

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2017

VOLUME 11 NO. 51

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM ALL OF US TO ALL OF YOU



Artist Sonny Salsbury created this painting depicting *The Osti Christmas Decorations*. Salsbury is also a Grammy nominated musician who was born in Pasadena. He is the brother of Judith Brandley, owner of Leonora Moss in Sierra Madre. His holiday artwork has been on the cover of every Christmas Edition of this paper.

## ANGELS OF THE ARENA

It was a season of celebration in Rome: only a year earlier in 403 A.D., the Roman Empire had battled the determined army of the Visigoths, who had surprised Emperor Honorius by surrounding his position. In a cleverly planned counter attack, Stilico, the man who historian Edward Gibbon described as “the last of the Roman generals,” would come to the Emperor’s rescue, and drive the Visigoths out. Over the ensuing year, the Visigoths were steadily forced from the empire of Italy onto that place where they were powerless to threaten Rome.

The vanquishing of the Visigoths would usher in the desire of a grand celebration in Rome.

Among this triumphant euphoria of the nation, there appeared a citizen of a different sort. Rome welcomed people from every place of the world, but one man was entirely different. The eyes of the city observantly watched, as the man stoically ambled over the ancient stone-paved rocks of their streets. He paused for a moment to admire a fruit he had never encountered before, and it was there, that an inquiring merchant of the marketplace asked: “What business do you have with Rome?”

As strange as it might seem, the man named Telemachus, was powerless to answer the question; unable to explain the compelling impulse that had brought him to their city. His long journey of many weeks had taken him through the tiny town of Bethlehem on the day of Christmas. It was unseasonably warm, as he went out on that Christmas night to those famous fields where shepherds still gathered their sheep. He took to the highest hill to stare at stars that held the memories of a million nights, and even those of world’s first Christmas. The spirit of that Christmas night is what Telemachus carried into the ancient city of Rome that New Year’s Day in 404 A.D.

Telemachus’ existence was of prayerful seclusion, and he was completely content to remain apart from the world, until the extraordinary occurrence of celestial strength began to penetrate his domain. These occurrences began with visions of Rome, and in time, the visions dominated his dreams. These true-to-life dreams commenced in different ways, but they always ended with Telemachus entering the gates of the great city. He dared not tell anyone of this dramatic theatre of thought, but his dreams began dreams, and even the conversations that bandied about the mouth of strangers would ultimately contain their assorted references of Rome.

Telemachus purposely avoided mentioning the city’s name, or suggesting any idea that might raise the name of Rome to someone’s lips, but the more desirous Telemachus became of liberating Rome from his mind, the more stubbornly did the name surface. Telemachus’ wisdom judged that he was powerless to suppress the wind or change the direction of the sea, and being a monk of keen eyes and alert ears, he obediently harkened to the hints of Heaven and started toward Rome.

The whole of Rome closed for the New Year’s celebration, as the gladiator games became the focus of city’s attention. The air of the colosseum was sweetened in the steam-inspired scents of wine, saffron and spices. The sun of that afternoon burned with particular glory, causing the silver sand of the colosseum floor to glow in the brilliant beauty of a diamond.

Telemachus watched as the people entering the stadium, and he encountered the boisterous roar of the crowd as he passed through its gate. It was then that he look down from the top of the arena to see two gladiators wielding their swords in the great game of death, he screamed at the top of his lungs “Stop!” It was a useless command as the mighty cheers of

ANGELS continued on Page 2

## CITY CLERK RESIGNS

Melinda Carillo, Sierra Madre City Clerk who was elected in 2016, has resigned. Carillo submitted her letter of resignation to the council on Friday, alleging, “the lack of honest communication, collaboration and support I have experienced as City Clerk from City Staff and Council has required me to evaluate my position as City Clerk.”



Most notably, Carillo expresses dissatisfaction with the compensation for the position. Specifically, her letter indicates her displeasure with the council’s decision to eliminate additional compensation for the City Clerk to handle the upcoming 2018 and future elections.

In November, the council unanimously voted to follow the model of other cities with an elected City Clerk where the elected official handles those duties required by law, but election activities are handled by the election consultant and city staff. By so doing, the city will save \$7,500 per year. (<http://mtnviewsnews.com/v11/hm/n48/index.htm>).

There have also been questions about Carillo’s performance. Council minutes are not up to date and available to the public as required. According to the City’s online access, the last minutes available to the public are from October 24, 2017. At that meeting, the council approved minutes from two September meetings. At the time of her resignation, minutes for the last 3 council meetings were not available online and had not gone to the council for approval.

In November, Mayor Arizmendi questioned why a key election deadline had been missed. On November 2nd, the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk sent to Carillo a request for “pertinent information necessary to properly schedule and initiate your City’s General Municipal Election to be held on April 10, 2018” with a deadline for a response by November 16, 2017. According to sources, after the county did not receive a response from the City Clerk, contact was made with the City Manager’s office and city staff completed the questionnaire and submitted it to the county to avoid Sierra Madre’s election not being scheduled. In her letter, Carillo denies missing the deadline but emails from the Elections Coordination Division contradict Carillo’s account.

The resignation letter also criticizes the city council for not reviewing the election fee issue with her in private rather than at an open city council meeting. If the council had done so it would have been in violation of the Brown Act.

This is the first time for as far back as anyone can remember that an elected City Clerk in Sierra Madre has resigned from office. When Mayor Rachelle Arizmendi was asked about a replacement for Carillo and the process, Arizmendi said, “it is the responsibility of the council to act in a manner that does not adversely impact the upcoming election” and she plans to do so. Specifics on what will be done were not available, however at press time. Arizmendi did state that no city staff would be working at polling places or in any election capacity that might compromise the integrity of the election.

The Sierra Madre Municipal election is scheduled for April 10, 2018. There will be three council seats open and two ballot measures for residents to consider. S. Henderson/MVNews

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## REMEMBRANCE EUNICE LESTER BANIS

Born to loving parents, Daniel David and Arrie Deloach on July 7, 1924, Eunice Lester Banis arrived in Savannah, Georgia as our country was celebrating the Roaring 20s, an era of independent self expression. Eunice was certainly destined to be a strongly independent person.

Eunice spent her early years as a proper southern girl attending local schools and training in classical piano and later organ. She taught piano lessons as a young adult but this ended abruptly upon meeting a handsome Army Air Corp pilot at a USO Halloween dance in town. Joseph Banis swept her off her feet (even though he was a “Yankee”!!) and the two were wed the following January 6th. She was widely known for her annual January 6th Open House, which celebrated their anniversary and The Feast of the Three Kings/Epiphany!

Eunice and husband, Joe, welcomed 6 children through the years. Eunice was a “Tiger Mom” way before that term was in use. She firmly insisted that each child be/achieve their very best! Education was a priority and the best medical care was

obtained at any cost. Moral training and living choices were imperatives with Eunice! She always bragged about her children’s successes to all.

Eunice and Joe moved to Sierra Madre in 1965. Eunice was known in the family and community as a unique personality and active person. She drove a motor scooter well into her seventies. When not driving herself, she would hop on the back of a “real” motorcycle with pop or one of the boys. She swam every day at the Sierra Madre pool until around 10 years ago and continued weekly swims at the Y until 5 years ago. She enjoyed her last swims on her 93rd birthday and other days this past hot summer.

Eunice loved her Sierra Madre community and greeted friends daily in town, at church and at events, concerts and meetings. She played piano/organ for St. Rita’s 7:30am Sunday mass every week, at the S.M. Women’s Club (honored as a Lifetime Member) and SMCC Bible Study for over 50 years. Eunice treasured her friends, and not ever wanting to burden them, would reply to inquiries of well being, even when ailing, with “I’m a perkin.”

\*continued on page 2)



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ANGELS (cont. from pg. 1)

the crowd drowned out his voice. Frantically he galloped down the stairs and hurdled himself over the wall out into the arena. His dark brown frock waved and fluttered as he sandwiched himself between the two sword-bearing gladiators, begging the men, "In the name of Christ, stop!"

The muscular men tossed the measly monk to the ground, but the monk was even more determined when he went to separate the gladiators the next time. It was at this time, that the gladiator nearest to Telemachus thrust his sword through his side. A paralyzing quiet gripped the stadium, as the life swiftly went from the man.

At this moment, a highly respected family of Rome, sitting only a handful of feet from where the monk lay dead, arose. In a great illustration of sadness, the husband and wife stood as one, prayerfully closing their eyes, as they begged forgiveness for their sins. They asked for the merciful treatment of God on the monk, and ascended the stairs of the colosseum -- never to return again. In the moments that followed, others of the arena would decide to make the same statement, leaving, until every last seat of the colosseum was found to be empty.

We might easily believe these people to be the barbarians of an ancient age, and honor ourselves as the preferred people of a superior civilization. Maybe it is fair to wonder who has the heart and courage to leap into the arena of our world and cause this society to see the suffering that is so willfully ignored?

There is a mission in the city of Los Angeles that will be praying this Christmas Night, and every night that follows. In the wisdom of another age, it was written: "It is better to give than receive," and so they give, and so they pray, asking for miracles of money, and partners in compassion. If there be such things as prayers of perfect beauty, then one might regard the petitions made for

others in need as the greatest language of love. It is a fearful thing to consider that we possess the power and wealth to answer their prayers, but have not the heart nor the kindness to care.

The Union Rescue Mission may accurately be described as the greatest organization in Los Angeles. We are lucky to have them, and so many other honorable institutions, that do the work of loving the broken-hearted of our city. The wish list for The Union Rescue Mission could easily fill the whole of this paper. There is a critical need for volunteers, and they require donations of money if we hope to have them continue the great work of helping our homeless. Maybe the greatest neglected item of need is that of this community's businesses partnering with the mission to transfer people from their training program back into the wonderful world of the working class. How easily might we offer this gift of hope for the misfortunate citizens of our society, and in the offering of this gift, we bless them with the belief that they are wanted in our world.

Rome's arena of battle was much different from ours. The battles of our age and the arena of our time is fought in the streets and hidden beneath the steel of our bridges. We didn't purchase tickets to this fight, but nonetheless, it is ours to enable or ours to end.

If the Telemachus' of our time do not stand together for what is right, then history will surely say that we were the passive participants to an age of neglect.

In 404 A.D., the Emperor of Rome, Honorius, when hearing about Telemachus going forth into the arena of the colosseum, was so taken by his heroic deed, that he put an end to the gladiator games, thankfully, to never be held again. History tells us that one person, or one earthly angel pledged to an honorable purpose, is blessed with the power to change the world.

Whether you honor Christmas, or the holiday of a different

season, may we yearn to ponder those prayers of the greatest good.

To the people of The Union Rescue Mission, and all who are helping our homeless, may it be said that the people of this town live up to their name, "The City of Angels," and may we carry our candles of kindness into the darkest regions of the night.

Go to their website for more information.  
WWW.URM.ORG

A Most Merry Christmas!  
Craig Hakola

BANIS (continued from page 1)

Eunice leaves many who dearly love her and she leaves a hole in their hearts: 6 children, 14 grandchildren, 24 great grandchildren, 4 great, great grandchildren and countless friends.

Now we sadly say: Bye, Toots.... But we will see you in Heaven!

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to:  
Mater Dolorosa Passionist Retreat Center - <https://materdolorosa.org/>  
St. Rita Catholic Church - <https://st-rita.org/>  
Sierra Madre Women's Club  
<http://www.gfwcsierramadrewomansclub.org/>

Viewing will be held on Thursday, January 4, 2018, from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at Cabot and Sons Mortuary, 27 Chestnut St., Pasadena, CA 91103.

Burial will be at Riverside Memorial Cemetery.  
Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, January 6, 2018, at 10:30 a.m., at St. Rita Church, 318 N. Baldwin Ave., Sierra Madre, CA 91024.

## Weather Wise

6-Day Forecast Sierra Madre, Ca.

<b>Sun</b>	Sunny	Hi	50s	Lows	40s
<b>Mon:</b>	Sunny	Hi	50s	Lows	40s
<b>Tues:</b>	Sunny	Hi	50s	Lows	40s
<b>Wed:</b>	Sunny	Hi	50s	Lows	40s
<b>Thur:</b>	Sunny	Hi	50s	Lows	40s
<b>Fri:</b>	Sunny	Hi	50s	Lows	40s

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 REGULAR December 12, 2017  
6:30 pm

### 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](mailto:radio@cityofsierramadre.com).



### SIERRA MADRE CITY MEETINGS

Regular City Council Meeting  
Tuesday, December 12, 2017,  
6:30 pm

Can't make it to the meeting, but still want to share your thoughts? You can mail or drop off a written statement to City Hall or email [city@sierramadre.com](mailto:city@sierramadre.com) before 30 the night of the meeting and your statement will be delivered to all the Council Members. Sierra Madre City Hall 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Sierra Madre, CA 91024 (626) 355-7135

The following public meetings have been cancelled:

Sierra Madre City Council - December 26, 2017

Sierra Madre Planning Commission - January 4, 2018

The next regularly scheduled meetings are on;

January 9th, 2018, City Council

January 18, 2018, Planning Commission

### SIERRA MADRE POLICE BLOTTER

During this time period, the Sierra Madre Police Department responded to approximately 25 6 day and night time calls for service.

**Monday, December 11** A fraud report was filed by a victim that placed a check for \$15.00 in a US Post Office mailbox on October 27, 2017. On November 18, 2017, the victim noticed that the check was cashed for the amount of \$1,500.00 by a subject that the check was not originally made out to. On November 28, 2017, the victim notified her bank. Case to Detectives

**Tuesday, December 12** At about 7:48 p.m. officers responded to the 100 block of N. Canon Dr. for a possible burglary in progress. As the officers conducted an interior/exterior search of the location it was determined the burglary occurred earlier in the day. The suspect(s) forced entry by smashing a French door located to the rear of the location. Case to Detectives

**Wednesday, December 13** Officers responded to 300 block of N. Sunnyside Ave. for a possible burglary in progress that occurred at 8:10 p.m. A witness called the station at 8:20 p.m. and advised that she saw two male subjects leave the location after an audible alarm was activated within the property. Officers arrived at the location and found that a rear glass French door had been shattered. The witness was able to provide the officers with a description of the vehicle. IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING!

**Sunday, December 17** An officer on patrol saw a vehicle on the sidewalk in the 300 block of N. Baldwin Ave. at approximately 12:28 a.m. After stopping to render aid, it was determined that the driver was driving under the influence of alcohol. The driver was arrested and transported to the Pasadena Police jail for booking. Case to DA's office

  
**See something.  
Say something.**

### SIERRA MADRE HOLIDAY PARKING

Please be advised that starting at 2:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 16, 2017 there will be a City-wide exemption for parking violations relating to Permit Parking and Overnight Parking. This exemption will extend until 2:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 2, 2018, in observance of the holiday season. Please note that safety violations related to parking will be enforced 24/7.

There will be Officers on staff, 24/7 to handle enforcement parking issues and safety violations during these times.  
SAFETY VIOLATIONS (e.g. Red Zones, White Zones, Blue Zones, parking violations, obstructing egress/ingress to the roadway or sidewalk).

### CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING AND HOLIDAY TRASH SCHEDULE

Athens Services will once again collect Christmas Trees after the holidays for recycling. Trees will be collected on your normal pickup day beginning on January 2, 2018 and until January 12, 2018.

Please remove stands, ornaments, lights and tinsel. Place trees next to your regular trash containers. Trees over 6 feet in length must be cut in half. Trees with flocking or fire retardants are acceptable. If you miss the regular tree collection period, please make arrangements to have Athens collect your tree as part of their bulky item pickup program by calling 888-336-6100.

Residents should also be aware that holiday collection days this year will be delayed by the usual single day after Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Any questions can be directed to James Carlson at [jcarlson@cityofsierramadre.com](mailto:jcarlson@cityofsierramadre.com) or 626-355-7135.



## Sierra Madre Woman's Club

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**Happy Hanukkah**



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Sierra Madre Woman's Club

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➡ Closed December 19, 2017 - January 4, 2018 ⬅

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## CELEBRATE WITH US!

