

# HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL!

## Mountain Views News

Sierra Madre

Arcadia

Duarte

Monrovia

Pasadena

Altadena

South Pasadena

San Marino

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2019

VOLUME 13 NO. 52

### THE WEBB-MARTIN GROUP



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this Holiday Season



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## THE FINISHING TOUCHES

*Volunteers Enter Final Stages of Building Sierra Madre's  
2020 Tournament of Roses Float Entry* Photos by D. Lee/MVNews

### WHERE CAN YOU SEE THE SIERRA MADRE ROSE FLOAT???

On December 31st, we are planning our Float Departure Ceremony to commence at approximately 6:40 p.m., then we'll leave the barn at approximately 7:00 p.m., heading towards Kersting Court, arriving approximately 7:15 p.m. We will remain there about 30 minutes, then continue on to Walnut and then to our line-up spot on Orange Grove, where it will sleep overnight before the parade. If it's



inclement weather, we'll wave as we sail by without stopping.

After the Rose Parade, the float will be in the post parade viewing area, in the Showcase Lot, near the Pasadena High School Auditorium, the remainder of January 1st and all day January 2nd. On the evening of January 2nd we will move the float back to Sierra Madre when we're allowed to leave post parade.

If there is rain, a prediction of rain or unexpected issues, we will take the float straight to the Float Barn at 587 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre. On the morning of January 3rd, approximately 9:30 a.m., we will open the barn for viewing and may have excess flowers available.

If all goes well, the float will be in Kersting Court overnight and available for viewing the evening of January 2nd. On Jan. 3rd we'll be there with any excess flowers from about 9:30 a.m. until approximately 4:00 p.m.

Your donations of time, skills and funds have made this float possible. Come and see the wonderful float we've created with your help.

### DOWNTOWN BUSINESS BURGLARIZED

In the early morning hours of December 23rd, 2019, thieves broke into Happy's Liquors on Sierra Madre Blvd. and stole the cash register and its' contents and other unidentified items.

According to Sierra Madre Police Department Sergeant Henry Amos, there is a video tape of the incident. The store was closed at the time and there were no injuries.

There is an ongoing investigation into the event.

If anyone has any information on the crime or was in the area at the time, please contact the Sierra Madre Police Department at 626-355-1414.

### WHY IS THERE NO CHARGE FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE?

The Sierra Madre Search and Rescue Team (SMSR) wants you to know that if you are ever lost or injured in our local mountains, you will not be charged for the help that the Team provides. Our unpaid professional rescuers are ready and willing to drop whatever they are doing, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and come to your aid. Whether you twist an ankle while hiking to Sturtevant Falls or get lost and caught in the dark while hiking to Mount Wilson, you do not have to pay for the assistance we provide.

SMSR does not want anyone to hesitate to call for help because of fear about paying for their rescue. If you are lost, trying to get yourself "unlost" may make it harder for searchers to find you. If you are injured, delaying a call for help may worsen your injuries. If you get injured, call 911 or send a fellow hiker for help. As a backup, you should tell a responsible friend at home that if they don't hear from you by a certain time, they should call for help. Don't worry about the cost, because there is no charge for search and rescue.

#### How is search and rescue funded?

You will not pay for your rescue but that doesn't mean there aren't costs. Every year SMSR responds to approximately 100 calls for help. To maintain an organization that is ready to respond to every call, the Team maintains a station, five vehicles, ropes, radios, medical equipment, maps, avalanche beacons, and so much more. These costs, however, are covered mainly by voluntary donations to the Team.

Team members also cover many costs themselves. To date in 2019, members of the all volunteer Team spent over 4,000 hours on search and rescue missions. They are not paid for this time, nor for the over 15,000 hours they've spent in training. New members spend over \$3,000 in their first years purchasing personal equipment, and periodic expenses continue for as long as members are on the team as they maintain, replace and buy new equipment.

#### Who Does Pay for a Rescue?

Across the country, thousands of search and rescue operations are executed every year with (continued on pg. 2)

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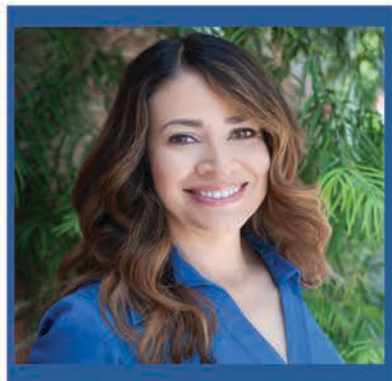
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## SEARCH AND RESCUE

Continued from page 1 millions of dollars in expenses. Search and rescue teams, the National



Park Service, and fire departments accrue millions of dollars of expenses. Different states and counties are pursuing different ways of covering these expenses. For example, individuals in New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont, and Colorado can be charged for rescue, but these states also offer annual cards that in most circumstances protect the cardholder from being charged. Proceeds from the sale of these cards generally go to the local search and rescue teams. In Europe, most outdoor enthusiasts carry specialized insurance because individuals will be charged for rescue.

In our local mountains, though, individuals are not charged for rescue, and SMSR gets no money from any government organizations. All of the Team's funding comes from charitable donations. The Team depends on the community, and SMSR is thankful that for 68 years the community has provided the financial support that enables us to function.

Recently, the Rotary Club of Sierra Madre provided a grant to SMSR that enables the Team to purchase new medical backpacks. While a portion of the Team's budget is fulfilled by grants like these, most of the budgetary needs are met by individuals who give to the team. When you donate to SMSR, you help ensure that no one who is lost or injured in our local mountains needs to worry about how they will pay for help. You can contribute through the Team's website at [smsr.org](http://smsr.org) or via mail at Sierra Madre Search and Rescue Team, PO Box 24, Sierra Madre, CA 91025.

Since 1951, the all-volunteer Sierra Madre Search and Rescue Team has responded to calls for help in the local mountains and beyond. SMSR also provides a range of free wilderness safety education programs. For more information on the Team, to donate, or to arrange a wilderness safety demonstration for your school or group, visit [www.smsr.org](http://www.smsr.org).



Story By Carolyn Grumm and Photos courtesy of SMSR.

JANUARY 1, 2020



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## PREPARE Your Home for Winter

Use this list to prepare your home for winter

- **Check your home's heating and air conditioning system.** Most heating and air systems typically last 12 to 15 years.
- **Paint, caulk and seal exterior wood**
- **Seal your masonry and hard surfaces**
- **Check your drainage.** Make sure the soil around your foundation hasn't settled, creating areas for water to pool at your foundation.
- **Clean your gutters.** Once the leaves are pretty much off the trees, it's time to clean those gutters.
- **Clean your chimney and order firewood**
- **Test your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors**
- **Shut down the pool and the sprinkler system and drain outside faucets**
- **Prepare your lawn for winter** and set it up for a great spring
- **Make sure your attic doesn't become a critter hotel.** It's going to get cold and your attic is the perfect winter home for squirrels and birds.
- **Get your patio furniture protected,** but make sure you wait until a clear, warm day to cover it so you don't trap moisture on it.



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Merry  
Christmas!



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## Weather Wise

6-Day Forecast Sierra Madre, Ca.



