, www.facebook.com/hutdogs. Sign up for their upcoming classes and presentations at: www.hutdogs.com/workshops/schedule

BUSINESS TODAY

The latest on Business News, Trends and Techniques

By La Quetta M. Shamblee, MBA



IMPROVING YOUR ROI

With less than two weeks left until the calendar rolls over to a new year, it is a good time to check the status of your business's ROI. This performance measurement provides feedback that can help you make the adjustments to get off to a great start in 2013.

How profitable is your business? What is your bottomline for 2012 (revenue minus expenses, minus taxes)? What are your total sales for the year? Total expenses? Most importantly, what is the return on your investment (ROI) for the amount of money, time, energy and talent that you have put into your business - in other words how much profit are you making for each dollar of resources that you spend? The ROI is one of the common performance measurements used in business. The formula to calculate ROI is illustrated below:

$$\frac{\text{Total Sales} - \text{Total Expenses}}{\text{Total Expenses}} = \text{ROI}$$

Where is your ROI in comparison to industry standards? Does the return meet your standards? It should be sufficient to covers all expenses and leave enough profit for you to pay yourself, with money left over for savings and investments into your personal coffers.

If you are not able to answer these questions related to your profitability, it is imperative that you take time to put a proper recordkeeping and accounting system in place. A good system will put you in the driver's seat to observe what is happening in your business in real time. The tools needed to establish a good system include a computer, accounting software (i.e. Quickbooks) and a printer. If you don't have the aptitude or the time to master this set of tools, it's a matter of hiring someone with those skills. Minimally, you should learn how to review or generate information on sales and expense activities on a daily or weekly basis. Without the ability to monitor the realtime activities of sales and expenses, it is possible to find that your business has been operating at a loss in the face of having had a steady flow of cash over a period of time. If you are aware of the total number of customers or sales needed to "break even" or that certain services have to be limited due to how they impact your ROI, you can make adjustments or establish policies for your staff to follow.

By developing an understanding of what drives ROI, business owners are better equipped to make decisions about the mix of products, services and business activities that warrant time and energy. You'll be able to determine how to balance the two simultaneous methods of improving your bottom line: 1) By growing revenues, increasing sales by focusing on certain products, seasonal promotions, etc. or 2) By increasing efficiency through cost-cutting measures. Business owners who take time to master business basics like understanding and paying attention to ROI measurements are better positioned to generate impressive bottomlines that reflect healthy profit margins and business operations.

LOOKING FOR THE MOUNTAIN VIEWS NEWS?

Stop by any of the following locations (partial listing) for your copy every Saturday or call 626-355-2737 to sign up for home delivery!

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PUSD LAUNCHES NEW JOB NOTIFICATION SERVICE TEXT PUSDJOBS TO 888777 TO BE INFORMED OF DISTRICT JOB OPENINGS

Pasadena, CA --- The Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) has launched "PUSDJOBS," a texting service that alerts the public of new employment opportunities with PUSD. Prospective employees can text PUSDJOBS to 888777 from their mobile phones to receive a text message alert whenever a position within the district becomes available.

"This new service allows us to instantly reach people who are interested in working for the public schools of Altadena, Pasadena and Sierra Madre," said PUSD Human Resources Chief Yolanda Mendoza. "It brings our employee recruitment into the 21st century and broadens our reach."

Text alerts will include the job description, salary range and a link to an online application with instructions on how to apply.

"In this era of funding cuts, we want to quickly and efficiently reach the maximum number of qualified applicants to work for the success of our students," said Cy Chukwumezie, the director of the PUSD Personnel Commission, which is responsible for the recruitment, selection and placement of classified employees.

PUSDJOBS complements the other text message offerings from PUSD. Residents can opt-in to receive emergency notifications from the district by simply texting the word PUSD to 888777; or, for Spanish language messages, text PUSDES-PANOL to 888777. One can also receive news and information from the district by texting PUSDNEWS to 888777; or, for news and information in Spanish, text PUSDNOTICIAS to 888777.

Standard text messaging rates associated with mobile phone service plans may apply. It is also possible to sign up for the notification service at the PUSD website, www.pusd.us.

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HOWARD Hays As I See It



"If you don't know history, it's as if you were born yesterday. If you were born yesterday, then any leader can tell you anything." - Howard Zinn

Greg Welborn reminded us last week that "History has always been a cruel task master", but I find it a helpful one in not allowing us to become too complacent in rigid ideologies. I was struck by his statement that our current projected annual deficit of \$1 trillion is "without precedent". So – I decided to consult with that "cruel task master" via online data available through the Congressional Budget Office.