**December 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**Sermon: "When the Last Moment Comes"**  
**Alternative Gift Fair 11 - 1 pm**

**December 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**Sermon: "God of Honey and Locusts"**

**December 17<sup>th</sup>**  
**Sermon: "Home Alone"**

**December 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**Sermon: "Unbelievable Announcement"**  
**Christmas Eve Service 5:00 p.m.**


**December 31<sup>st</sup>**  
**Sermon: "How Majestic His Name"**

### SIERRA MADRE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

695 West Sierra Madre Boulevard,  
Sierra Madre  
(626) 355-0629  
Email: [sm\\_umc@verizon.net](mailto:sm_umc@verizon.net)  
Website: [smumc.net](http://smumc.net)  
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## Walking Sierra Madre...The Social Side

by Deanne Davis



"That First Noel's come 'round again,  
Just like it does each year,  
To tell us it's Christmas, finally it's Christmas,  
Joyfully it's Christmas,  
The best time of the year, the best time of the year..."

This particular song goes on to tell us that the tree is in the window, the wreath is on the door, and about a million ornaments are scattered on the floor! Most probably you're way past that stage, the tree is up and gorgeous. You finally untangled the lights and put the angel up on top. But here's the question you'll be facing in a few days when the presents are all unwrapped and everything you got everybody fit and was exactly what they wanted! Why is it that putting up Christmas decorations, is so much more fun than taking them down. Also, why is it that the Christmas decorations that seem so few and so light as you take them out of the basement and up the stairs have doubled (like wire hangers) in size and tripled in weight and you can't remember when on earth you carried all those up. The Christmas hats on cactus as pictured always makes me smile!

Playing Christmas music and rediscovering each cute little Christmas item is such fun and then deciding where to put each one is a pleasure. I'm especially partial to all my little lighted houses. My mother started collecting them many years ago and gave her collection to me. I have added to it over the years and now think I have about twenty of them. They look fantastic on the piano, behind the couch and on the maple hutch in the dining room. They all stayed in their boxes this year as my best buddy and Christmas decoration admirer is spending his first Christmas in heaven and maybe they'll reappear next year.

After much discussion among our adult children, I did get out Santa's Band, which was John's favorite Christmas decoration. Many years ago he went to Costco and came home with his eyes alight and excitement spilling out of his every word as he described this wonderful band of little men attached to bells and electrically driven so every time you turned it on, it played a Christmas carol. They had quite a repertoire and the band was led, of course, by Santa. John went to Costco several times and came home each time with more stories of the glories of Santa's Band. I finally took his hand, looked deep into his eyes and said, "Ya know, honey, you can buy Santa's Band yourself, with your own money!" He had never thought of that. Back he went and Santa's Band decorated the top of one of our bookcases every year from then on. Yes, it got up there after I spent an hour untangling all the wires, bells and little people, but he loved it. Apparently, all the

children loved it, too, and there was lively discussion over who should have Santa's Band. Our daughter, Patti, ended up with it and I was happy to hand it over and let her untangle all those wires and bells.

We all have special nostalgic goodies that fill our hearts with memories and happy thoughts. Pictures of our children taken in Sunday School, our grandchildren's little hands and feet on ceramic tiles, tiny felt Christmas stockings with everyone's name on them in glued on glitter. I even have little glass ornaments which were my Aunt Helen's, dating from the '30s.

When we were first married, we rented a lovely house with a high beamed ceiling up on Canon Drive, right behind where Christian author, Fay Angus lived, and when our first Christmas together arrived, I was about hysterical with excitement. We went down to the railroad yards where trains were coming in from wherever they loaded on those trees, I have a feeling it was the Pacific Northwest. Railroad workers pitched them off the cars and anyone who was standing there could pick out whatever tied-up tree they wanted. I don't remember it costing very much. We selected an enormous Noble fir and tied it to the top of our little blue Ford Falcon. Got it home and it had to have been ten feet tall or taller and was the most gorgeous thing we'd ever seen. We had just a few things to put on it, but it was our tree and our home and our children opened presents under it and I will remember always what a wonderful time that was.

The song up at the beginning goes on to say:

"But that's not the reason we celebrate the season...  
Oh, it's that baby in the manger,  
Christ child in the manger,  
Mary kneeling by his side,  
Joseph beaming down with pride.  
Peace on earth, good will to men,  
We celebrate that night again."

I'm hoping all your Christmas memories are merry and bright! To quote Tiny Tim from Dickens' A Christmas Carol, "God Bless us every one!"

My book page: Amazon.com: Deanne Davis  
"Star of Wonder - A Christmas Story"  
Is available there. This is a wonderful Christmas Love Story...trust me!  
Star of Wonder the CD is now on TuneCore!  
Featuring this song! Take a look!  
Blog: HYPERLINK "http://www.authordeanne.com"  
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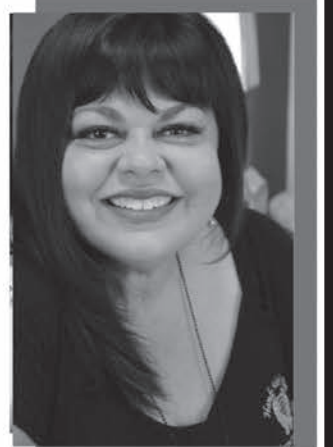


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# Pasadena Altadena

News From Your Community For Your Community

## Man Beaten by Police Speaks out

An Altadena man spoke out, for the first time, Wednesday after Pasadena Police released body-worn camera and dash cam video of the man being repeatedly stuck with a baton, breaking one of his legs, during a traffic stop Nov. 9 at an Altadena gas station.

Christopher Ballew told reporters that he was filing a lawsuit against the city of Pasadena for undisclosed amount of money after he sustained a broken right leg and cut and bruises to his face.

Pasadena police said Ballew did not comply with their orders something Ballew contests. He said officers struck him with a baton before he grabbed it away something the video also shows. At one point officer draws his gun.

At the time, Ballew was arrested for assault on an officer. The Los Angeles County District Attorney did not file any charges. Police said they made the initial traffic stop for no front license plate and tinted windows.

Police also said Ballew, at first, was trying to walk away from them, although Ballew said he was getting gas at the station.

The police video was released Dec. 15 after City Manager Steve Mermell told the city council they would. Mermell also said he would reach out to the family. The incident first appeared on social media sparking public outcry.

Pasadena Public Information Officer William Boyer confirmed that officers Lerry Esparza and Zachary Lujan were involved. He also said the two remain on active duty.

The lawsuit filed by the Law Offices of John Burton claims the officers violated Ballew civil rights ignoring police procedures and training.

## Pet of the Week



Dasher (A447655) is an adorable, petite terrier mix. At 7 months old and 25 pounds, This friendly and social pup is very playful with people. She especially enjoys romping around with her buddy Blitzen (A447656), a 3-year-old pit bull mix. In fact, Dasher and Blitzen are inseparable.

The adoption fee for dogs is \$130. All dogs are spayed or neutered, microchipped, and vaccinated before going to their new home.

New adopters will receive a complimentary health-and-wellness exam from VCA Animal Hospitals, as well as a goody bag filled with information about how to care for your pet.

Call the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA at (626) 792-7151 to ask about A447655 & A447656, or visit at 361 S. Raymond Ave. in Pasadena. Adoption hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday; and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

Pets may not be available for adoption and cannot be held for potential adopters by phone calls or email. Directions and photos of all pets can be found at [pasadenahumane.org](http://pasadenahumane.org).



## Santa Brings Needed Toys to Crime Victims

Santa and Mrs. Claus landed Thursday in Pasadena's North Pole (Police Heliport) handing out gifts to children impacted by domestic violence.

"The Pasadena Air Operations Division in coordination with Peace over Violence is getting toys to local families who would not necessarily celebrate this time of the year, Pasadena Chief of Police Phillip Sanchez said."

This is very special to us."

He said all the families are local



to Pasadena. "We work with Peace over Violence to address domestic violence in our community all year. The children that are associated with Peace over Violence, they might be victims or see violence in the home; this gives us an opportunity to bring holiday cheer, he said."

Peace over Violence Legal Case Manager Selena Palma said Santa and Mrs. Claus gave

gifts to about 40 families. The families were chosen by the Case Managers. This is the fifth year of giving toys she said.

*Photos by D. Lee/MVNews*

## Phone Scam Warning in Altadena/Pasadena

*Impersonators are asking for money to prevent arrest.*

This is a warning to everyone about sheriff / police impersonators calling residents and saying, "There is a warrant out for your arrest, and if you don't pay up, you'll be arrested."

An Altadena resident was called at their house by a man from 626 area code, local phone number, saying at he was a L.A. County Sheriff's Deputy. The deputy told our resident they had two warrants for arrest for missing jury duty. They also said a \$1000 cash bond was needed to be paid, or they would be arrested.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department will not call you to demand money for arrest warrants. If you are contacted over the phone and are suspicious, ask for the callers name and employee number and call our station, (626) 798-1131 or whichever police department they are representing and ask to verify the information.

If the caller tells you to put money on a prepaid card and give him the card number. Now your scam-detecting radar is going off the charts. Police departments — and the federal government, for that matter — don't tell people to pay with prepaid cards. You also know using a prepaid card is like paying cash — once the money is gone, you can't get it back.

More sophisticated scammers may have caller ID that shows the local police departments name. It may seem like reliable information about the source of a call isn't so reliable anymore.

Scammers can rig caller ID to look like they're calling from the police department. Or, really, anywhere — even your own number. Don't rely on caller ID. It's not foolproof. Scammers can easily spoof it to try to gain your trust. If it looks like the police are calling, call our non-emergency phone number (626) 798-1131 and call to find out if the story is legit. You'll soon learn it's a scam.

Report the imposter to the Federal Trade Commission at [ftc.gov/complaint](http://ftc.gov/complaint) Select the category "Scams and Rip-offs" then "Impostor Scams".

## Royal Tea Party at the Library

Future kings, queens, princes and princesses, come dressed in your finery for a very special visit from the 2018 Tournament of Roses Rose Queen and Royal Court. The court will share their favorite princess stories and recent New Year's experiences. Bring a camera and a smile to pose with royalty.

Saturday, Jan. 13 • 2-3:30 p.m.

• Hastings Branch 3325 east Orange Grove Boulevard.

## Holiday Safety Reminders



The City of Pasadena provides the following tips and reminders to help ensure you have an enjoyable Holiday Season.

Above all, use common sense, celebrate responsibly, always designate a driver if you plan to drink alcohol, drive defensively and, please, if you see something, say something by calling (626) 744-4241, or 9-1-1 for life-threatening emergencies. In addition, our Police, Fire, Public Health and Water & Power Departments provide the following additional suggestions.

When out shopping for those last-minute gifts and food items, always be aware of your surroundings. Keep an eye on your wallet, purse, credit cards, receipts and don't flash a lot of cash! Ask for help if carrying a lot of packages to your car; or walking alone at night and avoid parking in isolated spots.

If possible, have your children stay with a trusted family member, friend or babysitter while you go out shopping, especially if you plan to go to crowded malls or shopping centers. If you do take your children with

you, make sure they stay close at all times and they know to go immediately to a store clerk or security officer for help if they become separated.

Keep valuables out of sight while stored in your car. Keep doors locked and windows up when parked. Always have your keys out and ready to use to get into your car. Be alert as you exit and return to your car. Keep your car in good repair and ready for bad weather if taking a holiday trip.

Getting packages delivered? Track them, require a signature—or ask a neighbor to help, or agree to help your neighbor. Going out of town? Put a hold on mail and send packages to a mail facility for later pickup. Keep lights on a timer.

For your holiday meals, make sure hot food stays hot and cold food stays cold. If in doubt, don't serve it. Be sure to keep an eye on your guests' alcohol consumption. Getting someone a taxi or a shared ride is cheap compared to the loss of a life, lawsuits and drunken driving arrests.

The holidays can be an incredibly stressful time for many people.

## Free Christmas Tree Recycling

Make tree recycling a part of your post-holiday tradition. The City offers an easy way for you to "Go Green" with your Christmas tree. Thanks to your help, the City last year collected more than 10,000 trees for recycling, saving valuable landfill space and generating protective landscaping mulch.

Drop off your tree from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m., Tuesday Dec. 26, 2017 until Thursday, Jan. 4 at:

- Easton Blanche Park, 3100 E. Del Mar Blvd., parking lot on Millicent Way
- Robinson Park, 1081 N. Fair Oaks Ave., parking lot on Morton Street



From Jan. 2-12, 2018, residents can also place trees at curbside for recycling. Christmas trees will be collected on your normal service day.

Remember, all ornaments, lights and stands must be removed. Flocked and fire retardant treated trees are acceptable. For more information, call the Citizen Service Center at (626) 744-7311 or online at [www.cityofpasadena.net/publicworks](http://www.cityofpasadena.net/publicworks).

## Free Events Roundup at the Pasadena Senior Center

There is something for everyone in December at the Pasadena Senior Center, 85 E. Holly St. You do not have to be a member to attend. Some events require advance reservations as noted.

**Stay Connected with Social Media – Tuesdays and Thursdays to Dec. 28, from 9 to 11 a.m.** Learn how to keep in touch with family and friends via the Internet. Choose which application you would like to learn, from Skype to Facebook and other forms of social media. Bring a laptop or use of the onsite computers. If you have an email address, bring it along with your password. Sign up at the Welcome Desk or call 626-795-4331 for a 30-minute one-on-session.

**A Toast to the Joys of Music – Tuesdays to Dec. 28, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.** The Tom Campbell will play guitar and sing songs in the Senior Center Lounge. Stop by and enjoy his covers of traditional country, country rock, blues, folk, gospel and classic rock originally made famous by Willie Nelson, Merle Haggard, Vince Gill, Elvis Presley, B.B. King, Neil Young, The Grateful Dead, The Rolling Stones and

many more.

**Scenic Walkers Club – Wednesdays to Dec. 27, at 10 a.m.** Enjoy a series of leisurely walks in the great outdoors at locations throughout the west San Gabriel Valley. Alan Colville will give you a list of items to bring, let you know what to expect, provide detailed itineraries and arrange transportation. For more information or to sign up, email [alancolville@charter.net](mailto:alancolville@charter.net).

**Domino Club – Thursdays, to Dec. 28, at 1 p.m.** New and experienced players will enjoy a rollicking version of Chicken Foot Dominoes that will have everyone cracking up! For more information call Vicki Leigh at 928-478-4654.

For more information visit [www.pasadenaseniorcenter.org](http://www.pasadenaseniorcenter.org) or call 626-795-4331.

Founded in 1960, the Pasadena Senior Center is an independent nonprofit organization that offers recreational, educational, wellness and social services to people ages 50 and older in a welcoming environment. Services are also provided for frail, low-income and homebound seniors.



# ARCADIA

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## WINTER KID'S CAMP



The Recreation and Community Services Department offers the Winter Kid's Camp at Baldwin Stocker Elementary School, 422 W. Lemon Avenue, Arcadia starting Wednesday through Friday, December 27-29 and Wednesday through Friday, January 3-5 from 8am-6pm. Each day is filled with fun group activities including crafts, board games, movies, and snacks for youth ages 5-11. Parents are able to sign their children up for one day or all six. Participants should bring a sack lunch along with drinks. Two snacks will be provided throughout the day. Dress casual and tennis shoes are recommended. Participants may need to bring a jacket or sweatshirt for outdoor activities.

Winter camp is \$27 per child per day. To get a copy of the winter "Buzz" stop by our office, 375 Campus Drive; Arcadia City Hall, 240 W. Huntington Drive; or the Arcadia Public Library, 20 W. Duarte Road. To register in person come by our office or you can go to the city's website at [www.arcadiaCA.gov](http://www.arcadiaCA.gov) under the Recreation and Community Services Department to download a copy. The "Buzz" also displays

programs and classes for the 2017-18 winter season for you and your family. Do you want to know what the "Buzz" is about in Arcadia? Pick up the latest copy of "The Peacock Buzz" to find out! For more questions, please contact the Recreation Department at 626.574.5113.

### 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.

## ARCADIA POLICE BLOTTER

*For the period of Sunday, December 10th, through Saturday, December 16th, the Police Department responded to 993 calls for service, of which 116 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.*

### Sunday, December 10:

At approximately 4:46 a.m., an officer responded to a residence in the 400 block of Oxford Drive regarding a theft report. Surveillance footage revealed a white male stole the victim's package containing more than \$500.00 worth of property from his porch at 1:53 a.m. on today's date. The investigation is ongoing.

Shortly before 5:56 a.m., an officer responded to Gem Coin, 135 East Live Oak Avenue, regarding a commercial burglary report. The officer discovered unknown suspects removed a rear sliding glass door from the track, ransacked the location, and fled with an unknown amount of property. The investigation is ongoing.