Sun	Ptly Cldy/Rain	Hi	50s	Lows	40s
Mon:	Rain	Hi	50s	Lows	40s
Tues:	Ptly Cldy	Hi	50s	Lows	40s
Wed:	Rain	Hi	50s	Lows	30s
Thur:	Ran	Hi	50s	Lows	40s
Fri:	Ptly Cldy	Hi	50s	Lows	40s

Forecasts courtesy of the National Weather Service

## SIERRA MADRE CITY MEETINGS

## CALENDAR

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

## City Council

December 10th, 2019 at 6:30PM  
December 24th, 2019 at 6:30PM Cancelled

## Planning Commission

December 5th, 2019 at 7:00PM Cancelled  
December 19th, 2019 at 7:00PM

## Community Service Commission

December 16th, 2019 at 6:30PM

## Senior Community Commission

January 9th, 2020 at 3:00PM

## Library Board of Trustees

December 25th, 2019 at 7:00PM Cancelled

## Energy, Environment, and Natural Resource Commission

December 18, 2019 at 7:00PM

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@cityofsierramadre.com](mailto:city@cityofsierramadre.com) before 30 the night of the meeting and your statement will be delivered to all the Council Members.

## 1630 AM EMERGENCY RADIO &amp; 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 Woman's Club**  
550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.  
Founded February 1907 – 112 Years of "Living the Volunteer Life"  
Member of General Federation of Women's Clubs [cfwc.org](http://cfwc.org) & [gfwc.org](http://gfwc.org)

**Merry Christmas**

**Happy Hanukkah**

**Joyous Kwanzaa**

Explore Opportunities & Membership with Us  
Come Join us for Member-Only Yoga w/ Paul Tuesdays, 10 am  
[GFWCSierraMadreWomansClub.org](http://GFWCSierraMadreWomansClub.org)  
Facebook/SierraMadreWomansClub 355-4379  
Rent Our 1914 Historic Essick House 355-4379  
Shop Award-Winning Wistaria Thrift Shop 355-7739  
Donations Accepted Weekdays to 3 pm

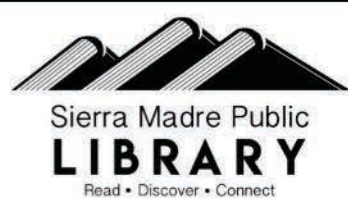
**Sierra Madre Woman's Club**  
550 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. 2018: 111 Years  
Founded February 23, 1907 – "Living the Volunteer Life" in Friendship  
Member: General Federation of Women's Clubs [cfwc.org](http://cfwc.org) & [gfwc.org](http://gfwc.org)

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This week at the  
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December 30—January 4

## Monday

Library Closed

## Tuesday

Library Closed

## Wednesday

Library Closed—New Year's Day

## Thursday

Drop-In Winter Art 12:00—5:00 pm

## Friday

Family Fort Building 10:00 am—1:00 pm  
(Open for This Event Only; Library Services  
Unavailable)

## Saturday

Drop-In Winter Art 12:00—5:00 pm

Read, Discover, Connect  
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you happiness, prosperity  
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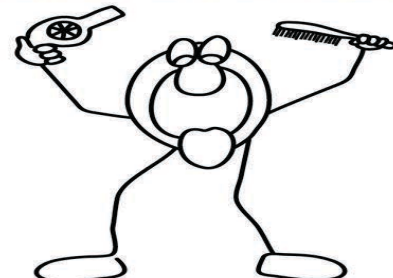
Sunday worship 9:30 a.m.

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# SIERRA MADRE

SIERRA MADRE

ARCADIA

PASADENA

ALTADENA

MONROVIA

## KATIE Tse....*This and That*



### MEMORY ISSUES

Wish I could say the title is about my computer, but unfortunately it's all about me. So my mom and I were running some Christmas Eve errands. She had a list of things to do, and I was trying to kill the maximum birds with the minimum stones. ("Hey, you need to go to Home Depot? Awesome! I'll pick up a last minute item for so-and-so there. etc.). By late afternoon we were almost finished and feeling quite accomplished. I've recently discovered McDonald's cappuccinos, and since it was cold and we still had a final stop to make, I suggested we get one. The caffeine should've perked up my mental functioning, but apparently it didn't. Our last stop was my mom's friend's place in Altadena. We'll call her Joanie. One word about Joanie and Christmas. Joanie makes the world's most amazing fruitcake.

I know, I know, fruitcake gets a bad rap. And most often it's well-deserved.

Usually that stuff is nasty. But Joanie's is different. It's not fruitcake in the regular sense of the word. Hers is more like pound cake with walnuts, a touch of citron, and a pleasant hint of lemon. Divine. She delivers them a few days before Christmas, and my dad reverently slices off a thin piece for himself each day. He's the only one of us with will power. That, and he exercises religiously, so he can afford the literal pound of butter packed into each of her cakes.

So we were on our way to Joanie's with her gift. They're doing road work in Altadena, and we spent much of the drive merging into narrowed lanes and avoiding open ditches. And it was getting darker. "Oh, look! There's that pretty Eiffel Tower those people on New York Drive always put out," I noted. As if the whole thing was just a jolly joy ride instead of a mission.

"Yes, it's lovely. Wish they'd leave it up all year," Mom replied.

"True. But would we appreciate it then?"

That's the kind of thing we discussed as we drove right by Joanie's street, completely oblivious.

But what's worse is that I doubt it would've even dawned on me that we neglected to take Joanie her gift unless my mom mentioned it later that night. I bet even if the thing was resting on my lap in the car I wouldn't have noticed.

We got all the way to my parents' place, unloaded the car, and were visiting for a bit when my mom recounted our day to my dad.

"And last we went to Joanie's... Oh wait. We didn't." Turning to me, "How'd that happen?"

I would say I'm upset with myself for forgetting. But it's more like embarrassment and creeping dread that it'll only get worse from here. I can't get over the fact that I'm closer to 40 now than 30. Just one big slip on the proverbial banana peel at this point.

At least Joanie got her present in the end. My parents drove over that night and brought it to her. At least I think I remember them telling me that.



## SIERRA MADRE HOLIDAY TRASH SCHEDULE AND CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

There will be a one-day delay in collection of residential and commercial refuse, green waste, and recyclables after both Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Also, please note that Christmas trees are 100% recyclable! Athens Services will collect Christmas trees at the curb from 12/30/2019 to 1/10/2020 this on your normal pickup day. Trees are delivered to various landfills to be used as mulch or cover material, or to Athens' American Organics compost facility in Victorville.

Tips to ensure your tree is properly collected:

- Remove stands, ornaments, lights and tinsel.
- Place holiday 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 date for recycling, please cut up your tree and place it in your yard waste container(s).

Please help keep our parks clean and safe during the holidays. If you see anyone illegally dumping holiday trees, please call Sierra Madre Police Department at (626) 355 - 1414.

## WALKING SIERRA MADRE - The Social Side

by Deanne Davis

"One of the most glorious messes in the world is the mess created in the living room on Christmas Day. Don't clean it up too quickly," Andy Rooney

"What is Christmas? It is the tenderness of the past, courage for the present, and hope for the future." Agnes M. Pahro

"Love came down at Christmas; love all lovely, love divine. Love was born at Christmas, stars and angels gave the sign." Christina Rossetti

Our annual snowman has appeared in Kersting Court and my son-in-law, Chuck Seitz, took a really great photo of him in his jaunty red scarf. Hoping all the rain doesn't wash him away too quickly. Dave Forrester is usually involved in the snowman and I wouldn't be surprised if he had a hand in his construction again this year.