It turns out to find such "precedent" you'd have to go all the way back – to the administration of George W. Bush. The 2009 deficit, the last one coming as a product of the Bush years on the heels of the 2008 Wall Street meltdown, came in at \$1.4 trillion. The deficit was reduced \$100 billion to \$1.3 trillion the first year after President Obama's stimulus kicked in, and for 2012 will have come down another \$200 billion to \$1.1 trillion. As a portion of the economy, it will have come down from 10% of GDP for 2009 (the highest since WWII) to 7.3% of GDP this year.

The CBO offers a look at what this "fiscal cliff" is all about. It provides forecasts for if a deal is reached, and if it isn't. Major changes are set to occur come January 1 should nothing happen; the latest extension of the Bush tax cuts is set to expire and taxes will go up for everybody, extensions in unemployment benefits will end, payroll taxes will rise to what they were before, and mandated slashing of both domestic and military spending will take effect.

In case anyone's forgotten their history, this was all the creation of Congressional Republicans – an arrangement they insisted on in return for agreeing not to allow the United States of America to default on its obligations.

According to the CBO, the fiscal cliff would be great for the deficit – shrinking it to \$641 billion for 2013, or 4% of GDP. The problem is what it would do to the economy – bringing another recession, a half-percent drop in GDP, and unemployment hitting 9% by the end of the year. If all the Bush tax cuts were extended and those mandated budget cuts didn't kick in, we'd see a 1.7% growth in GDP and unemployment would stay at 8% - but we'd still be carrying a \$1 trillion deficit.

The President and Congressional Democrats have proposed \$1.6 trillion in revenue increases and \$600 billion in spending cuts to maintain the recovery while reducing the deficit. Republicans have countered that you can't raise taxes on rich people. Democrats have moved to preserve tax cuts for middle- and low-income Americans, along with extending unemployment benefits and providing additional stimulus to put Americans back to work. Republicans have refused to go along, because you can't raise taxes on rich people.

Democrats remind that everybody would get a tax cut; the rate would go up just on those dollars earned above \$250,000 a year (\$200,000 for individuals) by 3-4% - to what it was under President Clinton, when the rich did very well along with everybody else. But Republicans insist you can't raise taxes on rich people.

Mitt Romney argued on the campaign trail that you don't need to raise taxes on anybody; you just fix the problem by trimming deductions and closing loopholes. As for specifics, that's something that can be dealt with next year. Americans heard that argument and rejected it.

Responding to the president's proposals for avoiding the "fiscal cliff", Republicans have come up with a counter-proposal: rather than raising tax rates on anybody, you just fix the problem by trimming deductions and closing loopholes. As for specifics, that's something that can be dealt with next year.

In case that's not enough, Republicans have other ideas – like raising the eligibility age for Medicare, shifting more costs to beneficiaries, limiting cost-of-living increases for Social Security, halting unemployment benefits and allowing payroll taxes to rise. It would be a hard hit on seniors and those struggling to find work and support families - but you can't raise taxes on rich people. The White House responded in a letter to House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH), "Independent analysts who have looked at plans like this one have concluded that middle class taxes will have to go up to pay for lower rates for millionaires and billionaires."

A Washington Post / Pew poll finds the sentiment of the American people to be basically unchanged over the past few weeks; should we all go over that "fiscal cliff", 12% would blame both sides, 27% would blame President Obama, and a majority of 53% would place the blame on Congressional Republicans.

President Obama knows his own history – how early on he'd hoped to reach accommodation with Republicans by proposing a stimulus bill comprised of one-third tax cuts, of basing his healthcare proposal on the private insurance market. According to White House communications director Dan Pfeiffer, "The President is not going to negotiate with himself . . . He's laid out his position, and Republicans have to come to the table."

Some accused the president of having "caved" two years ago in agreeing to extend tax cuts for the top 2% in order to preserve middle-class tax cuts. As part of that deal, though, he also got through a "second stimulus" including a payroll tax cut, child tax credit, additional unemployment insurance and other measures to spur our recovery. Back then, he no doubt foresaw that soon after his reelection, with those mandatory budget cuts and tax hikes for everyone looming on the horizon, he'd have his opportunity to make sure those at the very top were made to share the costs like everyone else.

It's clear our president, in addition to being aware of the history, also keeps a keen eye on the future.

TINA DUPUY 2012s NAUGHTY OR NICE LIST



The Naughty!

Former Director of the CIA, General David Petraeus: And no he doesn't make the list for having an extramarital affair with the co-author of his biography, Paula Broadwell. He makes the naughty list for being head of the CIA and choosing a mistress who clearly cannot keep a secret.

Secessionists: Who likes playing with a loser who flips the chessboard over and stomps out of the room? No one. Meet the current Party of Lincoln; Public Policy Polling (PPP) reported that 25 percent of Republicans want to secede. Let it be said here first: 25 percent of Republicans wish the United States were more like Europe.