### Monday, December 11:

Just after 3:51 p.m., an officer responded to Holy Angeles, 370 Campus Drive, regarding a theft report. The reporting party provided surveillance photos of an unknown male suspect stealing a 2.5' tall white stone statue of Mary at 9 p.m. on the previous evening. The investigation is ongoing.

At approximately 6:12 p.m., an officer responded to Arcadia High School, 180 Campus Drive, regarding a vandalism report. The officer determined an unknown suspect smashed the victim's rear passenger side window of her vehicle sometime between 5:00 p.m. and 6:05 p.m. on today's date. No loss was reported. No suspects were seen and no witnesses were located.

### Tuesday, December 12:

Around 7:38 a.m., an officer initiated an enforcement stop on a vehicle in the area of Santa Anita Avenue and Huntington Drive for having a broke tail light. A records check revealed the driver, a 29-year-old male from Los Angeles, was unlicensed, had two outstanding misdemeanor warrants, and did not have insurance. An investigation revealed the driver also had a forged Social Security Card. The suspect was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

Just before 12:25 p.m., officers responded to the Arcadia Police Department front counter regarding a theft report. An investigation revealed an unknown suspect used the victim's checks to fraudulently cash \$2000.00. The victim does not know how the suspect obtained her checks or the identity of the suspect.

Shortly after 10:29 p.m., an officer conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle near the intersection of Huntington Drive at Gate 3 of the Santa Anita Race Track for failing to stop at a red light. Upon contacting the driver, the officer detected a strong odor of alcohol emitting from inside the vehicle. A series of tests confirmed the 64-year-old female from South Pasadena was driving under the influence of an alcoholic beverage. She was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

### Wednesday, December 13:

At about 7:59 a.m., an officer responded to a residence in

the 300 block of West Magna Vista Avenue regarding a stolen vehicle report. The victim discovered his 2014 BMW 328 sedan was stolen sometime during the previous evening. The vehicle was located by the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department – Temple Station. The investigation is ongoing.

Before 7:26 p.m., an officer responded to the intersection of Colorado Street and Chelsea Road regarding an activation of an Arcadia Police Department GPS tracker. Arcadia PD detectives had previously deployed bait packages to combat the increase in package thefts from residential areas. An investigation revealed four suspects had the stolen bait package in their vehicle. The suspects also had property in their vehicle linking them to a prior package theft in the City of Arcadia, as well as property stolen during a residential burglary in Agoura Hills. Three 18-year-old males from Los Angeles and a 16-year-old from Los Angeles were arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

### Thursday, December 14:

Around 6:20 p.m., an officer responded to the 9900 block of Las Tunas Drive regarding a battery report. An investigation revealed an altercation between two adults, believed to be transients, resulted in the male suspect hitting the female victim in the face two days prior. The investigation is ongoing and the suspect, a 47-year-old male from San Gabriel, is outstanding at the time of this report. Los Angeles County Fire Department transported the victim to Arcadia Methodist Hospital for treatment.

### Friday, December 15:

At about 7:40 a.m., an officer responded to a residence in the 700 block of Juanita Avenue in the City of La Verne regarding a vehicle burglary report. The officer discovered the city vehicle was parked at the employee's home in La Verne when an unknown suspect tampered with the door lock and stole a laptop, flashlight, and City jacket sometime during the previous evening. The investigation is ongoing.

Just before 4:48 p.m., an officer responded to a residence in the 1000 block of West Duarte Road regarding a burglary report. An investigation revealed unknown suspects entered the residence through an unlocked window, ransacked the home, and fled with 9 pairs of Yeezy shoes, valued at \$1900.00. No suspects were seen and no witnesses were located.

### Saturday, December 16:

Shortly after 1:05 p.m., an officer initiated a traffic stop on a bicyclist near the intersection of Lynd Avenue and Mayflower Avenue for riding his bicycle against the flow of traffic. During a consensual search of the subject, the officer located a methamphetamine pipe. The 47-year-old male from El Monte was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

At approximately 6:44 p.m., an officer responded to Sephora, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding a shoplifting report. Loss prevention specialists witnessed the suspect conceal more than \$500.00 worth of merchandise in her purse before she exited the store, failing to make payment. The 35-year-old female from Los Angeles was cited and released in the field.

# MONROVIA - DUARTE

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## RECOGNIZED FOR SERVICE TO DUARTE



Duarte Kiwanis and Duarte Rotary are proud to recognize the wonderful community work Council Member Tzeitel Paras-Caracci provides every day in the Duarte community. Tzeitel was a crucial link in helping create the successful Family Fun Fest bringing both organizations together to serve the Duarte Community. She was presented with a Kiwanis Distinguished Service award and a

Rotary "Mouse that Roared" pin for her continued support. Pictured from left Lydia Carswell, Duarte Rotary Club, Anna Wu, Kiwanis Division 35 Lt. Governor, Brian Villalobos, Duarte Rotary, Tzeitel Paras-Caracci and Aida Torres, Duarte Kiwanis.

If you are interested in joining Duarte Kiwanis or being a speaker at a future event, contact Tina Carey at [tinac51@aol.com](mailto:tinac51@aol.com).

## HOLIDAY PARADE AWARD WINNERS RECOGNIZED AT OUR CITY COUNCIL MEETING THIS WEEK!

Monrovia's Annual Holiday Parade took place on Thursday, December 7, 2017 in Old Town Monrovia, and what a wonderful event it was! There were 104 entries in the parade this year, with many amazing additions for the thousands of spectators watching that evening.

Of particular note, seven entries were judged as deserving of special awards, and those entries include:

Best Band – Santa Fe Middle School

Best Float – Foothill Oaks Academy

Best Themed Entry – Bradoaks Elementary School

Judges Award – Plymouth Elementary School

Best Cheerleading Squad – Monrovia High School Cheerleaders

Best Dance Troop – Infinity Roller Derby

Spirit of Santa Award – Monrovia Reads

These entries were recognized at the City Council meeting on Tuesday, December 19, 2017, at 7:30 p.m., in the City Council Chambers (415 South Ivy Avenue). Congrats to the winners, and to all Monroviaans... we hope your holiday season is filled with extreme joy and laughter!

## MONROVIA POLICE BLOTTER

*Highlighted Activity for December 18-20, 2017 During the last seven-day period, the Police Department handled 408 service events, resulting in 69 investigations. To see a complete listing of crimes reported, go to <http://www.crimemapping.com/map/ca/monrovia> for crime mapping. For Police Department news and information, visit our website and follow us on Twitter.*

**Possession of a Controlled Substance / Warrant – Suspect Arrested** December 18 at 11:08 a.m., an elderly male subject that was acting suspicious in the 200 block of E. Chestnut was reported to police. The subject was knocking on doors and messing around with a water hose at a residence. Officers arrived and contacted the subject. A consent search of the subject revealed a pouch which contained methamphetamine. The subject was arrested for possession of a controlled substance and was found to have an outstanding no-bail probation warrant.

**Grand Theft** December 18 at 8:47 p.m., a grand theft was reported in the 100 block of W. Lime. The victim parked her vehicle on the street and left her purse in the vehicle with the doors unlocked. When she returned to the vehicle, she found her purse had been stolen. The investigation is continuing.

**Grand Theft – Suspect Arrested** December 18 at 10:18 p.m., a grand theft of a bicycle was reported in the 700 block of E. Huntington. Officers responded to the area and located the bicycle. A subject was detained in the area and admitted to stealing the bicycle. The subject was arrested for the theft.

**Burglary** December 19 at 6:51 a.m., unknown suspects picked the lock and made entry into the old train depot in the 1700 block of S. Myrtle. The suspects stole tools from a toolbox inside the depot. The investigation is continuing.

**Warrants – Suspect Arrested** December 19 at 1:52 p.m., officers responded to the 600 block of W. Huntington regarding the report of a subject acting suspicious. Officers contacted the subject and found he had three outstanding warrants. The subject was arrested for the warrants.

**Theft** December 19 at 3:15 p.m., a theft was reported at a business in the 600 block of W. Huntington. An elderly female was shopping at the store and left her open purse inside her shopping cart. An unknown suspect stole the wallet out of her purse without her knowledge. When she tried

to pay for her merchandise, she discovered the theft. The investigation is continuing.

**Residential Burglary** December 19 at 3:39 p.m., an officer was dispatched to a residential burglary that occurred in the 600 block of W. Olive. The resident left her home at 1200 noon and all doors and windows were locked. When she returned at 3:00 p.m., she found that someone had kicked in the back door. The loss is undetermined until the victim can inventory the location. The investigation is continuing.

**Theft / Assault – Suspect Arrested** December 20 at 3:54 p.m., a theft and assault were reported at a business in the 300 block of W. Huntington. A male suspect concealed merchandise in his clothing and as he was walking toward the registers, a loss prevention officer stopped him and asked him for the property he concealed. The subject gave the loss prevention officer the property and the officer told him to stay there, but the subject walked out the doors. The loss prevention officer followed the subject and again told him to stay. The subject then hit him in the face with his fists. Bystanders called police and a citizen's arrest was completed on the subject for assault and theft. The suspect was arrested.

**Grand Theft Auto** December 20 at 4:46 p.m., a vehicle was reported stolen from the 1600 block of S. Mountain. The victim parked his 1999 Ford F350 in a business parking lot and left for approximately 4 hours. When he returned, the vehicle was not there. All keys are accounted for and the doors and windows were secured. The investigation is continuing.

**Theft** December 20 at 5:27 p.m., a theft was reported at a business in the 900 block of W. Duarte. The victim said she was shopping at the store and her wallet was stolen without her knowing. She received a call from her credit card company asking about a purchase and that is how she realized it had been stolen. The investigation is continuing.

**Possession of Controlled Substance / Warrants – Suspect Arrested** December 20 at 10:40 p.m., officers responded to the area of Mayflower and Palm regarding two male subjects arguing. They arrived and contacted the two subjects. One subject was found to have multiple warrants for his arrest. He was arrested for the warrants and when he was searched, officers located methamphetamine in his pocket. He was taken into custody.

Catch breaking news at:  
**mtnewsnews.com**



## GOLDENWORDS:

### Dr. Dan's College Corner

As final college application deadlines approach in the coming weeks, here's a few thoughts for current high school Seniors about not going to college--yet. There are lots of reasons for you to consider taking an "interim" year, usually called a "gap" year, before entering college or university. My fellow colleagues and I at the Vistamar School called it a "fill-in-the-gap" year because this transitional time has such great potential for you to identify, explore and refine your life interests.

A well-structured gap year can, in one scenario, be built around purchasing a formal gap-year program. There are quite a few excellent ones that have gone through the rigorous accreditation process of the American Gap Association, which has set a variety of standards of practice for its members (see: <https://americangap.org/gap-year-programs.php>).

But you soon discover with these programs that they can be expensive options to undertake, so let's begin with the rationale for taking a gap year first, and then identify some approaches to building a good interim time before college or university.

#### A GAP YEAR MAKES YOU MORE MATURE AND THAT MUCH MORE READY TO MAKE THE MOST OF COLLEGE.

--Institutions tell us that 'gappers' arriving as first-year enrollees have more academic and career focus, can make the adjustment to the self-management demands of college more quickly, and are far less likely to succumb to the alluring distractions of toga parties, binge drinking and the like.

#### A GAP YEAR CAN STRENGTHEN YOUR ACADEMIC PROFILE.

--About now, if you've done your homework in terms of the grades, test scores and activities you're bringing to the college process, you have a good sense of your chances vis a vis the selectivity of colleges on your list.

Some of the schools that do accept you by April may well encourage you to take a gap year and save your spot for a year. But perhaps you've harbored an interest in schools currently beyond the reach of your profile?

If you elect a gap year, you will be able to enhance your grade profile with a strong Spring term folded into your GPA. And, you'll even have time to prepare for and sit for another battery of standardized tests. Maybe this year's "reach" school can be next year's acceptance?

#### YOUR CHOICE OF GAP EXPERIENCES IS VAST AND FLEXIBLE

--Consider the 15 or so months you'd have to invest in gap time once you graduate from high school. Beyond purchasing a vendor's Gap program, you could design that year-plus to suit a range of your needs and interest. Some options:

you might accrue cash in a job right after graduating and be able to extend your employment into the Fall when other

workers have to go back to school and thus pay for your subsequent Gap activities, too;

you could could similarly present yourself in Fall as an eager candidate for an internship or community service, offering your site supervisor a good-sized weekly commitment for your learning experience; you could cultivate a creative talent and tie it to future studies or careers. I had a student interested in ornithology who not only interned at the Bird House of a local zoo, but he studied falconry with a hawk-master. He arrived at college with his heavy leather gauntlet-glove, insisting it was a great chick-magnet, pun intentional.

Another violinist gathered up her resources and her bow and spent 6 months apprenticing in Prague to a violin-maker. She didn't speak a word of Czech beforehand, but emerged with language and wood-carving skills, played with street musicians at stations of the Letnany (Prague's subway system), and arrived at University with a new interest in the emerging former Soviet nations. Pretty cool stuff, eh?

#### BUT IF I DO A GAP YEAR, I MIGHTN'T EVER GO TO COLLEGE AT ALL! (an often-expressed concern of parents, too)

--not so, if you study the research and statistics on gapping. And, with clever strategic planning, you can catch up on the credits you didn't take while gapping, do a few semester overloads and summer sessions, and graduate in three years.

So, you could spend the coming months watching the mails and e-portals of schools to which you've applied, edgy and concerned about outcomes. Or, you could spend your time building a gap year plan instead, and hold open this option for the first year after high school. You may have worked real hard on your college apps, it's true--but maybe your immediate future best lies outside the college classroom for all the right reasons?

*Dr. Dan Golden was the founding director of Life Planning at the Vistamar School in El Segundo. He was a professor, program director and Dean for Work & Service-Learning at Wheaton College (MA), and now consults with individuals, schools and educational districts on college access, post-graduate study and career planning issues. He can be reached at dangolden0@gmail.com.*



Dan Golden, PhD

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## HAVE A SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON WITH YOUR FOUR-FOOTED FRIENDS

I've been asked many times over the past couple of weeks, so I just want to say I am never really "ready" for Christmas. Here we are at the eleventh hour and I'm still getting used to the temperatures dipping below 80! Besides, I'm not one hundred percent sure I know what being ready really means. One thing's for sure...the day will come regardless of whether I am ready or not!

This year I decided I would take each day leading up to the holidays as an opportunity to reflect on the past year and consider ways to prepare myself for the new year to come. To me that means asking God to help me be more thoughtful of others and it also means working on becoming an increasingly better pet parent to my darling dog, Molly.

As part of my efforts to improve on my pet parenting skills, I read up on the safest ways to enjoy the holidays with my four-footed friends. I use the plural form of the word, since I spend so much of my time with other people's pets as well as my own. And so it is that I found some very helpful hints offered by the ASPCA, as to how we and our pets can enjoy this most wonderful time of the year with no fear of insult or injury.

The first thing mentioned is the importance of keeping your pet's eating and exercise habits as close to their normal routine as possible. Further, one should be careful to steer pets clear of the following unhealthy edibles, toxic plants and dangerous decorations.

**Oh Christmas Tree:** Securely anchor your tree so it doesn't tip and fall, causing possible injury to your pet. Don't let your pet drink the tree water, it may contain fertilizers that can cause stomach upset. Stagnant tree water is also a breeding ground for bacteria, and your pet could end up with nausea or diarrhea should they imbibe.

**Avoid mistletoe & Holly:** Holly, when ingested, can cause pets to suffer nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. Mistletoe can cause gastrointestinal upset and cardiovascular problems. And many varieties of lilies can cause kidney failure in cats if ingested. Opt for just-as-jolly artificial plants made from silk or plastic, or choose a pet-safe bouquet.

**Tinsel-less Town:** Kitties love this sparkly, light-catching "toy" that's easy to bat around and carry in their mouths. But a nibble can lead to a swallow, which can lead to an obstructed digestive tract, severe vomiting, dehydration and possible surgery. It's best to brighten your boughs with something other than tinsel.

**That Holiday Glow:** Don't leave lighted candles unattended. Pets may burn themselves or cause a fire if they knock candles over. Be sure to use appropriate candle holders, placed on a stable surface. And if you leave the house, put the candle out!