Christmas is behind us. We can all sit down, take a breath and give ourselves a minute to recuperate before we start planning for the New Year. 2019 passed with what felt like the speed of light and now 2020 is just around the corner. I'm planning on leaving Christmas up just a little longer; let my head-turning lighted reindeer stay out in front just a little longer, and not be too quick to de-Christmas-ify.

I came across a beautiful piece I had hidden away at the bottom of the Christmas card basket, "Directions For Planting," taken from the writings of Margaret Hooper Ineson, a precious saint of God and beloved member of our family. Born on November 22, 1904, she entered the gates of heaven on November 11, 2000...just a few days short of her 96<sup>th</sup> birthday. She lived her life according to her "Directions For Planting" and I thought this was a perfect way to end a year, which has had its ups and downs for all of us, and look forward to a New Year bright with promise and hope.

### Directions For Planting

1. Plant 5 Rows of Peas  
Preparedness  
Promptness  
Perseverance  
Politeness  
Prayer
2. Plant 3 Rows of Squash  
Squash Gossip  
Squash Criticism  
Squash Indifference
3. Plant 4 Rows of Lettuce  
Let Us Be Faithful  
Let Us Be Unselfish  
Let Us Be Truthful  
Let Us Love One Another
4. Plant 4 Rows of Turnips  
Turn Up For Where We're Needed  
Turn Up With A Smile  
Turn Up With New Ideas  
Turn Up With Determination

With just a little care and attention, what a wonderful harvest we shall reap from this Garden of love and caring.

"What a wonderful story it is, The Christmas Story.  
Only God could have thought of it!" Norman Vincent Peale

Happy New Year, dear friends!  
May God bless you and keep you and make his face to shine upon you  
And give you peace...and joy!

My book page: Amazon.com: Deanne Davis  
Blog: [www.authordeanne.com](http://www.authordeanne.com)  
Christmas is just a few days past and my book:  
"Sunrises and Sunflowers Speak Hope"  
Would be a really nice gift for anyone you've suddenly remembered.  
You can find it on Amazon.com  
"Star of Wonder" a delightful Christmas Kindle story is there, too.  
If you'd like a little preview, take a look at: <https://youtu.be/Ka1KYrONrd0>



## SIERRA MADRE HOLIDAY PARKING

Christmas and New Year's Holiday parking exemptions are as follows:

Beginning at 2:00AM on Saturday, 12-14-2019, there will be a city wide exemption for parking violations relating to Permit Parking and Overnight Parking. This exemption will extend until 5:00AM on Thursday, 01-02-2020 in observance of the holidays. Please note, there will be officers staffing the SMPD, 24/7 to handle enforceable parking issues and safety violations during these times.



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SIERRA MADRE PUBLIC LIBRARY PRESENTS

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FEBRUARY 2020

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**Barking to the Choir**  
THE POWER OF RADICAL KINSHIP  
**Gregory Boyle**  
Founder of Homeboy Industries

Join us for an evening with Father Boyle on Feb. 15th  
Register for your Free Tickets beginning January 6th, 2020\*  
\*Tickets are required and available on a first come, first served. Space is limited for author event.



# Pasadena Altadena

News From Your Community For Your Community

## Post Parade Float Viewing



Post Parade is a great way to view the floats up close following the Rose Parade and see the workmanship that went into each entry. These beautiful masterpieces will be parked along Sierra Madre and Washington Boulevards spanning over two miles. Tournament volunteers "white suiters" will be on hand with helpful information about the float process.

### Dates & Times

Tuesday, January 1 | 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm (last entry at 4:00 pm)

Wednesday, January 2 | 7:00 am to 9:00 am (disabled visitors and senior citizens only)

Wednesday, January 2 | 9:00 AM to 5:00 pm (last entry at 4:00 pm)

Viewing is located E. Sierra Madre Blvd. and E. Washington Blvd. Shuttle service is available from three locations, Pasadena City College, Rose Bowl Stadium Lot B, and Sierra Madre Villa Gold Line Station. For more info go to: [visitspasadena.com/events](http://visitspasadena.com/events).

Note: Ticket sales end at 3:00 pm and last entry is at 4:00 PM. The park closes at 5:00 pm. Rain or shine event.

## Christmas Tree Recycling Options

Drop Off Dates & Locations: Pasadena residents can drop off their trees for recycling from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., December 26, 2019 through January 4, 2020 at the following locations: Eaton Blanche Park 3100 E. Del Mar Blvd. Bring your tree to the parking lot on Millicent Way. Robinson Park 1081 N. Fair Oaks Ave. Bring your tree to the parking lot on Morton Street. Please Remove all stands, ornaments and lights. Curbside Pickup Dates (Your Trash Pickup Day)

Curbside pickup for Christmas trees will be available to Pasadena's solid waste customers on their regularly scheduled collection days and routes beginning January 2 through January 15, 2020. Christmas trees may be trimmed to fit in yard waste container (Black Lid) for recycling.

Please REMOVE all stands, ornaments and lights

For more information on this program call the Pasadena Citizen Service Center at 626-744-7311 or visit: [cityofpasadena.net](http://cityofpasadena.net).



## Last Minute Rose Parade Float Preparations



(Top left) Volunteers working on "Dig Alert" float, a humorous depiction of a very serious catastrophe in the making serves as a reminder to always contact 811 before you dig.



(Top and top right) The 2020 Opening Spectacular exemplifies "The Power of Hope." The Opening Spectacular will feature (in alphabetical order): • Ally Brooke • Chino Hills High School Drumline (Chino Hills, CA) • Emilio Estefan • Farruko



Oddfellows Rebekahs' float titled "First Responders Bring Hope" to honor all of our First Responder professions. The float depicts many first responder professions including firefighters, paramedics, emergency medical technicians, police, park rangers, search and rescue teams and so on.



Volunteers for the City of Torrance work on fish for The Pine Wind Garden float "Our Garden of Hope and Dreams" inspired by the Japanese garden, established in 1991 in the City of Torrance's Cultural Arts Center.



Volunteers from the Chinese American Heritage Foundation work on a floral M-4 Sherman Tank as part of the float "American Heroes" a 75 foot long commemorative floral salute that pays special tribute to American Heroes and the World War II recipients of the Congressional Gold Medals including over 20,000 Chinese American members of the United States armed forces.

All photos by D. Lee /MVNews

## Mid-parade Performance from Disney's FROZEN



The Pasadena Tournament of Roses announced that the 131st Rose Parade presented by Honda on will include a mid-parade performance from the North American tour cast of Disney's FROZEN, the hit Broadway musical currently playing a nine-week engagement through February 2, 2020 at the Hollywood Pantages Theatre in Los Angeles.

Stars Caroline Bowman (Elsa) and Caroline Innerbichler (Anna) will lead the entire North American tour company of FROZEN in an exclusive performance of "For the First Time in Forever" live at the intersection of Colorado and Orange Grove Boulevards.

Following the performance, several of the show's stars will continue down the parade route in a sleigh decorated by FTD, the Official Floral Company of the Tournament of Roses, and featuring California Grown flowers.

In addition to the North American tour and Broadway companies, FROZEN's global footprint will soon expand to include London, Australia, Japan, and Hamburg. For more information, including a list of currently announced cities, visit [FrozenTheMusical.com/Tour](http://FrozenTheMusical.com/Tour).