Senator John McCain: Hopefully when looking back on John McCain's career we will all focus on his 2008 concession speech and ignore the last four years. He makes my naughty list because he spearheaded a nontroversy campaign to preemptively take down the highly qualified Ambassador Susan Rice for Secretary of State. "Not being very bright," is how McCain described her. Who would McCain like to have as Secretary of State? John Kerry! Why? It would open up a senate seat the Republicans think they can fill with outgoing Senator Scott Brown. Painfully political. Disturbingly cynical. Country, apparently, is no longer first.

Tramplers: Whether it's Black Friday stampedes or a sign-up for a private school that looked like a Running of the Bulls. Bad helicopter parents! Boooo!

Speaker of the House John Boehner: The Wikipedia entry for "Pyrrhic victory" should be the home for Boehner's official Capital Hill portrait. I've personally worn out a keyboard writing about why the 112th Congress is the worst in the history of the concept of worst. Under Boehner's leadership the House has done nothing but re-name post offices, have approval ratings on par with ringworm and go on TV opining the president isn't trying to get along with them. Now they're, basically, promising (threatening) to do the same for the next two years. If we want to cut government waste – start with Boehner's paycheck.

The Nice!

Hurricane Sandy volunteers/victims: New Yorkers didn't really need to come together. They live together already. But they helped out their neighbors and the fallout from this Super Storm could have been much worse. Natural disasters can bring out the best and the worst. In the states hit directly by Sandy, with few exceptions, it was the best.

Candy Crowley: Fact checking a presidential candidate live in front of 40 million Americans takes two things: courage and being correct. At the second presidential debate, Mitt Romney declared President Obama took 14 days to say the word "terror" in regards to the attack on our embassy in Benghazi on September 11th of this year. There's a transcript and a video from the Rose Garden the next morning proving otherwise. Crowley set the record straight. And to all those who know the facts, I say: "Can you say that a little louder?"

Newark Mayor Cory Booker: The problem with Cory Booker is that as far as public servants go, he's the exception and not the rule. Yes, Booker went into a burning building to save a constituent. Yes, he expedites Newarkers' issues on Twitter. But also this year he went on a food stamp diet of \$4 a day for a week. Does your mayor do that? They should!

New York Times Blogger Nate Silver: He makes the nice list for putting the sexy back in statistics! It's not just that Mr. Silver (swoon) got the election right; it's that he's a gracious host navigating us through the deluge of data we're subjected to. He showed us science and math have a place in politics and sometimes that place is in the crosshairs of the conservative media complex.

My readers: Yes, I'm sucking up to all who read my column every week. But specifically the ones who read my 600-word pontifications on a regular basis and let me know (sometimes quite sweetly) they never agree with me. It's you who are on my nice list. You're what is cool about public discourse. And I thank you.

Tina Dupuy is an award-winning writer and the editor-in-chief of TheContributor.com. Tina can be reached at tinadupuy@yahoo.com.

WHERE HAVE ALL THE RICH FOLK GONE? GREG Welborn



With apologies to Peter, Paul and Mary, "Where have all the rich folk gone, long time passing? Where have all the rich folk gone, long time ago? Where have all the rich folk gone? Gone to hiding everyone. When will they ever learn? When will they ever learn?" I could probably keep writing new verses for this popular old ballad, but you get the picture. If we're going to tax the rich, it assumes that the rich stay around long enough to be taxed. Turns out that this is a pretty wild assumption, and the latest bit of evidence exposing just how unrealistic the assumption is comes from not-so-jolly old England.

Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs Service (the English always have better names; the IRS just doesn't sound as high brow) just reported on tax collections for the 2011 fiscal year. This was the year when Britain's new 50% millionaires' income tax rate kicked in. The new rate represented a 25% increase from the previous rate and was supposed to generate a substantial amount of increased revenue for the cash-strapped British government. Apparently Americans and Greeks aren't the only governments which spend more than they earn. Tax revenues were expected to increase by £2.5 billion, which would have only gone a small way towards fixing Britain's problems in any event.

Funny thing happened. Not only did tax revenues fail to increase as projected, they actually decreased, and they decreased substantially. Base line revenues from millionaires for the previous year were £13.4 billion, and the new tax rate was supposed to take them to £15.9 billion; instead, they dropped to £6.5 billion. The simple act of increasing taxes on "the rich" from 40% to 50% caused tax revenues from the rich to drop by 52%.

The naïve among the British media seem to believe that there has been a tidal wave of emigration. It seems that the total number of millionaires filing taxes in Britain dropped from 16,000 filers (when the tax rate was 40%) to 6,000 filers (when the tax rate was 50%). The simple truth is that the vast majority of the people who were millionaires one year have simply chosen not to be millionaires the next year. The ability of successful people to choose whether to make money or not is the single most important aspect of this issue that liberals politicians fail to grasp.