**Wired Up:** Keep wires, batteries and glass or plastic ornaments out of paws' reach. A wire can deliver a potentially lethal electric shock and a punctured battery can cause

burns to the mouth and esophagus, while shards of breakable ornaments can damage your pet's mouth and digestive tract.

**Skip the Sweets:** Hopefully you already know not to feed your pets chocolate or anything sweetened with Xylitol, but do you know the lengths to which an enterprising pet will go to chomp on something yummy? Make sure to keep your pets away from the table and unattended plates of food and be sure to secure the lids on garbage cans.

**Leave the Leftovers:** Fatty, spicy and no-no human foods, as well as bones, should not be fed to your furry friends. Pets can join the festivities in other fun ways that won't lead to costly medical bills.

**Careful with Cocktails:** If your celebrations includes adult beverages, be sure to place your unattended alcoholic drinks where pets cannot get to them. If ingested, your pet could become weak, ill and may even go into a coma, possibly resulting in death from respiratory failure.

**Selecting Special Treats:** Looking to stuff your pet's stockings? Stick with chew toys that are basically indestructible, Kongs that can be stuffed with healthy foods or chew treats are designed to be safely digestible. Long, stringy things are a feline's dream, but the most risky toys for cats involve ribbon, yarn and loose little parts that can get stuck in the intestines, often necessitating surgery. Surprise kitty with a new ball that's too big to swallow, a stuffed catnip toy or the interactive cat dancer.

**Put the Meds Away:** Make sure all of your medications are locked behind closed doors, and be sure to tell your guests to keep their meds zipped up and packed away too.

**New Year's Noise:** As you count down to the new year, please keep in mind that strings of thrown confetti can get lodged in a cat's intestines, if ingested, perhaps necessitating surgery. Noisy poppers can terrify pets and cause possible damage to sensitive ears. And remember that many pets are also scared of fireworks, so be sure to secure them in a safe, escape-proof areas as midnight approaches.

Now I know some of these tips may seem a little over the top, but if you love your pets, I'm sure you'll agree that it's always better to be safe than sorry. Enjoy the holiday season with your family and furry friends. Share the joy with man and beast alike. And as always, love and let live!



Happy Tails  
by Chris Leclerc

## HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

### Yogic Wisdom for Everyday Life EMBRACE THE DARK



It's ok; indulge now. I think I've broken every rule and good health guideline of yoga and Ayurveda

THIS week. Well, maybe not every single one, but most. I have faith that things will settle down in a week or so. I'll return to cooking simple, nourishing meals. I'll come back to a regular work schedule and routine. I've survived, in part, because I haven't missed my personal sadhana (practice) and meditation. It's provided steadiness in this time of merriment and high emotion. It's an inward experience that counters the outward events of the season.

For now, I'm going to continue to cozy up and soak in the dark nights and stay on this inward path. Remember the dark can be soothing and provide peace. It's a time to read, reflect, and dream. There is a renewal that happens in quietude and, after the holidays have passed, in withdrawal.

Sages and master teachers remind us that we can achieve the greatest growth --and ultimately joy-- by exploring dark areas of our consciousness as well as the light. In truth, we may learn more from the dark as we gain awareness about afflictions and impressions blocking our complete connection and surrender. As a student, we sit with all of this in meditation and quietude.

I look forward to this period of reflecting, dreaming, and resting as well as celebrating the love and this time of giving with family and friends. For its encouragement of healthy digestion, yoga (centered on the breath) is ideal at this time of year. We are taking in so much, physically and mentally. Don't forget a little practice goes a long way and it can usher you back into that reflective state of mind.

Namaste,

Keely Totten  
Yoga Teacher, Dark Explorer, Light Worker

## THE MISSING PAGE

### Real Life Tips from Life's Instruction Manual

## NOURISH YOURSELF IN LOVE

It is the height of the holiday season. It started with Thanksgiving, gathering with family and friends, reflecting and cherishing the goodness of our lives. It is a beautiful moment, yet many of us shelved that time of thankfulness and dashed to the mall. Perhaps we left the dinner table to catch a sale at a major retailer, or maybe on the last Friday of the month, we ran ourselves ragged at the mall, loading ourselves with toys and trinkets. For the last few weeks, some of us have been buying gifts to show our love and affection for those same people we shared a meal with and appreciated.

Black Friday has passed, and Cyber Monday is gone, maybe now we can slow down and remember that great feeling of love from our Thanksgiving table. I invite you to discover the inner glow and warmth that love gives us. Return to that feeling of thankfulness for conditions just as they are. Celebrate your gratitude with the people in your life now. As you sit at your holiday table, give yourself and your dinner mates the gift of being

fully present. Listen to your dinner companions and their funny stories, even if you've heard those stories before. Give the gift of your full attention. Listen to hear and understand; rather than merely to respond.

Take time to appreciate the feast before you, first with your eyes, then take a deep breath to enjoy the aroma of the delectable meal you are about to eat. Try an exercise of eating just one forkful at a time. When the food enters your mouth, commit to chew each morsel by resting your fork back on your plate. Then chewing your food and deliberately swallowing before bringing the fork to your mouth again.

Just slow down this weekend and enjoy life. There's more where that came from.

Lori is a lawyer and coach. You can learn more about her on her website [www.LoriAHarris.com](http://www.LoriAHarris.com) and the Gratitude Train app.



Lori A. Harris

## PLEASE, SANTA, FIND A HOME FOR ZOIEY & CHLOE!!

### Katnip News!



ZOIEY & CHLOE are adorable sister twins, now age about 15 months, twin tabby/tortoiseshell and sooooo cute!! Zoey has the black nose and Chloe has the lighter colored



nose. They are very bonded and will be adopted together. Zoey and Chloe are such love bugs, but they keep getting passed over because they are so sweet and mild-mannered. Kiss Chloe's face and she just loves it, and will kiss you back. Zoey will keep you entertained for hours. Our Twofur Offer is \$100 for both, which includes spays, microchips, exams & vaccines. A great savings! Our cats are healthy &

negative FELV/FIV unless otherwise indicated.

Chloe's (Luna) video is <https://youtu.be/momqph67A0I>

Zoey's (Bella) video is <https://youtu.be/6cjIPB7fAgk>

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## BEST FRIEND

Dulcimer is a petite young girl with shimmering smoke highlights in her stunning black coat that feels like satin when petted. She loves head massages and slow strokes down her sides. Her pale green eyes are striking and alluring. In Latin, her name means "sweet melody", describing her purring when being held which she allows once she gets to know you. Then she melts into your hands. Dulcimer is very playful and loves to pounce and toss around toys and chase the laser dot. Dulcimer gets along well with her condo roommate, so she will probably do well in a multi-cat family. This sweet and entertaining girl will be a beautiful and loving addition to any family. November 21st - December 31st is



Dulcimer

the "Home for the Holidays" special adoption promotion event!! All cats and kitten have a special adoption fee of only \$25! This is a great opportunity to bring Dulcimer into your life. The adoption fee includes spay surgery, vaccinations, microchip and a free wellness exam at a participating veterinarian. Feel free to call us at (626) 286-1159 for more information. She currently resides at the San Gabriel Valley Humane Society located at 851 E. Grand Avenue in San Gabriel which is located off San Gabriel Blvd, north of Mission and south of Las Tunas Drive. To arrange a 'Meet and Greet', please stop by any time from 10:30am to 4:30pm Tuesday through Sunday. Website: [www.sgvhumane.org](http://www.sgvhumane.org).

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## TABLE FOR TWO by Peter Dills thechefknows@yahoo.com

### HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND MERRY CHRISTMAS

By Peter "St. Nick" Dills

Originally dubbed "the devils wine" because the bubbles tended to explode in the thin bottles, champagne has long been the choice (well, my choice) to celebrate special occasions for as long as I can remember. January 1st is National Champagne Day, and for good reason - more bubbles will be served from December 24th to January 1st than any other time of the year. Remembering that only grapes from the region of Champagne, France can be so-titled, our last review for the year celebrates bubbles from Champagne: Mumm Cordon Rouge Brut. This is a non-vintage winner - just like many blends I have written about from California, some of the best champagnes I've had are non-vintage. The wine maker has access to over 500 acres of grapes, and the Reims area of Champagne produces great juice year after year. The Mumm name is rivaled only by the House of Moet for champagne dominance. Though you might see me at the local market picking up a bottle of Veuve Cliquot, for \$10 less I can hardly notice the difference.

Of course, this is not a beverage I would recommend drinking on a regular basis, but for a very lasting memory of a great occasion, this champagne will surely create it! Many of you expressed the need for me to keep the prices down in this article - trust me I hear you loud and clear - but for a celebration I do like this champagne. The Cordon Rouge has a wonderful depth of flavor, though some say a little too sweet (I disagree). If stored properly and chilled to the right temperature you will enjoy this immensely. Save

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**"Before Six"**  
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the strawberries and cherries for the prosecco, this is real champagne. Champagne goes also very well with fried food (the bubbles cut through the oils of the food) and will also compliment a nice bowl of salty popcorn. Yes, I said popcorn. One last tip for the holidays, your sparkling wine or champagne will not keep overnight, so once it's opened at the restaurant or your home plan on sharing with a friend to finish it. Closure: Corked

#### Dills Score

Each week I will give you my Dills Score. Starting with a base of 50 points, I have added 8 points for color, 7 points for aroma or "nose", 9 points for taste, 8 points for finish, and 9 points for my overall impression, which includes my value rating.

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## HOW TO DIVVY UP YOUR FAMILY BELONGINGS PEACEFULLY AND SENSIBLY

Dear Savvy Senior,  
What's the best way to distribute my personal possessions to my kids after I'm gone without causing hard feelings or conflict? I have a lot of jewelry, art, family heirlooms and antique furniture, and three grown kids that don't always see eye-to-eye on things. Planning Ahead

Dear Planning,  
Divvying up personal possessions among adult children or other loved ones can often be a difficult task. Deciding who should get what without showing favoritism, hurting someone's feeling or causing a feud can be difficult, even for close-knit families who enter the process with the best of intentions. Here are a few tips to consider that can help you divide your stuff with minimal conflict.

### Problem Areas

For starters, you need to be aware that it's usually the small, simple items of little monetary value that cause the most conflicts. This is because the value we attach to the small personal possessions is usually sentimental or emotional, and because the simple items are the things that most families fail to talk about.

Family battles can also escalate over whether things are being divided fairly by monetary value. So for items of higher value like your jewelry, antiques and art, consider getting an appraisal to assure fair distribution. To locate an appraiser, see Appraisers.org or AppraisersAssociation.org.

### Ways to Divvy

The best solution for passing along your personal possessions is for you to go through your house with your kids or other heirs either separately or all at once. Open up cabinets, drawers and closets, and go through boxes in the attic and/or basement to find out which items they would like to inherit and why. They may have some emotional attachment to something you're not aware of. If more than one child wants the same thing, you will have the ultimate say. Then you need to sit down and make a list of who gets what on paper, signed, dated and referenced in



your will. You can revise it anytime you want. You may also want to consider writing an additional letter or create an audio or video recording that further explains your intentions.

You can also specify a strategy for divvying up the rest of your property. Here are some methods that are fair and reasonable:

- Take turns choosing: Use a round-robin process where your kids take turns choosing the items they would like to have. If who goes first becomes an issue, they can always flip a coin, draw straws or roll dice. Also, to help simplify things, break down the dividing process room-by-room, versus tackling the entire house. To keep track of who gets what, either make a list or use adhesive dots with a color assigned to each person to tag the item.
- Have a family auction: Give each person involved the same amount of play money, or use virtual points or poker chips to bid on the items they want.

For more ideas, see "Who Gets Grandma's Yellow Pie Plate?" at YellowPiePlate.umn.edu. This is a resource created by the University of Minnesota Extension Service that offers a detailed workbook or interactive CD for \$12.50, and DVD for \$30 that gives pointers to help families discuss property distribution and lists important factors to keep in mind that can help avoid conflict.

It's also very important that you discuss your plans in advance with your kids so they can know ahead what to expect. Or, you may even want to start distributing some of your items now, while you can still alive.

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.

## SENIOR HAPPENINGS



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY! ....December Birthdays\*

Pat Karamitros, Joan Hufnagel, Mary Alice Cervera, Carol Horejsi, Shirley Anhalt, Mignon Grijalva, Helen Reese, Levon Yapoujian, Toni Buckner, Lottie Bugl, Pat McGuire, Sheila Wohler, Nan Murphy, Eleanor Hensel, Sylvia Curl, Elizabeth Levie, Gayle Licher, Cindy Barran, and Melissa Stute.

\* To add your name to this distinguished list, please call the paper at 626.355.2737. YEAR of birth not required but you must be over 60.



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

Hawaiian & Polynesian Dance Class: Every Tuesday morning from 10a.m. to 11a.m. Join instructor Barbara Dempsey as she leads you in the art of Hula.

Bingo Time: Every Tuesday beginning at 1:00p.m. Cards are only \$0.25 each! Everyone is welcome to join. Activity may be canceled if less than five people.

Free Blood Pressure Testing: 2nd Tuesdays of the month from 11a.m. to 12p.m. No appt. is necessary.

Brain Games - \*New Activity\*: Join us on Thursday November 16th, at 10:30a.m. to 11:30a.m. for

Scattergories. A creative thinking game by naming objects within a set of categories. Everyone is welcome, and no experience is needed. What a great way to strengthen your brain and make new friends. Activities are facilitated by Senior Volunteers.

Free Legal Consultation: Wednesday, November 15th from 10:30a.m. to Noon. Attorney Lem Makupson is available for legal consultation. Specializing in Family Law, Wills, Trusts, Estates, and Injury. Appointments are required by calling 626-355-7394.

Senior Club: Meets every Saturday at the Hart Park House Senior Center. Brown Bag Lunch at 11:30a.m.

Chair Yoga: Mondays & Wednesdays from 11:00a.m. to 11:45a.m. with Paul Hagen. Classes include yoga and balance exercises. All ability levels are encouraged and welcomed!\* A voluntary donation of \$5.00 per week is suggested but not required.

Birthday Celebrations: Every 2nd Thursday monthly at the Hart Park House, share some free birthday cake provided by the Sierra Madre Civic Club.

Game Day: Every Thursday starting at 12:00p.m. Come join this group of Seniors in their poker game. Other games are offered to all.

Free Strength Training Class: Fridays from 12:45p.m. to 1:30p.m. with Lisa Brandley. This energetic class utilizes light weights, low impact resistance and training conditioning. Class equipment is provided.

### UPCOMING EXCURSIONS:



### THE MISSION INN & FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS (Riverside)

Date: Friday, December 15, 2017

Time: 2:15 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: Hart Park House Senior Center

Cost: \$20 (Does not include dinner)

## KATIE Tse .....This and That CHRISTMAS MESSAGE



Merry Christmas! I've been very guilty lately of recycling old articles, or not even submitting anything at all. But I wanted to make sure that I sent something in for Christmas. Usually I save

my evangelistic article for New Year, because I think nothing puts people in a mood to consider their own mortality like the passage of another year. This time, however, I wanted to share Jesus at Christmas time, because He is the reason we celebrate Christmas.

After eight years of writing for this paper, it's hard to find new ways of presenting the Gospel message. But maybe that's a good thing, because many of my favorite pastors have pointed out that the Gospel needs no embellishment. It stands by itself.

What can be more appealing than the thought of God intervening in human history for the sake of a people who largely deny Him? "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Why did He need to die for us? "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord." But what if you do not believe you are a sinner in need of salvation? "For all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God." The key is in the second half of the sentence --even if you think you're a better person than the drunk down the street, you must admit that you fall short when compared with a perfect, righteous, sinless God.

Why would God come to earth and die in our place? "For God so LOVED the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Who is this God, and what is He like? It is hard to imagine having a relationship with a spiritual person outside the realm of time and space in which we humans exist. Jesus is the "express image of God," God in the flesh. How would God describe Himself? "I am GENTLE, and LOWLY in heart." "I am the Good Shepherd. I lay down My life for the sheep." "But when [the prodigal son] was a great way off, the Father saw him, and had compassion, and

ran and fell on his neck and kissed him."

I think one reason people have a hard time relating to God as our Heavenly Father is because they might have a bad relationship with their earthly father. I am blessed to have a wonderful dad, but I could imagine that having a poor father figure might make it hard to appreciate God's role as father. One of the most touching father stories that I think is a good representation of what God is like is actually about my mom's father, who I never met because he passed away before I was born.