FROZEN is produced by Disney Theatrical Productions under the direction of Thomas Schumacher.

## Knott's Marks 100 Years with an Entry into the Rose Parade



Knott's Berry Farm is set to participate in this year's Rose Parade, sending the theme park's very first ride, the Butterfield Stagecoach which has been in continuous operation since 1949.

Officials from the park said "The wild west has always been a part of Knott's Berry Farm's fabric from the start, so it is fitting that Knott's brings a taste of the wild west to the 2020 Tournament of Roses Parade as a symbol of pride for its historic past as well as a nod to the hope in our future."

The Knott's renowned stagecoach, historic surrey wagon, was ridden through the park by Knott's Berry Farm founders, Walter and Cordelia Knott.

Riding the Stagecoach will

be a representation of Knott's Ghost Town characters who still roam the town of Calico, Knott's Ghost Town themed area. Following behind will be none other than the famous beagle himself, Snoopy, whom, along with the other peanuts characters, have been the park's mascots since 1983. They will also use horses from the park to pull the stage coach and buggy, six horses will be pulling the stagecoach and two for the buggy with four outrider horses.

It was also said that the park's famed, Brutus the donkey, will also ride in the parade.

Knott's Berry Farm will also participate in Sunday's Equestfest, see below.

*Pictured: stagecoach ride. Photo by D. Lee /MVNews*

## Tournament of Roses set to Hold Equestfest Sunday

Watch horses and talented riders, before they ride in the Rose Parade, perform drills and dances and demonstrate trick riding and roping. Attendees can also stroll through the stables, talk to riders and learn about the various equipment that the riders use. Also, learn about many different breeds of horses while enjoying the vendor court, displays, great music, food and drinks. Equestfest will take place this Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center. Equestfest is organized by the Tournament of Roses Association.

Purchasing tickets in advance is strongly recommended. Purchase tickets online or by calling Sharp Seating at (626) 795-4171. This event is rain or shine.

General Admission | \$20.00

VIP Reserved Seating | \$45.00

Children 5 and under | Free

### Schedule

Vendor court and activities | 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Equestrian show | 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Parking \$10.00 per car at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center. Parking is purchased at the event venue.

Los Angeles Equestrian Center is a one of kind establishment located in Burbank in the heart of Griffith Park. The facility is a 75 acre world class horse show complex.

## Bandfest Presented by REMO

Bandfest is a sneak peak of the 2020 Rose Parade bands. Watch as they perform their award-winning field shows that led to their selection. Three shows over two days give everyone a chance to see these talented musicians, dancers and auxiliary performers in action before they complete their 5 1/2 mile march down Colorado Boulevard.

### Dates & Schedule

Sunday, December 29, 2019 | 1:30 pm

Monday, December 30, 2019 | 9:30 am

Monday, December 30, 2019 | 2:00 pm

Purchasing tickets in advance online is recommended by or by calling Sharp Seating at (626) 795-4171. General Admission | \$15.00 Children 5 and under | Free

Parking is free on campus. The Metro Gold Line is a light rail train system that runs to Pasadena. Take the Metro Gold Line to Allen Station and walk one mile (about 20 minutes) to Pasadena City College.

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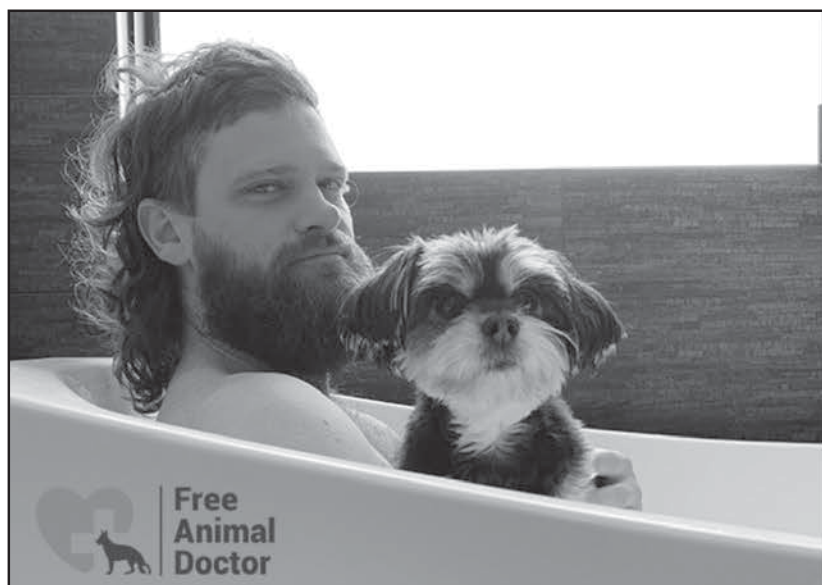
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## ARCADIA - MONROVIA - DUARTE

## ARCADIA POLICE BLOTTER

For the period of Sunday, December 15th, through Saturday, December 21st, the Police Department responded to 973 calls for service, of which 108 required formal investigations. The following is a summary report of the major incidents handled by the Department during this period.

Monday, December 16:

1. At approximately 9:54 a.m., an officer responded to a residence in the 600 block of Sunset Boulevard regarding a vandalism report. Sometime during the previous evening, an unknown suspect damaged the victim's front windshield. No suspects were seen and no witnesses were located.

2. Just after 3:03 p.m., an officer responded to the 1000 block of West Huntington Drive regarding a disturbance report. An altercation occurred between the suspect, a 25-year-old male from Temple City, and the victim resulting in the suspect punching the victim multiple times while wearing brass knuckles. The suspect then stole the victim's wallet. The suspect is outstanding as of December 24th.

3. Shortly before 4:29 p.m., an officer responded to an apartment complex in the 1000 block of Fairview Avenue in regard to a mail theft report. The victim discovered an unknown suspect pried open the community mailbox and fled with an unknown amount of stolen mail. No suspects were seen and no witnesses were located.

4. Around 4:30 p.m., an officer responded to a residence in the 1900 block of South Sixth Avenue regarding a package theft report. Sometime between 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., an unknown suspect stole the victim's package from her porch. No suspects were seen and no witnesses were located.

Tuesday, December 17:

5. Just before 6:37 p.m., an officer responded to Nomadic 404, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding a theft report. A store employee found two juvenile suspects stealing Yeezy tennis shoes. The employee was able to detain one of the suspects until officers arrived. The 14-year-old male from Pasadena was also in possession of stolen merchandise from four other stores located inside the mall. He was cited and released to his adult sister. The second suspect, a 13-year-old, is outstanding as of December 24th. The investigation is ongoing.

Wednesday, December 18:

6. Around 9:17 a.m., an officer responded to Reliable Mechanic, 900 West Duarte Road, regarding a suspect brandishing a knife. An investigation revealed the suspect pointed a laser into two moving cars, hitting one of the drivers in the eye. The driver then confronted the suspect, who then brandished a knife. The suspect fled into a nearby apartment complex. An area search was unsuccessful. The suspect is described as a white male in his 20's, approximately 6' tall, with a thin build. The investigation is ongoing.

7. Shortly after 2:37 p.m., an officer responded to Macy's, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding a grand theft report. Surveillance footage revealed two suspects worked in concert to steal more than \$1,350.00 worth of merchandise. The female suspect is described as a Hispanic between the ages of 35 to 45-years-old, approximately 5'7" tall, and 150 pounds. The second suspect is described as a while male in his mid-fifties. The investigation is ongoing.