The most illuminating explanation of this I have ever heard goes something like this. "If the government tells people that they will be taxed 100% on whatever they earn on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, but only 25% on what they earn on Tuesday and Thursday, what do you think most people will do?" The answer is obvious: people will work very hard, indeed, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, but they won't even go to work on the other three days. It's not rocket science. It's common sense!

Tax rates do influence behavior. And the wealthier a person is the greater freedom the person has to invest his money and earn a profit, or to not invest his money and not earn a profit. Someone earning minimum wage who has to pay the rent and put food on the family table probably doesn't have much freedom to skip a day of work. But someone who's making \$250,000 (the threshold Obama wants to use to punish "the rich") can probably take some more time off if he's getting taxed too much. And the person who's making \$1 million has even more freedom.

Beyond the revenue issue, raising taxes on the rich is devastating for the economy as a whole. Anyone who wants to start a business or to get a loan for an existing small business is absolutely dependent on "the rich" being willing to invest in small businesses or to put their money into banks which in turn lend it out. Investments and loans to small businesses and start ups are among the riskiest and thus demand higher potential returns or interest rates to convince "the rich" to make the investment. Several studies have shown that when tax rates are raised on "the rich", they first cut back on their riskiest investments. After all, the riskier investment is likely to be the one that, if successful, earns the most money. But if "the rich" don't get to keep the extra money they make from taking on the extra risk, they'll simply stop taking on the extra risk. If Obama gets his way, we shouldn't be surprised to see the level of new business start-ups decrease and the growth rate of existing small businesses decline.

It may sound awfully satisfying to those who are envious or jealous of "the rich" to talk about taxing them more or making them pay their fair share, but the reality is, as Britain has just witnessed, that bad policies like this generate bad consequences. There is simply no way on earth to cover the U.S.'s \$1 trillion deficit by taxing "the rich" any more than Britain could cover their billion pound deficits by doing it. "The rich" just don't stick around long enough to get stuck.

About the author: Gregory J. Welborn is a freelance writer and has spoken to several civic and religious organizations on cultural and moral issues. He lives in the Pasadena area with his wife and 3 children and is active in the community. He can be reached at gregwelborn2@gmail.com



'TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE FISCAL CLIFF By Nick Thomas

'Twas the night before Fiscal Cliff, and throughout the land,
Democrats, Republicans were taking a stand.
Their positions unwavering, intractably firm,
With donkey-like stubbornness or entrenched pachyderm.

But the public were hopeful all snug in their beds,
With visions of compromise alive in their heads.
"Come on!" said the people in frustrated dismay.
"Abandon this meaningless partisan fray."

When Obama and Boehner finally met,
Their first thoughts were not of a country in debt.
And Obama, the chief, said to Boehner "Oh crap!
I'd rather depart for a nice winter's nap."

"I know," sighed Boehner "I've plenty to do,
Was planning to take a vacation or two."
"Never mind," said the Prez, "we'll just keep delaying.
Who cares what the grumbling public are saying."

But out in the blogosphere there arose such a clatter,
The people revolted, resolving this matter:
"There's only one way to deal with such fools
Obama and Boehner must settle by duel."

"No way!" said Obama, "I'm renowned for my peace.
"With a medal of proof on my lounge mantlepiece."
"I agree" cried Boehner, not eager to battle,
And caught the first plane heading out to Seattle.

"Come back," yelled the people, "we demand this by right,
You've had chances to talk, now you settle this fight."
But the pair, reunited, were far from impressed,
As the thought of a duel made them rather depressed.

As he pondered alternative White House residents,
Obama now saw why we have the vice presidents.
Quick thinking, as always, to Biden he beckoned,
"Get over here Joe, and I'll make you my second."

"Now Joe I expect you'll appear around dawn,
To face off with Boehner on the White House's lawn."
"Yeah right!" smiled old Joe, "Would love to assist,
I ain't packing no pistol – what if I missed?"

And then, in a twinkling, Obama's next step,
Was to call up more buddies, to be his next rep.
"Now Pelosi! Now Clinton! Now Durbin and Reid!
But all vanished from Washington with notable speed.

"Oh dear," mused Obama, "now what shall I do?"
So he phoned up Boehner for a quick rendezvous.
"My friend, we are beaten, let's abandon aggression"
"Agreed," said the Speaker, "it's time for concession."

So they sprang into action, both recommending, Adding some taxes and cutting some spending.
Then I heard them exclaim, "We've reached a consensus!
Good-bye Fiscal Cliff, we've come to our senses."

Mountain Views News

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Mountain Views News Mission Statement

The traditions of community newspapers 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.