My mom was in college at the time. They lived in Michigan, and the story takes place during winter in the 1960's. My mom was upset about something, probably crying. Her college was a long distance from home, but my grandpa drove the 30 miles through the darkness of a Michigan winter night and met her at her dorm to take her out for coffee. She tells the story often, and always mentions that she will never forget the image of her dad standing in the lobby. He didn't tell her over the phone to buck up and get over whatever she was upset about. He didn't send someone else to battle the dark, snowy road because he couldn't be bothered. He didn't even complain about the inconvenience when he got there. No, he was happy to come! Why? Because she was his daughter and he loved her!

If this story is even a faint reflection of the immense love God has for us, His children, how great must that love be! "How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God --and that is what we are!" And that, is the message of Christmas.

If you choose to accept Jesus as your Savior you can pray this prayer and He will come into your heart and give you peace with God --today and forever!

"Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. I turn from my sins and invite You to come into my heart and life. I want to trust and follow You as my Lord and Savior. In Your Name. Amen."

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Looking Up  
with Bob Eklund

## NASA INVESTS IN CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT FOR MISSIONS TO COMET, SATURN MOON TITAN

NASA has selected two finalist concepts for a robotic mission planned to launch in the mid-2020s: a comet sample return mission and a drone-like rotorcraft that would explore potential landing sites on Saturn's largest moon, Titan.

The agency announced the concepts December 20, following an extensive and competitive peer review process. The concepts were chosen from 12 proposals submitted in April under a New Frontiers program announcement of opportunity.

"This is a giant leap forward in developing our next bold mission of science discovery," said Thomas Zurbuchen, associate administrator for NASA's Science Mission Directorate in Washington. "These are tantalizing investigations that seek to answer some of the biggest questions in our solar system today."

The finalists:

Comet Astrobiology Exploration Sample Return (CAESAR):

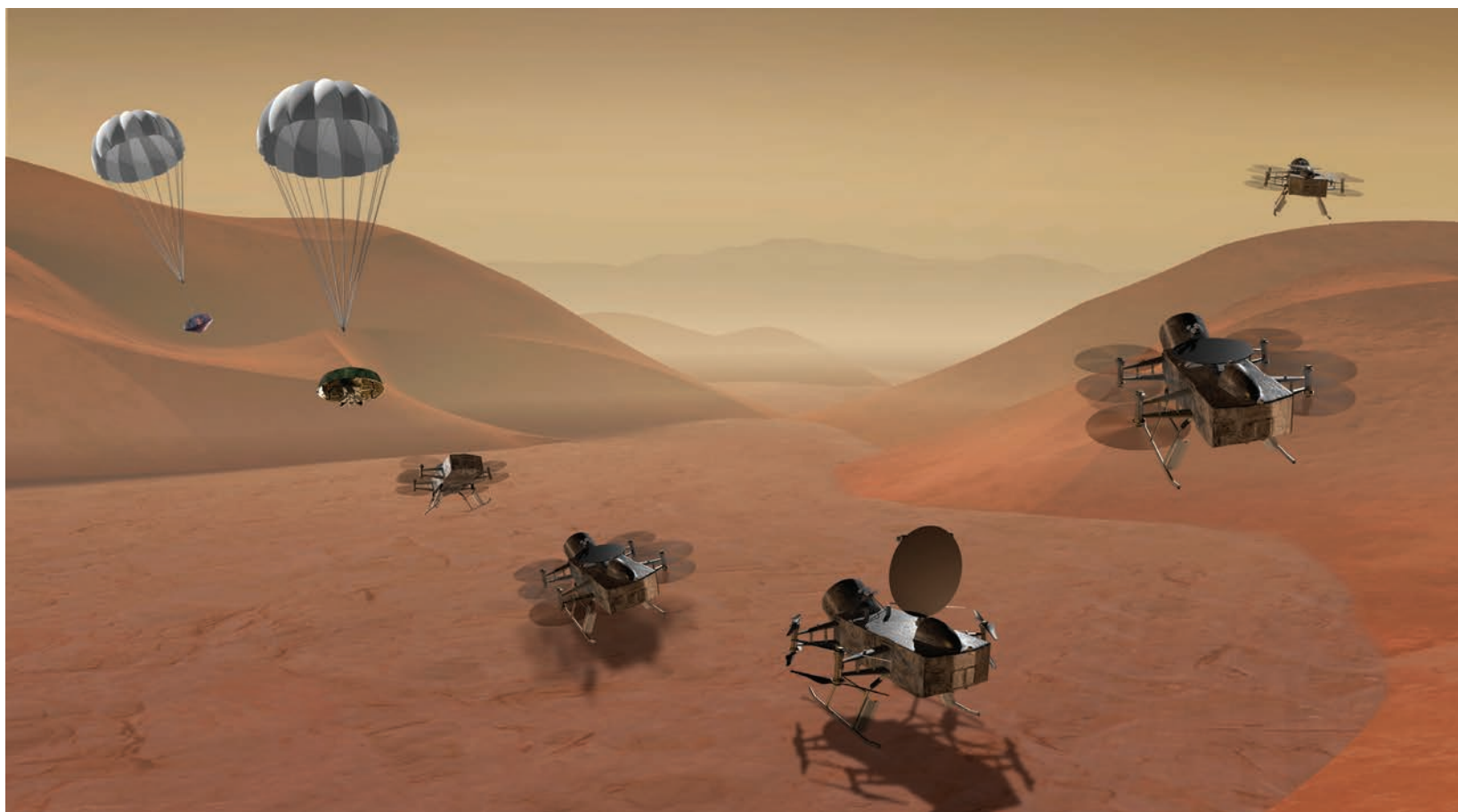
The CAESAR mission seeks to return a sample from 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko, a comet that was successfully explored by the European Space Agency's Rosetta spacecraft, to determine its origin and history. Led by Steve Squyres of Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, CAESAR would be managed by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland.

Dragonfly:

Dragonfly is a drone-like rotorcraft that would explore the prebiotic chemistry and habitability of dozens of sites on Saturn's moon Titan, an ocean world in our solar system. Elizabeth Turtle from the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory (APL) in Laurel, Maryland, is the lead investigator, with APL providing project management.

The CAESAR and Dragonfly missions will receive funding through the end of 2018 to further develop and mature their concepts. NASA plans to select one of these investigations in the spring of 2019 to continue on to subsequent mission phases.

The selected mission will be the fourth in NASA's New Frontiers portfolio, a series of principal investigator-led planetary science investigations that fall under a development cost cap of approximately



\$850 million. Its predecessors are the New Horizons mission to Pluto and a Kuiper Belt object known as 2014 MU69, the Juno mission to Jupiter, and OSIRIS-REx, which will rendezvous with and return a sample of the asteroid Bennu.

NASA also announced the selection of two mission concepts that will receive technology development funds to prepare them for future mission competitions.

The concepts selected for technology development: Enceladus Life Signatures and Habitability (ELSAH)

The ELSAH mission concept will receive funds to develop cost-effective techniques that limit

spacecraft contamination and thereby enable life detection measurements on cost-capped missions. The principal investigator is Chris McKay of NASA's Ames Research Center in California's Silicon Valley, and the managing NASA center is Goddard.

Venus In situ Composition Investigations (VICI)

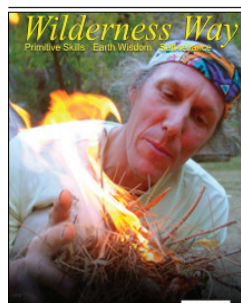
Led by Lori Glaze at Goddard, the VICI mission concept will further develop the Venus Element and Mineralogy Camera to operate under the harsh conditions on Venus. The instrument uses lasers on a lander to measure the mineralogy and elemental composition of rocks on the surface of Venus.

The call for concepts was limited to six mission

themes: comet surface sample return, lunar south pole-Aitken Basin sample return, ocean worlds (Titan and/or Enceladus), Saturn probe, Trojan asteroid tour and rendezvous, and Venus in situ explorer.

New Frontiers Program investigations address NASA's planetary science objectives as described in the 2014 NASA Strategic Plan and the 2014 NASA Science Plan. The program is managed by the Planetary Missions Program Office (<https://planetarymissions.nasa.gov>) at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama, for the agency's Planetary Science Division in Washington.

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

CHRISTOPHER Nyerges  
IN SEARCH OF SANTA CLAUS?

[Nyerges is an author / lecturer / educator who has written such books as "Extreme Simplicity," "How to Survive Anywhere," "Guide to Wild Foods," and other books. Information about his books and classes is available

at [www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance](http://www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance), or Box 41834, Eagle Rock, CA 90041]

A few years ago, I recall a Christian woman complaining that Santa Claus has gained a more prominent role during the Christmas season than the Jesus child. She argued that this was a sign that "we" have allowed secularism – and maybe even paganism – to creep into the Christmas tradition. Really?

So, who is Santa Claus? Isn't he just a fictitious jolly man to make us feel happy during the dark of December? Not really. There actually was an historical figure, upon which "Santa Claus" is based.

Nikolas of Myra was an historical 4th century Bishop in the Catholic church of Asia Minor (modern-day Demre, Turkey). He was born on March 15, 270, in Pataya, Lycia, in Asia Minor, which is now modern Turkey. At that time, however, the area was culturally Greek, and was politically a part of the Roman diocese of Asia. He was the only child of wealthy Greek parents, who both died in an epidemic when Nicholas was young. Nicholas inherited much from his parents, and was then raised by his uncle (also named Nicholas), who was a Bishop of Patara, and who trained young Nicholas into priesthood.

Nicholas was said to be religious from an early age, and he always fasted on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Because of his outspoken beliefs, he was persecuted by the Romans and was imprisoned during the persecution of Diocletian.

In case you never heard of the "persecution of Diocletian," it was the Roman Empire's most severe of the persecutions against Christians, simply because they were Christians. It was also known as the "Great Persecution." In 303, four emperors issued a series of dictatorial laws which essentially did away with any legal rights of Christians. The edicts demanded that the Christians comply with traditional Roman "religious" practices, meaning, giving sacrifices to the various Roman gods. The implementation of these edicts was weakest in the British colonies where the Empire had the least sway, and the most severe in the Eastern provinces, where Nicholas lived.

Since Nicholas refused to worship the Roman gods, he was imprisoned, and suffered hardship, hunger, and cold for about 5 years. Then Constantine came into power, a man know for "Christianizing" the Roman Empire. He nominally became a Christian, and ended the persecutions in 313, and Nicholas was released. Constantine is known for "Christianizing" the Roman Empire, and re-naming all the Mythraic and so-called "pagan" holidays so they could all now be regarded as Christian holidays.

Shortly after his return to his homeland in 317 A.D., Nicholas became the Bishop of Myra.

He was later invited to attend the First Council of Nicaea in 325, the famous council where much of the modern dogma of the Catholic church was determined. Nicholas of Myra was one of many bishops to participate in the Council at Constantine's request. He is listed as the 151st attendee at the Council.

At the Council, Nicholas was a staunch anti-Arian. Arius of Alexandria held the position that the Son of God did not always exist, but was created by the Father. Nicholas disagreed with Arius, and defended the developing orthodox Christian viewpoint. According to stories told, Nicholas got so angry at Arius that he punched him in the face! Really? Proto-Santa Claus punches a fellow man of the cloth?

Back in his homeland, Nicholas developed the reputation of being a generous bishop. He inherited wealth from his parents, and he would sometimes give gold and other valuables to those who he learned were in need. In one case, it is said that Nicholas tossed a bag of gold coins into a needy family's yard, anonymously. Those who wrote about Nicholas said that he was a humble man, and didn't want to be seen giving money to people, so he did it secretly. He was so famous for wanting to give such gifts in private when he traveled the countryside, children were told to go to sleep quickly or Nicholas would not come with gifts. This, apparently, is the origin of telling

children to go to sleep or that Santa will not come.

In one story, he apparently snuck into the home of a family where the three daughters of a poor man were about to get married. Nicholas put some gold into the stockings which the girls left by the fire to dry. This, apparently, is the origin of hanging up stockings on Christmas eve. Nicholas was also well known for the gifts that he gave to newly married couples during the already established Christmas season.

And so it goes. Nicholas was a complex man, part of the new Catholic tradition which celebrated the birth of Jesus on the already-observed winter solstice. (Early Judeo-Christians did not celebrate the birth of Jesus, a date that has been lost to history. Some historians argue that the birth of Jesus occurred in either May or September, but everyone agrees it was not December 25.)

He died on December 6, 343, which is to this day known as "Saint Nicholas Day." Upon his death, he was buried in the cathedral of Myra. He is revered as a saint in most sects of Christianity and is especially honored in the Eastern Orthodox Church.

By the year 450, churches in Greece and Asia Minor were being named in honor of Nicholas. He was officially honored as a saint by the Eastern Catholic Church in 800. December 6 began to be celebrated as Bishop Nicholas Day in France by the 1200s.

As time went on, when ever someone received a mysterious gift, it would often be attributed to Saint Nicholas, which helped to grow his mythology.

The Dutch called Saint Nicholas "Sinterklass," which is the most likely manner in which the name Saint Nicholas gradually evolved into "Santa Claus." Along the way, Saint Nicholas was given some of the attributes of Odin, the Norse God, who could travel through the sky and who had a secret home somewhere around the north pole. Come to think of it, even the Superman story borrowed from Odin. Remember how Superman sometimes goes to a secret cavern in the Northern coldlands and converses with his ancestors via ice crystals?

The image continued to morph over the years, with the Coco Cola company giving the world a somewhat sanitized and plumper Saint Nicholas / Santa Claus with their early 20th century ads. There we began to see the fatter bearded man in the red suit.

Today, the man you see in the mall is the modern condensation of fact and myth, embodying the generosity of one Catholic Bishop, the good will of all who gave gifts in his stead, and bits of the mythology of Odin. And I was really feeling good about that, thinking that the mall is at least one last place where you can go and take your picture with Santa for free – except, in most malls these days, you can't! Yes children, even Santa has to make a living.



## OUT TO PASTOR

A Weekly Religion Column by Rev. James Snyder

THE YEAR SLIPPED INTO THE SILENCE  
OF THE NIGHT

No time in the year is busier than the Christmas holiday season. Under normal circumstances, it would not be too bad, except for the fact that the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage is in charge.

Not complaining, mind you, but she is in charge 365 days out of the year. Her battery never runs down and never needs charging.

I am glad she is like that because it gives me less to do during such busy holiday times. She knows exactly what she is going to do and how she is going to do it and when she is going to do it. My job during the holiday season is to Stay Out Of Her Way.

However, the hustle and the bustle of the holiday season is over and for a minute or two, we can relax.

I never know when that time comes. Like I got up early the other morning and heard from the other side of the bed, "What are you getting up for? Don't you know Christmas is over?"

When we did get up, she fixed our morning coffee and we sat around the Christmas tree just enjoying the quietness. A few days ago, the whole room was alive with chatter and laughter. You might recognize that as "grandchildren." Of course, this was the first year we had our great grandson with us. It was a hilarious time of noise and activity.

What would Christmas be without that kind of celebration?

Now it is over and we were sitting around staring at the Christmas tree drinking our After-Christmas-Morning-Joe.

Not paying attention to anything that was going on, just enjoying the silence I did not hear my wife sighing. It was a gentle sigh, so I did not hear it right away.

That is the difference between husbands and wives. My wife can hear what I am thinking seven days before I even start thinking. A man, on the other hand, takes seven days just to hear something.

It finally came to me what she was doing and so I asked, "What are you in such deep thought about?"

That brought another deep sigh and a moment of silence and then she said, "I can't believe another year is gone."

At first, I did not know what she was talking about so I asked her to repeat and explain what she was talking about.

"I can't believe," she repeated with a deep sigh, "that another year has gone by so quickly."

After a few thoughtful seconds, I begin to understand what she was saying. Another year has slipped by into the silence of the night to be seen no more.

At first, it was a little disconcerting. I was having fun, or so I thought, during the year. To see that go was a little bit disturbing and so I began sighing deep sighs. We formed a wonderful duet singing the "Silent-Night-Sighing-Duo."

With only a few more hours left of the old year I really did not know how to spend it. It goes by so fast that it is hard for me to keep up. What could I do for a couple of hours that would make this year a remarkable year?