8. At 6:26 p.m., an officer responded to Neko Shop, a clothing kiosk at 400 South Baldwin Avenue, regarding a theft report. The suspect was seen stealing a hooded sweatshirt from the kiosk, but discarded it and the item was later recovered by the kiosk owner. The suspect is described as a Hispanic male. The investigation is ongoing.

Thursday, December 19:

9. Before 5:50 p.m., an officer responded to the Arcadia Police Department front counter regarding a battery that had occurred on December 13th. The victim stated she was leaving a party at Dave and Busters, 400 South Baldwin Avenue, when another member of the group approached her from behind and pulled her hair causing her to fall to the ground. The victim does not know what provoked the attack. The investigation is ongoing.

Friday, December 20:

10. Shortly after 6:42 a.m., an officer responded to Denny's, 7 East Huntington Drive, regarding a theft investigation. The victim left his cellphone charging near the entrance of the restaurant while he was eating and when he returned, the phone was missing. No suspects were seen and no witnesses were located.

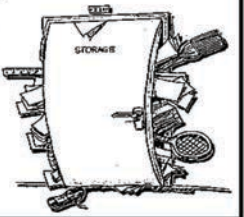
11. At about 4:22 p.m., an officer conducted an enforcement stop on a vehicle near the intersection of Huntington Drive and Holly Avenue for lane straddling. Upon contacting the driver, the officer detected a strong odor of alcohol emitting from his breath. Through a series of tests, the officer determined the suspect, a 57-year-old male from Alhambra, was driving under the influence of an alcoholic beverage. He was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

12. At approximately 10:10 p.m., an officer conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle in the area of Longden Avenue and Tenth Avenue for failing to stop at the line. Upon contacting the driver, the officer detected a strong odor of alcohol emitting from the vehicle. The driver admitted to consuming alcohol before driving. A Preliminary Alcohol Screening Test indicated the suspect had a blood alcohol content of .219%. The 40-year-old male from Arcadia was arrested and transported to the Arcadia City Jail for booking.

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## New Year's Walking Tour

Join Pasadena Walking Tours for their New Year's walking tour Monday, December 30th, and Tuesday, December 31st. This two hour tour will give you the chance to walk the first leg of the Rose Parade route with experts providing stories of the Rose Parade and Rose Bowl game origins. The tour will begin in at Singer Park at the corner of west California Blvd and south St. John Ave, and will conclude at Castle Green. The total distance of the New Year's in Pasadena walking tour is 1.9 miles. The tours



run from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Tickets Adult (ages 13+): \$20+fees, Child (ages 5-12): \$5+fees and Toddler (ages 4 and under): Free. For more information go to: [visitspasadena.com/events](http://visitspasadena.com/events).

## Tis the Season for Holiday Scam Calls

Due to an increase in fraudulent calls, Pasadena Water and Power (PWP) wants to advise you to be especially vigilant about scam calls demanding payment for your utility bill. PWP will never call customers asking them to make payment over the phone. If you receive one of these calls, be advised that scammers are attempting to solicit money or personal information from you. They may demand that customers go to a nearby convenience store, like Rite Aid or CVS, and purchase gift cards in order to make a payment. It's helpful to know the legitimate ways that PWP will contact you. If a utility bill is delinquent, PWP will inform the customer by mailing a notice to the account holder address.

Two delinquency notifications will be sent to a customer before their electric or water service is disconnected for non-payment. Customers are always welcome to call the PWP Customer Service line at (626) 744-4005 to make a payment. This is a secure and valid way to access your account and is not the same as a representative calling customers to demand immediate payment. Here are some recent scam attempts:

- An unidentified caller is claiming to be a PWP representative threatens to turn off water or electric service unless immediate payment is made over the phone.
- A scammer is using spoofing technology to make PWP's Customer Service number, (626) 744-4005, appear as their contact information or calling from a toll free number (866) 305-4992. Additional information is available at: [PWPweb.com/Fraud](http://PWPweb.com/Fraud).

## SOUTH PASADENA CITY MEETINGS

Regular City Council Meeting

## Undetermined

Meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday of the month, at 7:30 p.m., in the Amedee O. "Dick" Richards, Jr., Council Chambers, located at 1424 Mission Street.

## The Library Board of Trustees

Thursday January 9 at 7 p.m.  
South Pasadena Public Library  
Ray Bradbury Conference Room  
1100 Oxley Street  
Staff Liaison: Cathy Billings, Acting Director of Library, Arts, and Culture  
Phone: (626) 403-7330

## Planning Commission Meeting

Tuesday January 14 at 6:30 p.m.  
Amedee O. "Dick" Richards, Jr. Council Chamber  
1424 Mission Street  
Staff Liaison: Kanika Kith, Interim Senior Planner  
Phone (626) 403-7223

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## PASADENA CITY MEETINGS

Regular City Council Meeting

NEXT CITY COUNCIL MONDAY JANUARY 13, 2020

Public Meeting 6:30 P.M.  
Council Chamber, Pasadena City Hall  
100 North Garfield Avenue, Room S249

FINANCE COMMITTEE (Chair Mayor Terry Tornek, Victor Gordo, John J. Kennedy, Margaret McAustin)

Meets January 13 at 4:00 p.m., 100 N. Garfield Avenue, Room S249 (City Hall Council Chamber, 2nd floor)

MUNICIPAL SERVICES COMMITTEE (Chair Margaret McAustin, Tyron Hampton, Terry Tornek, Andy Wilson)

Meets January 14 at 4:00 p.m., Pasadena City Hall, 100 N. Garfield Avenue, Room S249 (Council Chamber, 2nd Floor)

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE (Chair John J. Kennedy, Tyron Hampton, Steve Madison, Gene Masuda)

Meets January 15 at 6 p.m. Pasadena City Hall, 100 N. Garfield Avenue, Room S249 (Council Chamber, 2nd Floor)

LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE (Chair Terry Tornek, Steve Madison, Gene Masuda)

Meets January 28, 2020 at 6:00 p.m., Pasadena City Hall, 100 N. Garfield Avenue, Room S245/S246 Fair Oaks Conference Room S039

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Meets February 18 at 5:30 p.m. Pasadena City Hall, 100 N. Garfield Avenue, Room S245/S246 (Council Conference Room, 2nd Floor)

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## Fire and Police Issue Rose Parade Safety Tips

As the 131st Rose Parade® presented by Honda approaches on Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2020, Pasadena's Fire and Police Departments are issuing the following safety tips for the thousands of overnight campers who will line the route on New Year's Eve. The parade route will be a safer place if everyone follows these rules and regulations:

**What You Can Do:**  
Overnight camping is permitted only on the night of Tuesday, Dec. 31.

A position on the sidewalk may be maintained along the parade route beginning at noon, Dec. 31. All persons and property, such as blankets, chairs and personal items, must remain on the curb until 11 p.m. At that time, spectators may move out to the blue "Honor Line" but not passed it.

Small, professionally-manufactured barbecues elevated at least 1 foot off the ground are allowed on the parade route as long as they are 25 feet from buildings and other combustibles. A fire extinguisher must be readily available.

Minors under the age of 18 may be on the parade route from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. only if they are supervised by an adult.

Dress for cold weather! Children and seniors may need extra layers of clothing to avoid hypothermia. Remember hats and gloves. Drink healthy fluids and consume nourishing meals to avoid dehydration.