HAIL Hamilton My Turn



HARD TIMES AHEAD FOR GOVERNMENT PENSIONERS

What sad times we live in. My pension as a teacher has been funded largely by me. I put in my money, year after year. It is true my school district matched these funds, but at a cost to me of a lower salary. These funds were supposedly wisely invested by the California Teachers Retirement System (CalSTRS) and are now waiting to pay me when I retire. Other public employees pay into California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS).

Private sector employees mostly chose to stick their money into Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs). Often, but not always, a private sector employee's contribution to these IRAs is matched by the employer.

Same deal. Right? Well, not exactly. IRA income results are not guaranteed, pensions are. This means private sector workers are being forced to "bet" their retirement on the performance of the stock market, since IRAs are bundled and traded like any other security. This is like a crap shoot. If the IRA's manager picks a bad mutual fund, you get to eat dog food the rest of your life.

Cutting pensions is corrupt; it is outright theft. These funds look like public money. Not so. Pensions are a contractual promise to many people who worked many years while saving their money for their retirement. Isn't that the responsible thing to do?

Although pension funds are also invested in the stock market, cutting public pensions is illegal, since public pension levels are guaranteed by contractual agreements made through the collective bargaining process.

So why then, would you think these "public pension" funds are up for grabs by politicians trying to offset their spending binge this last decade?

The simple answer is that they can, and that they have ample precedent to do so. The government has been spending your social security money (I say yours, because teachers see very little of "their" Social Security because of a statutory offset for receiving CalSTRS benefits) ever since LBJ did it first in 1965 to help pay for the Vietnam War. This fiscal sleight of hand has been used by every president since then.

Currently the federal government owes the Social Security Fund \$2.6 trillion. All of you who complain that you paid into the system need to face up to the fact that while you were enjoying your inflated salaries and bragging about your expensive homes and cars, you forgot your duty, your responsibility to protest this ongoing theft over the last 40 years.

Don't think you can protest now -- you long-ago lost that right, and the current police state, which has been created as a result of the Patriot Act and supported with its corporate media lackeys, is armed to the teeth and ready. You will simply be labeled in the press as a bunch disgruntled gray-haired domestic terrorists.

Now, getting your checks will not be a problem, but when this third financial bubble bursts and inflation kicks in, your "money" is not going to buy much. After awhile, it might not even feed you. There's no point in blaming the grocery store or "those damn foreigners". For some unknown reason, people do not understand that rising prices are a result of, a symptom of - not the cause of - inflation. The government is certainly not going to admit any wrongdoing, and sadly, most of the public will continue to believe them.

Our financial system is broken, and the troubles we are having, like a few bankrupt cities and these beginning pension cuts, are only the first falling bricks and shingles. In most cases, the cost of shoring up underfunded or poorly managed retirement funds is going slowly. In many states, like California, benefits are guaranteed and difficult to modify. Because of the guaranteed nature of benefits, there is no quick fix.

But the answer isn't demonizing government pensioners. Steven Kreisberg, collective bargaining director at the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, the nation's biggest public-sector union, says pension problems were caused by investment losses that can be gradually recovered, rather than due to overly rich benefits. "When you lose 20% of your assets in a single year that's what caused the problem."

No matter what the cause - corporate theft, poor funds management or stock market fluctuations - the coming loss of "guaranteed retirement income" is going to hit all government pensioners. Be aware, and be prepared ...

RICH Johnson



THE END OF THE WORLD, PART TWO

Well, here we are knee deep in December again. It seems like it wasn't but a year ago that we were in December. Does time travel faster the older you get? It seems like it to me.

This could be my second to last column for the newspaper. No, I'm not unhappy with anybody. But, if the world ends Friday, December 21st that's it. I'm not doing any more columns.

It seems this is believed to be the end date of a 5,125 year cycle known as the Mesoamerican Long Count calendar. The Mayans (Is that anything like Presbyterian?) were one of the many Pre-Columbian Mesoamerican cultures that used this calendar. I guess the Mayans had a better PR firm then those other cultures so they get the credit for this coming armageddon.

So what is going to happen? Some suggest there will be a combined gravitational effect between our Sun and the super massive black hole at the center of our galaxy (known affectionately as Sagittarius A*) Apparently this already happened once in 1998 but I guess it didn't take. At least I didn't notice the world ending in 1998. Some say it happens every 26 million years. I guess it's just our bad luck.

Just maybe the end will come because hundreds of thousands of websites have been posted on the subject of the end of the world. Maybe the internet will explode and for most of us in 2012 that would be cataclysmic. Maybe all the iPhones and Android phones are programmed to melt down on December 21st. If the world doesn't end on that day, but if I have to live without my iPhone it will seem like the end of the world.