Then my wife challenged me with a very sophisticated question. She certainly knows how to interrogate a person and should be on the FBI's payroll.

"What was," she said rather thoughtfully, "the one most important part of this year for you?"

What a question. How can you boil a whole year down to one thing? After all, you have 365 days, 52 weeks and 12 months, how in the world can you boil all that down to one thing?

"I'm not sure," I said rather hesitatingly. "What was your one important aspect of the year?"

I thought I could deflect the question and get her talking about her year and forgetting about my year. She had many things that were very important to her during the year. Most of it had to do with her grandchildren. If there were an annual award for the best grandmother, she would probably win.

Then of course, there were the thrift store shopping escapades. She knows every thrift store in the county and knows everybody working those stores. The most important aspect of this is, they know her and quite well.

I would be failing in my duty as a husband if I did not mention the marvelous cooking and baking she has done throughout the year. She once mentioned that maybe I should go on a diet and I rebutted by saying, "How in the world could I give up eating your delicious food?" She smiled and never mentioned going on a diet again.

Hoping she had forgotten about me, she turned to me and ask, "So, what was the best part of your year?"

Finally, a thought came to me, and I replied, "Spending the year was someone like you." I thought that would get me off the hook for a while until she responded by saying, "What do you mean someone like me?"

Sometimes no matter what you do or say, it's not the right thing.

David knew something of this when he wrote, "I have considered the days of old, the years of ancient times. I call to remembrance my song in the night: I commune with mine own heart: and my spirit made diligent search" (Psalm 77:5-6).

Cherishing good memories makes the New Year that much more exciting.

Dr. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, 1471 Pine Road, Ocala, FL 34472. He lives with his wife in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 352-687-4240 or e-mail [jamesnsnyder2@att.net](mailto:jamesnsnyder2@att.net). The church web site is [www.whatafellowship.com](http://www.whatafellowship.com).

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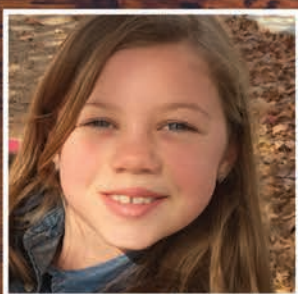
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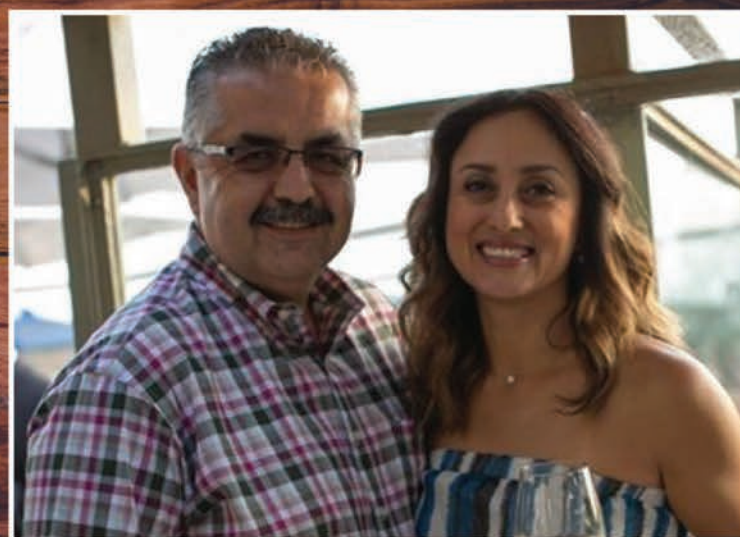


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## AROUND SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

### THE GOP TAX BILL IS FINAL: HOW DOES IT AFFECT YOU?

The Republicans' final tax plan perpetuates economic, educational, and wealth disparities in the United States and the President is committed to signing it. However, the Joint Committee on Taxation and Tax Policy Center found that all income groups will, on average, see a tax cut in 2018 and 2019, with proper planning. Californians did not fare as well as the rest of the nation, since the final plan limits the deductions for income, sales, and property taxes to \$10,000 annually and California has the highest income and sales taxes and second highest gas taxes in the nation. This reminds me of a Belizean proverb that says "Don't call the alligator a big-mouth until you have crossed the river"

If you itemize deductions, the GOP plan preserves 401(k) rules, the adoption tax credit, and deductions for the graduate school stipend (tax-free tuition waiver), the student loan interest and charitable giving. In addition, the medical expense deduction threshold was lowered to 7.5 percent for 2018 and 2019, but it reverts to 10 percent thereafter. To capitalize on these it would be wise to plan any major medical procedures in 2018 or 2019. You should consider increasing your 2017 charitable deduction, 401(k) IRA deductions, and contributions to your children's college now. The GOP plan allows mortgage interest deduction on new loans up to \$750K. Existing loans remain deductible up to \$1 million under current law.

If you are planning to purchase a new home in 2018, consider asking the seller to carry a second "principle-only" loan, and/or increasing your down payment to avoid a home mortgage greater than \$750,000. Additionally, be sure to claim the property tax homeowner's exemption of \$7,000 with your local county assessor and examine any additional property tax assessments (school bonds, water district taxes, municipal bonds, etc.) which could increase the cost of your new home and your taxes. Don't get it twisted, buying a home is still a good investment considering the appreciation and long term savings from rent increases.

The plan eliminates the personal exemptions of \$4,050 for each family member, but doubles the standard deduction to \$24,000 if married, \$18,000 for heads of household, and \$12,000 if single. It also expands the child tax credit from \$1,000 to \$2,000 (of which \$1,400 is refundable) and provides for a temporary \$500 credit for each non-child dependent (for example, a child 17 or older, an ailing elderly parent, an adult child with a disability). The plan also expands the use of 529 accounts to reimburse up to \$10,000 in educational expenses for students in K-12 private schools or who are homeschooled and preserves the Earned Income Tax Credit of up to \$6,318 for qualified individuals earning less than \$53,930 (for the 2017 federal tax year). If you qualify for all of the above, you may actually receive a refund, even if you paid zero taxes and are not required to file your tax return.

Grandparents can profit from the annual gift tax exclusion of up to \$14,000 by giving their children money to pay for childcare and summer camp, depending on their income, and your children can then claim the childcare deductions. You could also give money to your college graduate to double down on their college loan interest, depending on their income, and then they can deduct the student interest, keeping the money all in the family.

Changes to Obamacare eliminated the mandatory provisions of the Act. The Congressional Budget Office estimated that 13 million people will cancel their Obamacare plans. This will likely cause the premiums to increase significantly for those who remain, including Californians unless the state legislature takes immediate action to subsidize the program. Equally concerning, Congress has yet to reauthorize \$2 billion in funding for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), which provides health care coverage for 1 million children. The legislature must act immediately to encourage Congress to reauthorize the CHIP. Another devastating aspect of the Plan is that in 2018 it eliminates the deduction for casualty losses - for property lost or damaged by a fire, flood, earthquake, or due to theft - unless the area is declared a federal disaster area. The California legislature should seek federal designation of all calamities in California immediately. Losses resulting from

our recent wild fires in 2017 remain deductible.

Wealthy Californians will save millions with some strategic tax planning. Warren Buffett, the second richest man in America, noted in the New York Times that he paid "a lower percentage of his taxable income than any of the other 20 people in his office." Under the GOP tax plan, Mr. Buffett will pay even less taxes. The plan cuts the tax rate for households making over \$600,000 and individuals making over \$500,000 from 39.6% to 37%. The plan also cuts the corporate tax rate to 21%, down from 35%; and the Individual Alternative Minimum Tax exemption will be increased to \$500K for individuals and \$1 million for couples filing jointly, up from the current \$54,300 for individuals and \$84,500 for couples. In 2018, the plan doubles the amount of the current exemption from Estate Tax from \$5.5 million to \$11 million for individuals, and from \$11 million to \$22 million for couples filing jointly, with annual adjustments for inflation.

Individuals with pass-through companies such as S corporations, LLCs, partnerships, or sole proprietorships will be allowed to deduct 20% of their taxable income through 2025 when this provision sunsets. Service businesses such as law firms, doctors' offices, and investment firms can only take the 20% deduction if they make up to \$315,000 (for couples). In addition, the final bill gets rid of the corporate alternative minimum tax, a big relief to the business community, and allows for a new capital investment deduction for new capital equipment. Accordingly, if you work as an employee for companies such as Uber, you should consider setting yourself up as an independent contractor to take advantage of this huge tax break and waiting until 2018 to purchase any equipment. Doctors and lawyers may want to set up split companies where the assets are owned by a corporation and the partnership pays the salaries. Lastly, the plan changes the current worldwide tax system for multi-national corporations to a territorial tax system, which provides for a significant reduction in taxes on upwards of \$3 trillion in foreign profits left abroad to avoid paying U.S. taxes and allows U.S. companies to delay the repatriation for years.

To protect its taxpayers, California must consider tax reform that will stimulate long-term career employment for the 947,000 unemployed and 800,000 individuals living in poverty in California. I would recommend an on-the-job (OTJ) training program that provides job training for the unemployed, lowering the state income tax rate for the poor and middle-income earners to stimulate the economy, doubling the renter's tax credit to increase affordable living, and providing a deduction for parents who donate time and resources to public schools. To pay for these policies, the legislature could prioritize redirecting the current billions in existing tax credits and loopholes: toll the OTJ credit for one and 1/2 years to allow the state to capitalize on the economic stimuli of the credit; establish government efficiency programs that allow the state to recapture lost federal dollars, such as the \$1.4 billion in unclaimed federal Earned Income Tax Credits; collect the upwards of \$9 billion in taxes from the black market operators who unfairly compete with California businesses; and establish government efficiency programs to recapture the upwards of \$18 billion in accounts receivables (unpaid taxes) at California's taxing agencies. California leads the way in protecting children of immigrants, rightfully so, and we should do the same to protect Californians from the Republicans' tax and public policies.

The above tax planning concepts are provided for discussion purposes only, and you should consult with your tax professional to determine how they apply to your specific circumstances.

*Board of Equalization Member Jerome Horton has over 37 years of public and tax policy experience, serving as a member of the Inglewood City Council, State Legislature, California Medical Commission, California Cultural Endowment and Workforce Investment Board and as the 1st African American elected to the California State Board of Equalization.*

### 60 TONS OF REAL SNOW AT THE MUSEUM!

Play in real snow, build your own snowman friend, perfect your snowball making skills, add your mark to our collaborative winter art installation, and make snow angels. Continue to celebrate the season with live performances each day, winter-themed art, and the science of snow. Cookie decorating will also be available for an additional \$3 fee. Break out your mittens, boots, and snow hat for a day of winter wonderland fun!

Performance Schedule - Daily at 1:00p

December 26 - Rumbling Rhythms: Interactive Drumming  
Mr. Alan is a longtime educator, from classroom to museum, and is masterful at utilizing the arts to enhance and supplement learning. Learn and express yourself through the language and metaphor of rhythm.

December 27 - Shakti Circus: Hula Hoop & Stilt Walking Show

Join your friends Pixie the Clown, Billie Ballerina, and Jingles the Elf in Winter Wonderland. This interactive show is chock-full of jump stilts, hula hoops, and circus fun. Stick around after the show to dance, hula, and take photos.

December 28 - Wildlife Learning Center: Winter Animal Show

A live animal show featuring a red fox, a porcupine, a white rabbit, a chinchilla, and an owl.

December 29 - Arte Flamenco  
Arte Flamenco Dance Theatre, Inc., is a non-profit organization, with a mission "to enrich people's lives



through dance." This children's dance performance will present a world dance program featuring dances of Spain, Mexico and Hawaii.

December 30 - René's Marionettes

This family-friendly show features an assortment of unique marionettes from a dancing monkey to singing chickens. These colorful characters are guaranteed to bring out the grins, smiles, giggles, and laughs in everyone!

*Kidspace Children's Museum*

*Snow Days*

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*Tuesday - Saturday, December 26 - 30, Weekday hours: 9:30am - 5:00pm, Weekend hours: 10:00am - 5:00pm*

### MEET AND GREET ASSEMBLYWOMAN RUBIO

By Joan Schmidt

This past Tuesday, Assemblywoman Blanca Rubio came to Pamela Park for a special "Meet and Greet" event hosted by the Monrovia Arcadia Duarte Town Council. It was the FIRST TIME since our formation in 1993 that an Assembly Member specifically came to the unincorporated area for a "Meet and Greet". All Town Council Members, President Dave Hall, Vice President Terrence Williams and Council Members Yvonne Bullock, Lucy Nicoloro, Joan Schmidt and Linda Sells were present, as well as Pamela Park Recreation Services Supervisor Sam Estrada, Live Oak Library Manager Denise Dilley, Duarte School Board President Reyna Diaz, Captain Dave Flores from Temple Station, and several area residents. Even former resident and much-loved champion of youth and sports, Rodney Jefferson, traveled from Fontana for the special event! In under an hour's time, we learned about this remarkable woman, how the Assembly operates and background info about various bills.

The day Elvis died, forty years ago marks the Rubio Family's arrival in California. Undocumented, her parents quickly obtained work visas and eventually the family became citizens.

Rubio attended Beaumont High School; after graduation she earned an Associate's Degree from East LA College and Bachelor's in Business from Azusa Pacific. Rubio worked in human resources in the Baldwin Park School District for several years and helped teachers get credentialed. A teacher's shortage brought encouragement for her to enter that field; Rubio obtained her Credential and a Master's in Education from APU.

During her tenure in human resources, Rubio was on the San Gabriel Valley Water Board. She also was a champion of keeping class sizes at a 20 to 1 ratio. As a teacher, she continued to speak in favor of a 20-1 ratio. Since Rubio wouldn't back down, she was encouraged to run for Baldwin Park School Board which she won. A conflict of interest, (One cannot teach and serve on a School Board in the same district) brought her transfer to Fontana School District. Rubio taught for thirteen years (Fontana) and was on the B.P. School Board for thirteen years.



The Assemblywoman describes herself as "Moderate" and "Progressive". Not a politician, she fights for what she believes in and won't back down no matter what pressure there is.

Rubio received a lot of flack because she voted "NO" on AB 42 (Eliminating bail). The consensus is bail is unfair because lower-income people cannot afford it. Rubio was accused of not caring about poor people. She voted "no" because "there were too many blank spaces in the bill".

SB 10 also dealt with the bail issue; Rubio would not sign it. CA Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye also expressed concern and established a panel to study it. Governor Drown advised a vote not be taken till the judge's report on the bail system comes out in December.

Rubio also discussed the GAS Hike. She FINALLY supported the bill AFTER it was guaranteed funding would come to the San Gabriel Valley and work begun immediately on the 605 Freeway.

Rubio explained her schedule-she is in Sacramento 4 days; but here Fridays-Sundays. (After being here 30 years, that's nice to finally find out!)

Her schedule in Sacramento enables her to be at her office by 9 A.M. Mondays. She and her staff are able to review all upcoming legislation prior to the 1pm session. Most Assembly Members arrive at 1 pm!

Residents of the 48th District, be grateful- we have someone in Sacramento who is above politics, working for her constituents!



Giving Thanks AND  
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THROUGHOUT THIS

Holiday Season & New Year!

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## Real Estate by JAN GRETEMAN

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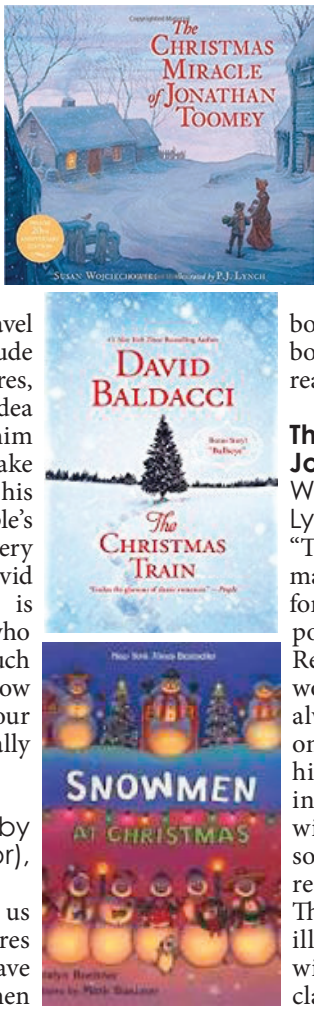


Jeff's Book Pics

By Jeff Brown

**The Christmas Train** by David Baldacci  
One of America's most critically acclaimed storytellers, David Baldacci has enthralled millions with his popular novels. Showcasing his remarkable versatility, Baldacci gift-wraps a beloved holiday classic...Disillusioned journalist Tom Langdon must get from Washington, D.C., to L.A. in time for Christmas. Forced to travel by train, he begins a journey of rude awakenings, thrilling adventures, and holiday magic. He has no idea that the locomotives pulling him across America will actually take him into the rugged terrain of his own heart, as he rediscovers people's essential goodness and someone very special he believed he had lost. David Baldacci's *The Christmas Train* is filled with memorable characters who have packed their bags with as much wisdom as mischief...and shows how we do get second chances to fulfill our deepest hopes and dreams, especially during this season of miracles.