"If You See Something, Say Something." Report suspicious activities and packages to emergency authorities along the parade route.

In case of emergency, call 9-1-1 and know the cross streets from where you are calling. For non-emergencies, call (626) 744-4241.

**What You Can't Do:**  
Appearance in the parade is prohibited for any entries/marchers who have not been approved by the Pasadena Tournament of Roses®. Stay off the street and do not pass the blue "Honor Line."

Tents, sofas, and boxes of any type that can be used as stools or seats are prohibited along the route.

Unoccupied chairs are not allowed and will be removed from the parade route.

Bonfires are strictly prohibited and considered "illegal burns." ALL fireworks are prohibited except as part of official scheduled events.

No items may be sold along the parade route without a City permit.

Selling space along the parade route, other than grandstand seating, is illegal.

It is illegal to buy, sell or give away horns on the parade route.

No public areas—sidewalks, curbs, gutters, streets or ramps—may be blocked or roped off.

No ladders or scaffolding may be

used as elevation for viewing the activities.

Pets are not recommended along the parade; keep them safe at home!

Throwing any object into the parade—or at passing vehicles or pedestrians the night before the parade—is dangerous and prohibited. Violators will be cited and their property will be seized.

Unauthorized vehicles obstructing emergency travel lanes or parked in restricted areas will be towed at owners' expense. No exceptions.

Open containers of alcohol are illegal on public streets, sidewalks and all other public areas. Violators will be cited or arrested.

For your safety and for the safety of others, please remember the City's no-smoking policies [Pasadena Municipal Code section 8.78.071 (A) 4] prohibits smoking in outdoor public gathering events/special events/parades/fairs. This policy includes the use of cannabis and vaping devices (aka e-cigarettes). The public is advised to NOT use any vaping products. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has reported 2,142 lung injury cases associated with the use of vaping products, with 42 deaths in 24 states. To get help quitting, call 1-844-8-NO-VAPE or visit <http://www.nobutts.org/quitvaping>. To quit smoking cigarettes, call 1-800-NO-BUTTS.

Enhanced security measures will be in effect on the parade route. Pasadena police officers will resolve problems quickly and remove anyone from the scene who violates the law or disturbs the peace. Police canine teams will also be patrolling Colorado Boulevard. Colorado Boulevard will once again close to motor vehicles earlier than in prior years for the staging of the Rose Parade®. Colorado Boulevard will close beginning at 10 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2019 and will remain closed through the conclusion of the staging and clean-up following the parade. The parade route will re-open by 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2020.

If you plan to host a New Year's Eve event, viewing party, or anticipate vendor deliveries, and your property's access is via Colorado Boulevard, please let your guests and vendors know that they must arrive before 10 p.m. or park in areas without restricted parking and walk in.

Pasadena Fire Department responds to more than twice the number of calls on parade day than any other day. These calls include reports of hypothermia, illegal burning, miscellaneous medical issues, assaults and alcohol-related incidents.

The Pasadena Convention and Visitors Bureau will staff its special Visitor Hotline at (877) 793-9911 now until Dec. 31 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday - Friday; closed New Year's Day.

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

### THE 10 COMMANDMENTS OF 2020 *The List that you've been waiting for*

1. I resolve to drink more water when I drink.  
- Translation – add more ice to my drinks
2. I resolve to send back cold food, even if I'm starving.  
Translation – No Mr. Nice Guy
- 3 I resolve to ask to be moved if there are screaming kids next to me.  
Translation – "Two things I can't stand crying women and crying babies."
4. I resolve to send back my meat if its not cooked to my liking.  
Translation – I want more perfection in 2020
5. I resolve to order a Grande at Starbucks instead of a Venti to save money.  
Translation – Watch out Starbucks a big dip in the stock in 2020
6. I resolve to smoke more cigars this year.  
Translation – I always smoke with my friends.
7. I resolve to ask the dumb question, is it really a Champagne Brunch  
or a Sparkling Wine Brunch?  
Translation – It is always a Sparkling Wine Brunch
8. I resolve to ask, is it really World Famous?  
Translation – Never World Famous, often people in the neighborhood don't know the place.
9. I resolve to tip 10% if the service warrants it.  
Translation - Yeah right - I know I am a coward when it comes to stiffing these waiters, even when they deserve it.
10. I resolve to cook one meal a week at home.  
Translation – One more than I am now!

Bonus When ordering to-go food I will have my order ready before getting on the phone!

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## FAMILY MATTERS

By Marc Garlett



With more and more Baby Boomers reaching retirement age each year, our country is undergoing an unprecedented demographic transformation that's been dubbed "The Greying of America." This population shift stands to affect many aspects of life, especially your relationships with aging parents and other senior family members.

By 2060, the number of Americans aged 65 and older is projected to nearly double from 52 million in 2018 to 95 million, which will account for 24% of the total population. And as early as 2030, the number of those 65 and older is expected to surpass the number of children (those under age 18) for the first time in history.

Coinciding with the boom in the elderly population, the number of Americans suffering from Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia is expected to increase substantially as well. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) estimates that the number of Americans with Alzheimer's disease will double by 2060, when it's expected to reach 14 million—more than 3% of the total population.

A decline in financial capacity Although Alzheimer's is the most common cause of dementia in older adults, it's not the only one. In fact, the National Institute on Aging estimates that nearly half of all Americans will develop some form of dementia in their lifetime. And while the cognitive decline brought on by dementia affects a broad array of mental functions, many people aren't aware that one of the first abilities to go is one's "financial capacity."

Financial capacity refers to the ability to manage money and

make wise financial decisions. Yet cognitive decline brought on by dementia often develops slowly over several years, so a diminished financial capacity frequently goes unnoticed—often until it's too late.

"Financial capacity is one of the first abilities to decline as cognitive impairment encroaches," notes the AARP's Public Policy Institute, "yet older people, their families, and others are frequently unaware that these deficits are developing."

Ironically, studies have also shown that the elderly's confidence in their money management skills can actually increase as they get older, which puts them in a perilous position. As seniors begin to experience difficulty managing their money, they don't realize they're making poor choices, which makes them easy targets for financial exploitation, fraud, and abuse.

Watch for red flags over the holidays Now that we're in the peak of the holiday season, you're likely spending more time with your aging parents and other senior relatives. This provides an ideal opportunity to be on the lookout for signs that your loved ones might be experiencing a decline in their financial capacity. The University of Alabama study "The Warning Signs of Diminished Financial Capacity in Older Adults" identified six red flags to watch for:

1. Memory lapses: Examples include missing appointments, failing to make a payment—or making multiples of the same payment—forgetting to bring documents or where documents are located, repeatedly giving the same orders, repeatedly asking the same questions.
2. Disorganization: Mismanaging financial documents, and losing or misplacing bills, statements, or other records.
3. Declining checkbook management skills: Forgetting to record transactions in the register, incorrectly or incompletely filling out register entries, and incorrectly filling out the payee or amount on

- a check.
4. Mathematical mistakes: A declining ability to do basic oral or written math computations, such as making change.
5. Confusion: Difficulty understanding basic financial concepts like mortgages, loans, or interest payments, which were previously well-understood.
6. Poor financial judgment: A new-found interest in get-rich-quick schemes or radical changes in investment strategy.