I asked my son about the Mayan end of the world prediction and he said he it was too bad the Ancient Mayans could predict the end of the world but couldn't foresee the coming Spanish invasion.

Could an event that took place on December 21st be triggering the upcoming catastrophe?

1620 The Pilgrims land at Plymouth Rock on this day

1913 The first Crossword Puzzle is printed in the New York World

1937 Snow White and the Seven Dwarves premiers in Hollywood

Or could the coming cataclysm be the result of the birth of someone on December 21?

Phil Donahue, Jane Fonda, Samuel L. Jackson, Ray Romano, Kiefer Sutherland, Josef Stalin.

AHA! I've have discovered what may be the key to the end of the world. A simple, ordinary birth (Don't forget that 2,000 years ago a single birth changed the world).

Seventy-two years ago a child was born in Baltimore to Italian parents. The child, a boy, was sickly as a youngster. In fact, a doctor treated him by inserting a pellet of radium into each of his nostrils. And he was never the same. It somehow all makes sense now. That child....?

FRANK ZAPPA

I guess this explains it all.

We'd like to hear from you!



What's on YOUR Mind?

Contact us at: editor@mtnviewsnews.com or www.facebook.com/mountainviewsnews AND Twitter: @mtnviewsnews



STUART Tolchin.....On LIFE WEALTH AND VALUE



I really want this article to be positive and under present circumstances this is not an easy thing to accomplish. No, it's not because the

Lakers blew a huge fourth quarter lead, but perhaps it is a bit connected. I watched the game with my son, Aaron and acted as if I was a radio announcer trying to engage him in the game as much as possible. Perhaps some of you invisible and unknown, but I hope devoted, readers will remember a couple of years ago when Aaron, an adult disabled person, suffered almost the entire loss of vision in one eye. I started one article with the words "Information, information" which is what I thought the Chinese born and heavily accented eye surgeon was saying to me as he examined the eye. "What information; what else do you need to know?" was the best I could do. Of course it turned out that the doctor was not saying "information" but was saying "INFLAMATION, INFLAMATION" as he examined my son's eye. Eventually, after the three operations surgery saved most of Aaron's vision in his right eye but left him only with pin-point vision in his left eye.

Now, about two years later it is November 28th and it is my son and daughter's birthday. They are not twins but are born two years apart which always seems like some joke awaiting a punch line. This year, on her birthday my daughter was suffering from pink eye and my wife, son, and I were careful to keep our distance. Aaron, however, began to complain about some sort of shadow in the corner of his right eye—his good eye. At first I thought it was all psychosomatic, as frankly my own eye was sort of itching. Luckily that night Aaron decided to stay overnight because he didn't want to drive home in the dark.

At about 9:30 he began to complain again about the shadow and I became concerned. Something told me I had to do something right now and I told my wife we had to do contact somebody. Who you gonna call - the eye clinic is closed until tomorrow morning. I recalled that one of the first doctors who examined my son at Kaiser, a doctor who also had a disabled son, had given us his home number and told us it was all right for us to call in an emergency. This was two years before, but through some heroic searching my wife was able

to find the home number and we called. The doctor was very considerate and told us to come into the eye clinic at 7:30 a.m. and that he would personally examine my son. We brought him in, the doctor examined him and said "If you waited another 24 hours he would have lost all sight."

This condition, retinal detachment, required another kind of specialist who could perform the necessary procedure. Sometime later a retinal surgeon appeared and examined Aaron while asking him to position his eyes in certain ways. The doctor explained that because Aaron could not comply with these difficult directions it would not be possible to use a laser technique or a freezing technique and a different procedure would have to be followed. The procedure to be used was to remove the liquid from the eye and insert a gas bubble. After the operation the patient, Aaron, would be required to keep his head down for two weeks which would allow gravity to assist the retina in reattaching properly and the scaring process would seal the hole.

The operation took place on the very same day. It is now three days later and Aaron is sleeping on his stomach and keeping his head down as best as he can. His eye is presently not functioning but the Doctor told us that the operation went well and vision would return in a couple of weeks. Aaron has asked me one time if he would be able to see and I told him he would. He believed me and I believed me and that is a very good sign.

Now for the positive part of the column. I am uncomfortable in saying I feel blessed, as if I am defaming my life-long atheism. Let's just say that I feel incredibly fortunate that I live in a Country that makes medical care available in such a rapid and expert fashion. I feel so lucky that the Doctor had given us his home number. Most amazingly, I am constantly awed by the loving presence and ability of my wife, who acts as a round the clock nursemaid and eye drop applicator. Let us be truthful. I COULD NOT DO IT.

Finally, I am proud of my son's courage and strength. What my son and my wife have given to me and to each other is of a value beyond money. I am optimistic that the operation will be successful but I have already learned something important about values and wealth. I am a very rich man.