**Snowmen at Christmas** by Caralyn Buehner (Author), Mark Buehner (Illustrator)  
*Snowmen at Night* shared with us the magical, slip-sliding adventures of snowmen after dark . . . but have you ever wondered what snowmen



do for Christmas? Well, now's your chance to find out! The snowmen are back, and this time they're celebrating Christmas—the snowman way! This snappy and entertaining companion to the New York Times bestseller *Snowmen at Night* depicts all the best parts of the holiday, replete with icy treats and a snowman Kris Kringle. Told in the same bouncy verse as the original, the book is perfect for a snowy evening read-aloud.

**The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey** by Susan Wojciechowski (Author), P.J. Lynch (Illustrator)  
“The tale is unfolded with such mastery, humor, and emotional force that we are entirely within its power.” —The New York Times Book Review. Jonathan Toomey is the best woodcarver in the valley, but he is always alone and never smiles. No one knows about the mementos of his lost wife and child that he keeps in an unopened drawer. But one early winter's day, a widow and her young son approach him with a gentle request that leads to a joyful miracle. The moving, lyrical tale, gloriously illustrated by P.J. Lynch, has been widely hailed as a true Christmas classic.

All Things

By Jeff Brown

CLARITY BY NATHAN GILL

You are Consciousness. You are that in which all appears. World, body, thoughts – all appear in you. You are not to be found as separate from anything. You are the source and appearance of all that is. You need not go anywhere or do anything for this to be obvious. It is the most obvious thing. You are always overlooking it, taking it for granted. All appears in awareness, ordinary awareness now, which is the ground of all that is, including this present experience. Simple awareness is the common factor to all experience. Just see that you are simply present. Nothing else is ever happening. See that all arises and falls in present awareness. People pass, clouds are going by, conversations are going on, thoughts appear. All unfolds in present awareness. Within awareness, you are appearing to yourself as everything. People, thoughts, worlds, universes, life,

death – all take place in you. Identification as an ordinary human individual takes place in you. You are the source and appearance of all. All experience appears in you. There is only the present appearance of everything in and as awareness. Any ‘enlightenment’ experience is merely another modification of experience in awareness. You need not attempt any transcendence or annihilation of individuality, ego, or anything else. All of that appears in ordinary awareness. This experience now, however ordinary or extraordinary, is the content of awareness. Nothing whatsoever needs to change, there is nothing to get or realize. You are Consciousness, aware and appearing as everything. There is awareness right now – whatever the content. Awareness and content. Ocean and waves. The ebb and flow of life. This is it now. You are it.

FAMILY MATTERS

By Marc Garlett



WHY A SPENDTHRIFT TRUST CAN BE A GREAT SOLUTION FOR YOUR HEIRS

There are many tools that can be used when putting together your estate plan. One such tool is a trust.

A trust is a fiduciary arrangement, established by a someone (known as the grantor or trustmaker), giving a third party (known as a trustee) the authority to manage assets on behalf of one or more persons (known as a beneficiaries). Since every situation is different, there are a myriad of different types of trusts to ensure the best outcome for each beneficiary. One type of trust, known as a spendthrift trust, is commonly used to protect a beneficiary's interest from creditors, a soon-to-be ex-spouse, or his or her own poor management of money. Generally, these trusts are created for the benefit of individuals who are not good with money, might easily fall into debt, may be easily defrauded or deceived, or have an addiction that may result in squandering of funds.

Spendthrift Trust Basics

Put simply, a spendthrift trust is for the benefit of someone who needs additional assistance managing or protecting his or her money.

The spendthrift trust gives an independent trustee complete control and authority to make decisions on how the funds in the trust may be spent and what payments to or for the benefit of the beneficiary are necessary according to the trust document. Under a spendthrift trust, the beneficiary is prohibited from spending the money before he or she actually receives distributions. These restrictions prevent the beneficiary from squandering their entire interest or having it garnished by the beneficiary's creditors. The trustee controls the assets in the trust, including managing and investing the funds, once the trust is made irrevocable. Most trusts become irrevocable after the grantor has passed, but some are irrevocable from the start.

Creating a Spendthrift Trust

A spendthrift trust is created essentially in the exact same manner as any other trust. However, the vital difference is that the spendthrift trust instrument must contain the right language to invoke the law's protection. A knowledgeable estate planning attorney can provide guidance on how to best structure these provisions, so the trust meets your family's needs.

Like any trust, the benefits of a spendthrift trust can help avoid the delay and expense of probate as well as provide tax benefits and peace of mind. In fact, a spendthrift trust is an invaluable tool in protecting your heirs inheritance and ensuring your loved ones will be taken care of after your passing.

Merry holidays to you and yours!  
Dedicated to empowering your family, building your wealth and creating your legacy,

MARC

A local attorney and father, Marc Garlett is on a mission to help parents protect what they love most. His office is located at 49 S. Baldwin Ave., Ste. G, Sierra Madre, CA 91024. Schedule an appointment to sit down and talk about ensuring a legacy of love and financial security for your family by calling 626.587.3058 or visit [www.GarlettLaw.com](http://www.GarlettLaw.com) for more information.

His office is located at 49 S. Baldwin Ave., Ste. G, Sierra Madre, CA 91024. Schedule an appointment to sit down and talk about ensuring a legacy of love and financial security for your family by calling 626.587.3058 or visit [www.GarlettLaw.com](http://www.GarlettLaw.com) for more information.

By La Quetta M. Shamblee, MBA

BUSINESS TODAY

The latest on Business News, Trends and Techniques

WALKING THROUGH THE DOOR OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Entrepreneurs and small business owners are the engines that drive the economy. The list of successful ventures and contrasting business failures continues to grow each year. New businesses open in cities across America everyday. Some are able to weather all of the unforeseen challenges of starting a new venture, and others watch their dreams fizzle before their eyes. One of the primary factors that distinguishes the two outcomes is summed up in the following quote:

“Do more than is required. What is the distance between someone who achieves their goals consistently and those who spend their lives and careers merely following? The extra mile.” - Gary Ryan Blair

Aside from raising children, starting and running a successful business is one of the hardest things anyone will ever do. Dreamers only dream, but the dreams of entrepreneurs give birth to ideas that drive the economy. Whether it involves purchasing a franchise or existing business, or starting a business from scratch, entrepreneurs give birth to ideas that create revenue, jobs and economic activity.

People who work for themselves often work much more than a typical forty hour work week, but the tradeoff of being one's own boss is the satisfaction that can turn hours into minutes. Entrepreneurs don't have the Monday morning dread of starting the

preverbal countdown to Friday afternoon as soon as the workweek begins. When you love what you do, it's just doesn't feel so much like work.

In recent years, I've met a growing number of professionals who have been “displaced” from their full-time careers as a result of corporate downsizings and mergers that have resulted in wave after wave of layoffs. Those that embrace this major change with a “glass half full” perspective are sometimes drawn into the entrepreneurial arena. They view their job loss as part of a grander plan of “one door closing for another to open” and more and more of them are realizing they have interest in walking through the newly opened door.

Your idea or product may become the next million-dollar feature story, or it may at least result in a secondary income source that pays for the kid's college tuition or family vacation.


Thousands of Americans who survived the past year as entrepreneurs are poised to make bigger and better things happen in the upcoming year. Those who have continued to sit on the sidelines dreaming, contemplating and procrastinating are no closer to realizing the benefits of answering the inner call to “do one's own thing”. If the call to try something daring and different continues to ring in your head, it may be time for you to move beyond your fear and give it your best shot.

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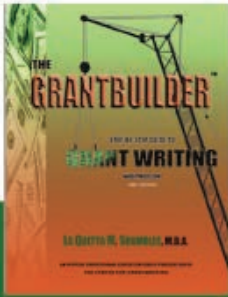
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The traditions of community newspapers and the concerns of our readers are this newspaper's top priorities. We support a prosperous community of well-informed citizens. We hold in high regard the values of the exceptional quality of life in our community, including the magnificence of our natural resources. Integrity will be our guide.

**JOHN L. MICEK**



**CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS ARE THE BEST, EH**

It's the Monday before Christmas, and my daughter, her hair tied up snugly in a bun, plops herself down in the front seat of my car. And as I aim my trusty German import in the direction of her ballet school, she turns to me, her face aglow in the gray afternoon light, a plea in her eyes.

"Can you turn on your Christmas playlist, Daddy?" she asks.

"Of course," I tell her.

At a stop sign, I fiddle with my phone, tap the Spotify app, and a in a couple of seconds my 12-year-old and I are singing along at the top of our lungs to an absolute holiday classic:

"Fiiiiivvvveeee .... golden ... tooookssss ..." we bellow.

I'm talking about, of course, the Bob and Doug McKenzie version of "The 12 Days of Christmas."

This cheeseball piece of 1980s holiday brilliance foisted on the world by comics Rick Moranis and Dave Thomas never fails to reduce my child to a molten pile of giggles.

That cracked chestnut of a carol comes after Band Aid's "Do They Know It's Christmas," but before the Bing Crosby/David Bowie version of "Peace on Earth/The Little Drummer Boy."

We sing along - unapologetically - to all of them. She knows all the words. So I've done my job as a father, I think, as we drive along, our New Wave carol sing in full force.

And it occurs to me that it's those little moments, the rituals we observe at this time of year, that are the glue that are the glue that binds us together. They're the north stars that help us find our way back to each other, no matter how fractious our times.

We have plenty of holiday traditions in my house. There's the elf that magically appears after Thanksgiving, migrating from room to room every morning, popping up in the most unlikely of places. We go together for our tree, decorating it as Vince Guaraldi's soundtrack to "A Charlie Brown Christmas" plays in the background.

Because my wife and I are a mixed-faith couple, we've been lighting Hanukkah candles every night, reciting the prayers that my wife recited as a little girl, and

that my daughter recites now.

She's excited about the presents, of course. And the fact that our new house has a chimney that Santa can actually come down this year, instead of engaging in the creative acts of B&E that allowed him to drop off presents at the old place.

In the middle of it all, I'll try to swim upstream, fighting the tides of commerce, to tell my skeptical, science-minded child the biblical Christmas story that I grew up with.

I'll grab a quiet hour, too, for midnight mass.

There are latkes and Christmas dinner. It's the Italian-style meal of my youth: Soup, pasta, some kind of roast meat and vegetable. Salad at the end, because my Nonna didn't raise a savage. Then dessert and coffee.

At night, we'll go for a drive through the darkness and gawk at the lights, that Christmas playlist playing softly in the car, because those were the songs that soundtracked a million Christmases of my youth, when my nose was pressed against cold window glass as the lights whizzed by.

My wife, I think, indulges me a bit. And that's a gift by itself.

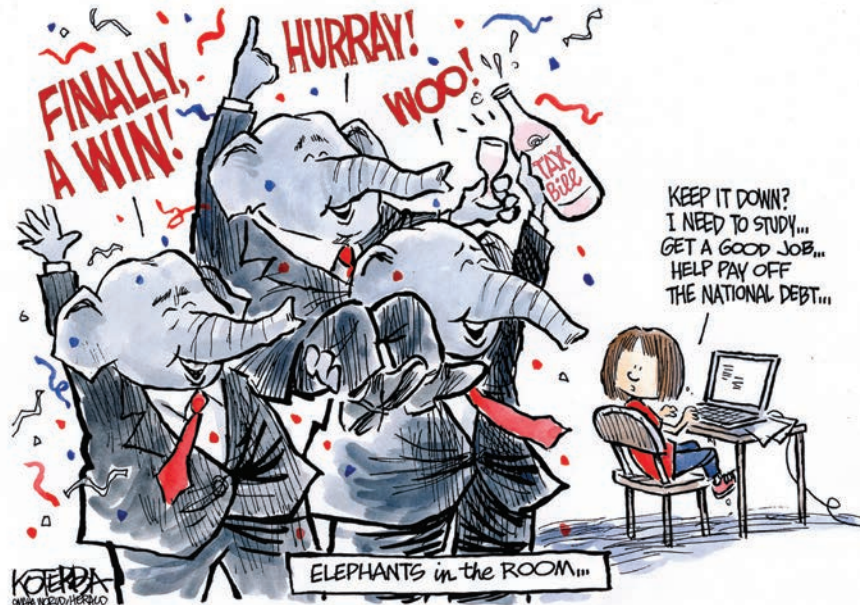
We're forging new traditions in the midst of the old ones, just like we all do when we grow up, and Christmas becomes about way more than just toys and racing downstairs to see what's under the tree.

It's an appreciation tempered by age, and sometimes loss. Because we want to honor the rituals and traditions passed onto us by people who are no longer with us, like my Italian immigrant grandparents, but who are ever-present nonetheless.

Memory is a powerful thing. And it's the memories that my daughter is forging now, at this time of year, that will keep her warm in the years to come, that will provide a through line from the little girl she is now to the woman she has yet to become.

And that makes me hope that someday, when she's older, and her own child plops into the front seat beside her, that my daughter will smile cryptically, hit a button, and that the strains of Bob and Doug McKenzie's "12 Days of Christmas" will blast out of the speakers.

At first, her child will look at her like she's insane, like my daughter did, and then, she (or he) will just give in and sing along. At the top of his or her little lungs.



**LEFT TURN/RIGHT TURN**

**TOM PURCELL**



**A CHRISTMAS DREAM INSPIRED BY IRVING & BING**

I dream of "White Christmas" this year.

I speak of the Irving Berlin classic made famous by Bing Crosby - a sweet, wistful song that holds more power over me with each passing year.

According to CBS News, many speculate that Berlin was inspired to write the song in the late 1930s, while working on a movie in Beverly Hills and feeling homesick for his family in New York.

The holiday season was especially challenging for him. His three-week-old son had died on Christmas 1928. Berlin visited his grave every Christmas, and the sadness of his son's death also influenced the song.

Berlin had set the half-finished song aside for a few years before finishing it during the Christmas season of 1940 or 1941.

Only 54 words, it would become a quintessentially American song - one that, to me, celebrates the American civility, prosperity and opportunity that Berlin was blessed to experience.

According to PBS.org, Berlin's family fled to America from Russia when he was 5 to escape persecution of Jews.

His family "arrived in New York in 1893, settling in Manhattan's Lower East Side. Compelled by poverty to work rather than attending school, Berlin made money by singing on streetcorners and later secured a job as a singing waiter at the Pelham Cafe. During this time, he also began writing songs of his own ..."

Berlin would go on to produce "an outpouring of ballads, dance numbers, novelty tunes and love songs that defined American popular song for much of the (20th) century," says the Songwriters Hall of Fame.

"Irving Berlin has no place in American music - he is American music," said composer Jerome Kern.

In any event, "White Christmas" offers a blend of melancholy and hopefulness, expressing a longing for snow-blanketed Christmases when "treetops glisten and children listen to hear sleigh bells in the snow" and hope that our days will be "merry and bright."

The song premiered on Crosby's radio show in December 1941, just 18 days after the attack on Pearl Harbor, a highly emotional time for America. Eight months later, Crosby was featured singing the song in the movie "Holiday Inn."

However, critics "didn't take much notice" of the song at first, according to Jody Rosen, author of "White Christmas: the Story of an American Song."

She told CBS News that it wasn't until Armed Forces Radio began to play the song that it struck a chord.

"It was 1942, the first winter that American troops had spent overseas," she said. "So, these images of ... snowy American, New Englandy Christmas really spoke to the longing, nostalgia and homesickness of the troops for their homeland and for the sweethearts and wives and mothers and fathers they'd left behind."

And it spoke to a common longing for the civility, unity, sacrifice and hopefulness that all Americans were experiencing at that time.

Well, "White Christmas" is just as relevant now as it ever was - maybe more so.