Managing diminished financial capacity If you notice your parents or other senior family members displaying any of these behaviors, you should take steps to protect them from their own poor judgment. It's vital to address their cognitive decline as early as possible, not only to prevent financial mismanagement and exploitation, but also to ensure their overall health and safety.

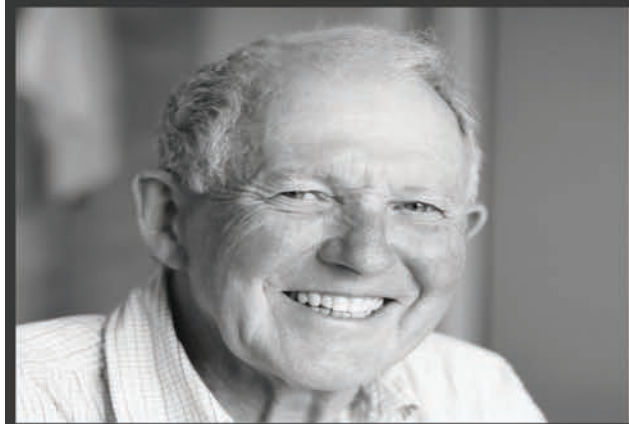
There are several estate planning tools that can be put in place to help your aging parents and other senior family members protect themselves and their assets from the debilitating effects of dementia and other forms of incapacity. In part two of this series, we'll discuss the specific planning tools available for this purpose, and provide some guidance on how to address this sensitive subject with your elderly loved ones.

Dedicated to empowering your family, building your wealth and defining 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 55 Auburn Avenue, 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 626.355.4000 or visit [www.CaliLaw.com](http://www.CaliLaw.com) for more information.



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## NEW DECADE, NEW CAREER

By Dr. Edward C. Ortell, Citrus College Governing Board Member

Employment in the U.S. is expected to grow by 8.4 million jobs in the next decade, according to a recent report by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

The BLS's list of the 20 fastest growing occupations sounds a bit like futuristic fiction. Solar photo-voltaic installers lead the list at 63 percent job growth, followed by wind turbine service technicians at 57 percent. Other high-tech jobs in top 20 list include information security analysts, genetic counselors and operations research analysts. These are all high paying jobs, and most require at least some college.

The BLS cites an aging population as a factor in its projected changes in workforce demographics. That population also will result the need for more healthcare workers. It's interesting to note that while there will be an exodus of retiring older Americans in the next 10 years, the share of baby boomers and those over 55 remaining in the workforce longer is expected to increase from 23.1 percent to 25.2 percent.

For those searching for a new, profitable, in-demand career, here are a few options to consider:

**Wind Turbine Technician** – Wind turbine service technicians install, maintain, and repair wind turbines. These jobs typically require a postsecondary non-degree award (i.e. some college) and pay a median annual wage of \$54,370.

**Information Security Analyst** – These workers plan and carry out security measures to protect an organization's computer networks and systems. Most positions require a bachelor's degree in a computer-related field. The median wage for these jobs is \$98,350.

**Physical Therapist Assistant** - Physical therapist assistants entering the profession need an associate's degree from an accredited program. The median annual wage for physical therapist assistants is more than \$58,000.

**Medical Assistants** - Medical assistants complete administrative and clinical tasks in hospitals, offices of physicians, and other healthcare facilities. These jobs typically require a postsecondary non-degree award. Employment of medical assistants is projected to grow 23 percent in the next decade, much faster than the average for all occupations. The median wage is about \$33,610.

Community colleges throughout California provide low cost, high quality academic and career training to prepare students for the jobs of the future. Whether it's an associate degree, a vocational certificate or the first two years of a Bachelor's Degree that's required, a community college is a great place to start.

About the Author:

Dr. Edward C. Ortell is the senior governing board member at Citrus College and a Professor Emeritus at Pasadena City College. He has served on the California Community College Trustees (CCCT) state board of directors and 11 terms as president of the Citrus College Board of Trustees.



Dr. Edward C. Ortell examines human simulator in Citrus College nursing lab. (courtesy photo)

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bforsee@ausd.net

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(626) 351-8951 website: www.lasallehs.org  
Principal Mrs. Courtney Kassakhian

Monrovia High School  
325 East Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016

(626) 471-2800 Principal Darvin Jackson  
Email: schools@monrovia.k12.ca.us

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

Pasadena High School  
2925 E. Sierra Madre Blvd. Pasadena, Ca.  
(626) 396-5880 Principal: Roberto Hernandez  
website: http://phs.pusd.us

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

Sierra Madre Elementary School  
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(626) 355-1428 Principal: Lindsay Lewis  
E-mail address: lewis.lindsay@pusd.us

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(626) 836-2947 Principal: Garrett Newsom  
E-mail address: newsom.garrett@pusd.us

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Lisa Feldman: Head of School

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E-mail address: resseln@pusd.us

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## CHRISTOPHER Nyerges



## A KOMBUCHA ADVENTURE

[Nyerges is the author of "Extreme Simplicity," "Self-Sufficient Home," and other books. Information about his books and classes is available at [www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance.com](http://www.SchoolofSelf-Reliance.com).]

It was Friday afternoon, and I was sitting around a redwood table in the shade under tall eucalyptus trees. Five of us were about to continue on a porch renovation of one of Highland Park's century-plus-old houses. We were taking a break, enjoying the cool breeze of the afternoon while reviewing the plan.

All five of us there had known each other for at least 30 years, so we were almost like married people who no longer care for the other's jokes, and barely care what the others look like. We were there united for a common cause only, and were about to begin.

Timothy said, "Well, let's have a toast before we continue," though we had only water.

"Wait," I said, "Let's have a little kombucha for our toast."

Everyone smiled agreeingly at the prospect, and I pulled out a beautiful bottle of a golden liquid and carefully poured a little into each cup. We were quiet as I poured and everyone examined the unique color of our beverage. We could hear the slight breeze in the background, and insects buzzing, and the music from the neighbor's house of monks slowly singing some Middle Ages chant.

I explained that the kombucha was home-made, and made locally. "Ah," said Cody.

We held our cups as Timothy made a toast to our enduring friendship, and to the porch which we wanted to be made acceptable to greet visitors for decades to come.

We each sipped. I sipped slowly, savoring the subtle flavor and odor. There was none of the harshness, or astringency, that I'd come to associate with kombucha, commercial kombucha. I knew that kombucha was good for you, and I'd made it for a long time when I lived in Highland Park, but I never really liked it. Even the commercial kombucha at Whole Foods and elsewhere, flavored as it was with rasp-berry and other additives, was never something I enjoyed.

But this was like a soft nectar. Everyone was quiet as we sipped, and Timothy broke the silence by blurting, "That's good!"

My body felt good from the home-made drink, and I felt light, and lightened.

There was enough for everyone to get a second serving, and so we quietly sat and sipped while sitting in the breeze, the monastic chanting in the background making me feel transported to another place and time. I felt that this was the first time I'd ever consumed a kombucha that I actually liked.

We were all about ready to get back to work, but no one quite wanted to get up yet.

"Was it made with chi," Cody asked.

"I don't know, but I suspect it was," I responded.

"Is this alcoholic?" asked another.

"I don't know," I said. "It's wonderfully effervescent, and maybe there's a bit of alcohol, but probably not much."

Everyone was nodding, enjoying the final drops.

"Is this available for purchase?" asked another.