OUT TO PASTOR

A Weekly Religion Column by Rev. James Snyder



WHAT HOLIDAY DOES A HOLIDAY TREE CELEBRATE?

I will confess right up front to a certain degree of confusion. The Gracious Mistress of the Parson-

age will corroborate this confession. So many things confuse me; I am not sure where to begin, and once I begin, where in the world will it stop?

I have been married for over 41 years but I must confess, not to the same woman. Oh yes, it is the same woman with the same name but it is not the same woman I married 41 years ago. Where is that young woman I married?

When first married, I thought I knew everything there was to know about women and wives in particular. I do not know if it is the ensuing years but I am rather confused about this whole matter of being married. I suppose that is the mystery of romance. If you ever figure it out it loses its charm. Romance without charm is just an old man and an old woman who have lived together for 41 years.

That is just one area of confusion. I harbor no aspiration of unconfusing my level of confusion in that area. There are other areas I could work on that might be a little more productive in this regard.

An area particularly that has me greatly confused is the Christmas season with all the Christmas decorations including the ominous Christmas tree. Oh, how I love that old Christmas tree and decorating it and celebrating the whole Christmas spirit.

What has been confusing me for the last several years is this uncertainty about the season. Some people do not want to call it the Christmas season; rather they refer to it as the holiday season. What I want to know is, what holiday are we celebrating in December?

I know the holiday we celebrate in November, and the other holidays sprinkled throughout the year.

In July, for example, nobody calls it a "holiday parade." It is the Fourth of July parade, for Pete's sake! In February, nobody calls it a "holiday banquet." It is a Valentine's banquet.

Just so everybody knows, nobody will catch me singing a "holiday carol."

I suppose with all the holidays in this country throughout the year it would be simpler just to call everything a "holiday." That would simplify things and help those who cannot keep up with the calendar. I am all for that.

It seems the only squabbling that goes on is during the month of December. Actually, the squabbling begins before our turkey dinner has finished digesting. Maybe some people get too much turkey in their system and it clouds their thinking. All they have to do is squabble about something and so the only thing in front of them is the Christmas season. I get that.

What I do not get is the level of anger directed in this direction. It would seem that the Christmas season offers a huge threat to our society. We cannot call our Christmas tree a Christmas tree; it has to be called a holiday tree. Everybody knows, the word "Christmas tree" is some kind of code inviting disaster on our society. I have never heard anybody define or describe what that disaster would look like.

What amazes me is simply that this is a huge issue in some people's minds. Nothing is more dangerous to society than this.

The word "Christmas" carries with it more danger to our society than the ominous financial cliff we are facing, the threat of terrorism in our own country and Lindsay Lohan at 4 AM.

What is more confusing to me is that these people who are trying to protect our society from anything religious wants to substitute the word "Christmas" for the word "holiday." It just shows the level of education in our country has not kept up with the times.

I know it has been a long time since I have been in school, but I do know that certain words have certain definitions. Do the people who object to anything religious understand that the word holiday comes from the phrase "holy day?"

I am not a PhD but I do know that the phrase "holy day" has religious roots.

So, I am really confused along this line. On the one hand, we are not to use the word "Christmas" because of its religious connotations. At the same time, we are supposed to use the word "holiday" which in every dictionary in the land means "holy day."

I could be corrected along this line, but in my thinking the phrase, "holy day" has some very distinct religious roots. When I hear somebody complaining along this line, and they do it so vehemently, I have a question as to their sanity. It does not make sense to me.

Christmas is a holy day but we are not allowed to think of it as a holy day just use the term "holiday." Now I am really confused. Is it a holiday or a holy day? Is it sacred or is it secular? What holiday does a holiday tree really celebrate?

I like what the apostle Paul wrote, "Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the Sabbath days" (Colossians 2:16 KJV).

I will not allow any man's objections affect my celebration of the Christmas season. To quote from a great secular classic, "God bless us, everyone."

Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, PO Box 831313, Ocala, FL 34483. He lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. e-mail jamesnsnyder2@att.net. His web site is www.jamesnsnyderministries.com <http://www.jamesnsnyderministries.com>

with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 11/08/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Nov. 17, 24, Dec. 1, 8, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2012-205050
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: MR. DOG CATERING, 11014 COOLHURST DR., WHITTIER, CA 90606. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) MARCO PEREZ, 11014 COOLHURTS DR., WHITTIER, CA 90606. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: MARCO PEREZ. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 10/15/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Nov. 10, 17, 24, Dec. 1, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2012-224280
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: NEW CALIFORNIA; NEW CALIFORNIA BARBERSHOP; NEW CALIFORNIA GENERAL STORE; NEW CALIFORNIA GROCERY; NEW CALIFORNIA VINTAGE, 2203 SUNSET BLVD., L.A., CA 90026. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) NEW CALIFORNIA, LLC, 2203 SUNSET BLVD., L.A., CA 90026. This Business is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. Signed: BRIAN GIGLIUS. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 11/08/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact

business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Nov. 17, 24, Dec. 1, 8, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2012-222578
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: PIN UP PARTS; DENMARK DISTRIBUTIONS, 1027 N. IDYLLWILD AVE., RIALTO, CA 92376. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) MANUEL CASAS, 1027 N. IDYLLWILD AVE., RIALTO, CA 92376. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: MANUEL CASAS. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 11/07/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Nov. 17, 24, Dec. 1, 8, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2012-224201
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: R.P. MATEOS, 9040 TELEGRAPH RD. #306, DOWNEY, CA 90240. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) VICTOR P. MATEOS; LUCILA MATEOS, 206 E. 85th ST., L.A., CA 90003. This Business is conducted by: HUSBAND and WIFE. Signed: VICTOR P. MATEOS. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 11/08/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2012-223082
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SCM LEGAL NURSE CONSULTING & ASSOCIATES, 32 SKYLINE AVE., PHILLIPS RANCH, CA 91766. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) SHEMAKA CARTER-MITCHELL, 32 SKYLINE LANE, PHILLIPS RANCH, CA 91766. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: SHEMAKA CARTER-MITCHELL. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 11/07/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Nov. 17, 24, Dec. 1, 8, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2012-221167
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SILVA INVESTMENTS, 6532 EASTERN AVE., BELL GARDENS, CA 90201. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) LIBRADA SILVA, 6532 EASTERN AVE., BELL GARDENS, CA 90201. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) SHERI LYNN GONZALEZ, 134 E. THIRD ST., SAN DIMAS, CA 91773. This Business is conducted by: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. Signed: LIBRADA SILVA. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 11/05/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2012-221701
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: STONZ COLD TOBACCO, 1961 E. IMPERIAL HWY. #2, L.A., CA 90059. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) ROATCHE L. MARTIS, 1691 E. IMPERIAL HWY. #2, L.A., CA 90059. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ROATCHE L. MARTIS. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 11/06/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Nov. 17, 24, Dec. 1, 8, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2012-219270
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: TRINITY PROFESSIONAL LEGAL SERVICES, 134 E. THIRD ST., SAN DIMAS, CA 91773. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) SHERI LYNN GONZALEZ, 134 E. THIRD ST., SAN DIMAS, CA 91773. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: SHERI LYNN GONZALEZ. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 11/02/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business

and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Nov. 17, 24, Dec. 1, 8, 2012

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 2012-220954
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: USASIA TRAVEL & SERVICES, 1025 S. SAN GABRIEL STE. B, SAN GABRIEL, CA 91776. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) JIMMY MING HUANG, 320 HILLARD AVE., MONTEREY PARK, CA 91754. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: JIMMY MING HUANG. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 11/05/12. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious Business Name Statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the County Clerk. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. Business and Professions Code)Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Nov. 17, 24, Dec. 1, 8, 2012

FILE NO. 2012-221280
STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name: BES TRUCKING COMPANY, 9627 S. DENKER AVE., L.A., CA 90047. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 05/18/2012, in the county of Los Angeles. The original file number of 2012097064. The business was conducted by: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 11/06/2012. The business information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) SIGNED: ROBERT JACKSON/GEN PARTNERSHIP. Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Nov. 17, 24, Dec. 1, 8, 2012

FILE NO. 2012-219463
STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name: CO-Z HOME FURNISHING, 641 N. WESTERN AVE., L.A.,

CA 90004. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 10/19/2012, in the county of Los Angeles. The original file number of 2012209619. The business was conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 11/02/2012. The business information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) SIGNED: HUNG DUONG/OWNER. Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Nov. 17, 24, Dec. 1, 8, 2012

FILE NO. 2012-222617
STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name: J LOPEZ TRUCKING, 13902 RUTH ST., LA PUENTE, CA 91746. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 11/26/2007, in the county of Los Angeles. The original file number of 2012222618. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 11/07/2012. The business information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) SIGNED: LOPEZ GEORGE/OWNER. Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Nov. 17, 24, Dec. 1, 8, 2012

FILE NO. 2012-218885
STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
The following person(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name: UNIVERSAL COLLISION CENTER; UNIVERSAL AUTO SALES, 17721 SHERMAN WAY BL., RESEDA, CA 91335. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed on 08/27/2012, in the county of Los Angeles. The original file number of 2012172342. The business was conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 11/02/2012. The business information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime.) SIGNED: PETROS FICHDZHVAN/OWNER. Publish: Mountain Views News Dates Pub: Nov. 17, 24, Dec. 1, 8, 2012



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