Its sweet, wistful melody and lyrics make me long for renewed civility, unity, sacrifice and hopefulness - the same things, I believe, all Americans are longing for.

"We are not enemies, but friends," said President Abraham Lincoln in his first inaugural address, whose message still resonates in 2017.

"We must not be enemies," Lincoln said. "Though passion may have strained it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battlefield and patriot grave to every living heart and hearthstone all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union, when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature."

Civility, unity, sacrifice and hopefulness - a great coming together.

That's what I dream of for Christmas this year.

Copyright 2017 Tom Purcell. Tom Purcell, author of "Misadventures of a 1970's Childhood" and "Wicked Is the Whiskey," a Seane McClanahan mystery novel, both available at Amazon.com, is a Pittsburgh Tribune-Review humor columnist and is nationally syndicated exclusively by Cagle Cartoons Inc. For info on using this column in your publication or website, contact Sales@cagle.com or call (805) 969-2829. Send comments to Tom at Tom@TomPurcell.com.

**MAKING SENSE by MICHAEL REAGAN**

**A HOLLY JOLLY TAX BILL**



What a difference a historic Republican tax bill makes.

The liberal media and Democrats, of course, hate what Donald Trump and Republicans in Congress have done without a single Democrat vote.

They are trying their best to degrade, dismiss or deliberately misrepresent the broad benefits that the bill will bring to the half of American households that pay federal income taxes and to the economy in general.

But even some in the Trump-Hate Media have had to admit that the president ended his first busy and rocky year in office with a major political victory.

Unlike all Democrats and a few cranky Republicans, I'm totally happy with the tax bill.

It's not perfect and it's not everything President Trump promised, thanks to lobbyists and the usual backstage Congressional deals and political maneuverings.

I have little doubt that in the near term and long term it will be good for the country, businesses, the Republican Party and middle-class taxpayers.

The tax bill is already paying huge dividends.

AT&T, Boeing, Wells Fargo and other companies, seeing how much they will save because their corporate tax rate has been slashed from 35 percent to 21 percent, are already raising their minimum wages to \$15 an hour and handing out \$1,000 bonuses to hundreds of thousands of their employees.

hThere's no question the GOP tax bill is a lousy deal for high-tax-bracket people like me who live in a high-tax blue state like California or New York.

I pay a California state income tax of 13 percent and a sales tax of about 7 percent, both of which I used to be able to deduct when I itemized my federal taxes.

Under the new laws that take effect in 2018, my deductible for state and local taxes will be capped at \$10,000.

That will make me one of the tax bill's net losers and almost make it not worth itemizing my taxes.

As I told my son, I'll be able to do my 2018 taxes on a postcard - mainly because I've lost my biggest write-off.

I'll just tell my accountant to send in a check for my 37 percent.

Actually, at this point there's probably no reason to have an accountant. I'll just fire him and buy a bunch of postcards.

I'm OK with having to pay more in income taxes under the new rules.

What ticks me off are the Steven Moores and others in the Republican establishment who tell people who don't like paying high state taxes that "You can move. You chose to live there."

No actually, I was born here. My parents chose to live here.

In any case, for me, the mountains, oceans and deserts overshadow the high taxes and the lousy progressive state government that has made sure California has more takers than makers.

As I told my son and daughter-in-law, who live in California, they should be happier than heck with the new tax set-up and its higher standard deductions.

They don't own a house, they're both working and they'll be able to claim two children in 2018. They'll be partaking of every benefit of the GOP tax bill.

So I have a suggestion for all you California 1-percenters who might be whining about the new tax bill today.

If you are lucky enough to have kids who are married with children, hit them up for a loan because they are the ones who are really going to be helped by this new tax bill. Donald Trump and the Republicans were right - Merry Christmas, Middle America.

Copyright 2017 Michael Reagan. Michael Reagan is the son of President Ronald Reagan, a political consultant, and the author of "The New Reagan Revolution" (St. Martin's Press). He is the founder of the email service reagan.com and president of The Reagan Legacy Foundation. Visit his websites at www.reagan.com and www.michaelereagan.com. Send comments to Reagan@caglecartoons.com. Follow @reaganworld on Twitter.

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ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE  
FOR CHANGE OF NAME  
JAVIER COVARRUBIAS  
CASE NO. CV 030623

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:  
Petitioner ELIZABETH ALEXONARIA PAINIAGUA  
HAS FILED A PETITION WITH  
THE LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR  
COURT – STANLEY MOSK COURTHOUSE  
JUDICIAL DISTRICT FOR A  
DECREE CHANGING NAMES AS FOLLOWS:

Present Name:  
ELIZABETH ALEXANDRIA PAINIAGUA  
Proposed Name:  
ELIZABETH GRACE COVARRUBIAS

A HEARING on the petition will  
be held on 01/10/2018 at 1:30 PM  
in Dept. C ROOM 312 located at 12720 NORWALK BLVD.,  
NORWALK, CA. 90650.

THE COURT ORDERS that all interested in this matter appear before this court  
at the hearing indicated above to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of  
name should not be granted.

Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written  
objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days  
before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to  
show cause why the petition should not be granted.

If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without  
a hearing.

Petitioner Appearing Pro Per  
Javier Covarrubias for Elizabeth Alexandria Painiagua  
10608 Solo St.  
Norwalk, CA 90650

JDC – MVNEWS  
DEC 9,16,23,30, 2017

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-347449

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: AC PALLETES AND MORE, 2025 E WAYSIDE ST, COMPTON, CA 90222. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) YENDY A CERROS REYES, 2025 E WAYSIDE ST, COMPTON, CA 90222. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: YENDY A CERROS REYES. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/11/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-346938

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: AFZELIUS HEALTH&BEAUTY, 203 AVENIDA DEL NORTE, REDONDO BEACH, CA 90727. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) THE SWEDISH INCORPORATED, 4417 E HARVEY WAY, LONG BEACH, CA 90808. This Business is conducted by: A CORPORATION. Signed: INGELA MARGARETHA AFZELIUS. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/08/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 11/2017. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-348888

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: B&D WHEEL ALIGNMENT, 15812 LAKEWOOD BLVD, BELLFLOWER, CA 90706. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) JORGE A. NARANJO, 15812 LAKEWOOD BLVD, BELLFLOWER, CA 90706. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: JORGE A. NARANJO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/12/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-349377

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: BOTANICA LA FE, 620 S. ALVARADO ST # 3, LOS ANGELES, CA 90057. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) MARIA DEL ROSARIO, 1533 W. 12TH ST, LOS ANGELES, CA 90062. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: MARIA DEL CARMEN GARAY. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/13/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-348421

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: BRIGHT CRYSTAL WEDDING, 16805 YUKON AVE #2, TORRANCE, CA 90504. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) RENA ARTISTRY, LLC, 16805 YUKON AVE #2, TORRANCE, CA 90504. This Business is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. Signed: LORI MAIDA. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/12/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-347723

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: CAFE ZELLA, 1531 WHILLSHIRE BLVD #A, SANTA MONICA, CA 90403. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) ARIAN YANG, 1531 WHILLSHIRE BLVD #A, SANTA MONICA, CA 90403; NINA NGUY, 1531 WHILLSHIRE BLVD #A, SANTA MONICA, CA 90403. This Business is conducted by: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. Signed: ARIAN YANG. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/12/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 6/2014. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-349084

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: CROOKLEY & THE ANANABIS CANNINES, 727 S. CARONDELET STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90057. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) OLIVER HOSANG III, 727 S. CARONDELET ST, LOS ANGELES, CA 90057. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: OLIVER HOSANG III. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/12/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 05/2013. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-350947

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: D AND D RÖTTER PLUMBING SERVICE, 4508 ATLANTIC AVE SUITE 738, LONG BEACH, CA 90807. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) ORLANDO DAVID FLORES, 4508 ATLANTIC AVE, SUITE 738, LONG BEACH, CA 90807. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ORLANDO DAVID FLORES. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/14/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 05/2013. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-350947

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#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-347750

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: J & H LIQUORS, 1154 W VENICE BLVD, LOS ANGELES, CA 90061. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) JUSTO G VAQUEZ, 1437 S BURLINGTON AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90066; JOVITA GOMEZ, 1437 S BURLINGTON AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90066. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: JUSTO G VAQUEZ. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/11/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 09/2008. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-349399

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: DUFF WALLIS SALON, 12121 CARSON ST, HAWAIIAN GARDENS, CA 90716. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) PETER NGUYEN, 10762 BLAKE ST, GARDEN GROVE, CA 92843. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: PETER NGUYEN. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/13/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-350625

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: E & J CLOTHING & GIFTS, 10932 IMPERIAL HWY, NORWALK, CA 90650. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: SANGIEET SHALINI GOUNDER, 10932 IMPERIAL HWY, NORWALK, CA 90650. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: EDY RODOLFO LOPEZ. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/11/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 10/2009. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-348390

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: THE FOLKARTS, 10122 MAIN ST, LOS ANGELES, CA 90037. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) SANGIEET SHALINI GOUNDER, 10932 IMPERIAL HWY, NORWALK, CA 90650. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: EDY RODOLFO LOPEZ. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/12/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-346725

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: GOLDEN EMPIRE INVESTMENTS, 10641 HARDWICK ST #285, LAKEWOOD, CA 90712. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) JESUS ABRAHAM CHAVEZ, 10641 HOMAGE AVE, WHITTIER, CA 90640. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: JESUS ABRAHAM CHAVEZ. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/08/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-348641

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: BURNING HANDS RESIDENTIAL, 5530 ACKERFIELD AVE UNIT 305, LONG BEACH, CA 90805. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) IT STARTS WITH A U TURN, 5530 ACKERFIELD AVE UNIT 306, LONG BEACH, CA 90805. This Business is conducted by: A CORPORATION. Signed: ARLANA J WALTON. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/12/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-347409

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: IGLESIA CRISTANA MINISTERIOS SHALOM, 2702 W 7TH ST, LOS ANGELES, CA 90057. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) CONCILO EVANGELICO EMANUEL, 4667 E. BELMONT, FRESNO, CA 93702. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: CONCILO EVANGELICO EMANUEL, 4667 E. BELMONT, FRESNO, CA 93702. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/11/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-351197

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: IGLESIA MISIONERA JESUCRISTO ES DIOS, 8716 S VERMONT AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90044. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) ELIA MARIA AGUIRRE PEREZ, 8716 S VERMONT AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90044; LUIS ARNOLDO DIAZ FLORES, 8716 S VERMONT AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90044. This Business is conducted by: A MARIED COUPLE. Signed: ALIA MARIA AGUIRRE PEREZ. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/14/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-348501

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: KPL LAW GROUP, 2349 CLEAR CREEK LANE, DIAMOND BAR, CA 91765. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) KATHERINE PAI-YU LEE, 2349 CLEAR CREEK LANE, DIAMOND BAR, CA 91765. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: KATHERINE PAI-YU LEE. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/12/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-348501

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: TRIANGLE SERVICES, 14724 DUNTON DR, NORWALK, CA 90608. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) GEORGE GRIGORIAN, 14724 DUNTON DR, WHITTIER, CA 90604; JULIE GRIGORIAN, 14724 DUNTON DR, WHITTIER, CA 90604. This Business is conducted by: A MARIED COUPLE. Signed: GEORGE GRIGORIAN. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/12/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-349035

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: TROYS BURGERS, 2017 S PACIFIC AVE, SAN PEDRO, CA 90731. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) GEORGE GRIGORIAN, 14724 DUNTON DR, WHITTIER, CA 90604; JULIE GRIGORIAN, 14724 DUNTON DR, WHITTIER, CA 90604. This Business is conducted by: A MARIED COUPLE. Signed: GEORGE GRIGORIAN. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/12/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-348129

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: URGOTGETTABLE FASHION, 4501 SALAMEDA STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90015. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) MARIELA E. CHINCILLA CRUZ, 1286 W. 37TH DRIVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90007. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: MARIELA E. CHINCILLA CRUZ. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/11/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-347949

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: THE FOLKARTS, 10122 MAIN ST, LOS ANGELES, CA 90037. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) MARIO PEDRAZA OROZCO, 524 W 55TH ST, LOS ANGELES, CA 90037. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: MARIO PEDRAZA OROZCO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/11/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-347846

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: NEXT LEVEL PROTECTION SERVICES, 18307 RENAULT, LA PUENTE, CA 91744. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) ISAHIAH FOY SMITH, 18307 RENAULT, LA PUENTE, CA 91744. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ISAHIAH FOY SMITH. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/11/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 12/2017. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-350068

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: NO NONSENSE BUSINESS GROUP, 4067 HARDWICK ST #285, LAKEWOOD, CA 90712. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) JESUS ABRAHAM CHAVEZ, 10641 HOMAGE AVE, WHITTIER, CA 90640. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: SONONA GOINS. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/13/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on 10/2017. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-349873

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SAYDA'S FASHION, 5638 ATLANTIC AVE, LONG BEACH, CA 90805. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) SAQUAN SASSY HAMMOND, 13025 S HERENDINO AVE, GARDENA, CA 90247. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: SAQUAN SASSY HAMMOND. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/13/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-348892

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SERVE EAT SERVE EAT CATERING, SERVE EAT UP APPAREL, 13025 S HERENDINO AVE, SOUTH GATE, CA 90280. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: GALDINO VARGAS. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/12/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-348660

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SERVE EAT SERVE EAT CATERING, SERVE EAT UP APPAREL, 13025 S HERENDINO AVE, SOUTH GATE, CA 90280. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: GALDINO VARGAS. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/12/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-350805

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: TSIO INSURANCE AGENCY, 7905 VAN NUYS BLVD #10, VAN NUYS, CA 91406. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) TATIANA SHEVCHENKO, 7905 VAN NUYS BLVD #10, VAN NUYS, CA 91406. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: TATIANA SHEVCHENKO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 12/15/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

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: DEC 23, 2017, JAN 6, 13, 2018

#### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-350722

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SVT, 15812 PREMIERE AVENUE, BELLFLOWER, CA 90706. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) SALV











# Happ

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-333921  
The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: SANCHEZ INSTALLATION, 125 E 75<sup>TH</sup> ST, LOS ANGELES, CA 90003. Full name of registrant(s) is

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT File No. 2017-330746

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: VALDEZ VALDEZ, VALDEZ & VALDEZ TIRE & AUTO REPAIR; VALDEZ & VALDEZ AUTO COLLISION REPAIR, 5082 ALHAMBRA AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90032. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) ABELARDO VALDEZ, 5082 ALHAMBRA AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90032. This Business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Signed: ABELARDO VALDEZ. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 11/17/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name.

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
**File No. 2017363651**  
 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as:  
 A. L. SIMS, JR. 1853 DAILY ST., #108, LOS ANGELES, CA. 90031. Full name of registrant(s) is (are) AJM TRINVESTA, LLC., 54 DIAMOND ST. APT. A, ARCADIA, CA. 91006. This Business is conducted by A. L. SIMS, JR. AJM TRINVESTA, LLC., BOB SANTOSO, MANAGER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 11/24/2017. The registrant(s) has (have) commenced to transact business on 11/24/2017. This Fictitious Business Name is/are N/A. NOTICE: This Fictitious 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 with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County to continue the use of this name. This statement does not authorize the use of this name by anyone other than the person(s) named in this statement. This statement is not a violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (See section 14411 et seq. under Business and Professions Code).  
 Publish: MBP Mountain Views News  
 Dec. 2, 9, 23, 27, 2017

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File No. 2017351005

The following person(s) is (are) doing business as: (6)  
SHERA MADRE BIVD, SHERA  
MADRE, CA. 91024. Full name of registrant(s) is: (6)  
NHU NGUYEN TRAN LE 9447CORTADA ST. #B, EL  
MONTE, CA. 91733. This Business is conducted by:  
(6) SHERA MADRE BIVD, SHERA MADRE, CA. 91024.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los  
Angeles County on 11/24/2017. The registrant(s) has (have)  
commenced to transact business under the fictitious business  
name(s) on 11/24/2017. This statement was filed with the  
County Clerk of Los Angeles County on 11/24/2017.  
Fictitious 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.  
This statement is not to be used to defraud or to obtain credit  
use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation  
of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law  
protection 14441 et seq. Business and Professions Code)  
Public Law 106-113, Section 102, California New  
Dec.16,2033 Jan.07, 2017, JAN 6, 2018

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