"This is a local home-made batch. It was a gift from a good friend. It's not something that she makes as a business. So, it's probably not available for purchase. Just enjoy it," I said. "You can buy the next-best thing at the health food store."

My body and mind and heart felt good, and everyone got up to go back to work with a smile on their faces.

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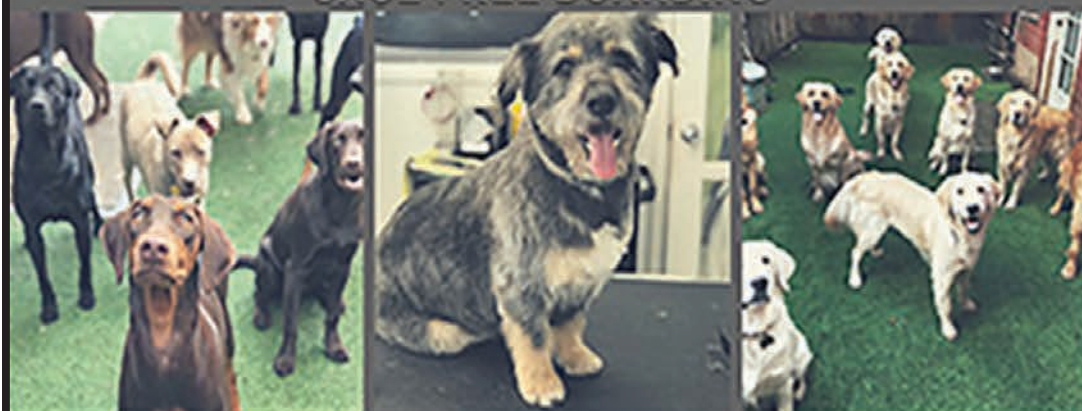
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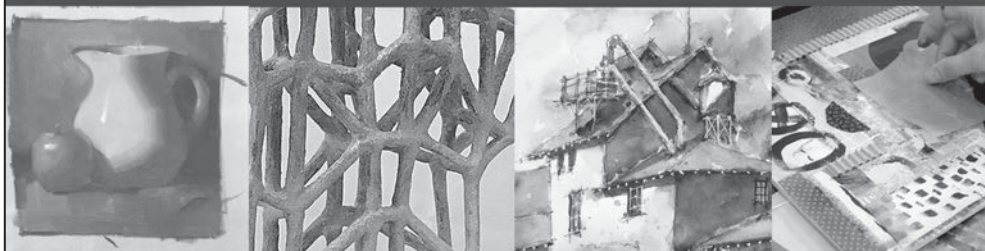
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## CAT OF THE WEEK

Katnip News!



**LITTLE LENNY**

Little LENNY is only 4 months old and adorable! He's a tabby with beautiful markings and very soft fur. He's a bit overshadowed by his more attention-seeking tuxedo sisters, Lala & Lucie,

but hold Lenny in your arms like a little "purrito" and he will melt. Lenny can be adopted by himself or with one of his sisters, or be a pal to another cat. Our \$125 adoption fee includes neuter, current vaccines, health exam, microchip, and more! Ask about our "TwoFur" discount. See [www.lifelineforpets.org](http://www.lifelineforpets.org) and click on the Young Cats page & scroll down.



## Pet of the Week

Friendly, loving, and happy – do these sound like three adjectives you need in your life? Then come meet Molly! This beautiful tabby was brought in to the shelter after her owner died and no one else in the family could take her in. She's only three years old and would love to find her forever home for the new year. If you're looking for an all-around great cat, Molly is ready to wow you!

The adoption fee for cats is \$90. All cats are spayed or neutered, microchipped, and vaccinated before being adopted.

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.

View photos of adoptable pets at [pasadenahumane.org](http://pasadenahumane.org). 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.



## LOOKING FOR A BEST FRIEND?

**Meet Max**, is a distinguished ten-year-old Siberian Husky mix with a snowy white fluffy coat, cute midnight black button nose, and gorgeous dark chocolate colored eyes. This 73-pound easy-going love bug is a low maintenance constant gentle companion who loves going for walks and being around people. Max has demonstrated himself to be a loving, steady energy walking buddy who is easy to handle and does well on a leash. He's a favorite of our volunteers due to his easy energy level and great behavior on the walks. Max doesn't pull and stays close to his walker. He's an extremely loyal Husky who deserves a loving forever home he deserves. If you can take in this laid-back resilient furry friend then please stop by and say hi to Max! His adoption fee is \$145, which includes neuter surgery, microchip, first vaccinations and a free wellness check-up at a participating veterinarian.



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## SENIOR HAPPENINGS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! ....December Birthdays\*



Maria Decker, Nancy Dorn, Prudence Levine Pat Karamitros, Joan Hufnagel, Mary Alice Cervera, Carol Horejsi, Shirley Anhalt, 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



## HART PARK HOUSE MONTHLY PROGRAMS:

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 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Join the class with Instructor Barbara Dempsey as she leads you in the art of Hula!

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

**Free Blood Pressure Testing:** 2nd Tuesdays Monthly from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. No appointment is necessary.

**Brain Games:** Every third Thursday of the month at 12:45-1:45pm Join us for Scattergories, a creative thinking game by naming objects within a set of categories; or Jenga, a block-building challenge that keeps you stacking and balancing your tower. Everyone is welcome, and no experience is needed. A great way to strengthen your mind and make new friends... Games are facilitated by Senior Volunteers.

**Free Legal Consultation:** Wednesday, December 18th from 10:30 a.m. - Noon. Attorney Lem Makupson is available for legal consultation. Specializing in Family Law, Wills, Trusts, Estates and Injury. Please call the Hart Park House for an appointment, 626-355-5278 ext. 704.

**Senior Club:** Meets Saturdays, Weekly at Hart Park House Brown Bag Lunch, great company and bingo at 11:30 a.m.

**Chair Yoga:** Mondays & Wednesdays 11:00 - 11:45 a.m. with Paul Hagen. Classes include Yoga and balance exercises. All ability levels are encouraged and welcomed!

**Birthday Celebration:** Every 2nd Thursday Monthly at the Hart Park House. Share free birthday cake and ice cream kindly provided by the Senior Community Commission!

**Game Day:** Every Thursday Monthly 12:00 Noon come into the Hart Park House and join a lively poker game with friends!

**Free Strength Training Class:** Fridays 12:45 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. with Lisa Brandley Light weights, low impact resistance training and body conditioning. Class equipment provided.

**Gentle Yoga for Active Seniors:** Every Monday & Wednesday from 8:15 - 9:45 a.m. with Andrea Walsh at the Hart Park House. Classes include complete floor relaxation, standing and floor postures, balancing, and featuring extended meditations on the fourth Wednesdays of the month! Call (626)-355-5278 for more information.

## MEALS - ON - WHEELS PROGRAM

The Home Delivered Meals Program provides healthy meals to homebound Seniors 60 and above. Seven frozen meals, milk, bread and fruit are included and delivered once a week. \$3 Donation per meal is suggested but remains completely anonymous and voluntary. Clients must be eligible and we invite you to contact YWCA Intervale Senior Services at 626-214-9467. SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE SUGGESTED DONATION \$3.00 1% LOW FAT MILK INCLUDED

## SENIOR CINEMA

SCROOGED December 4th "Scrooged" PG-41; 1 hr. 41 min.

A selfish, cynical television executive is haunted by three spirits bearing lessons on Christmas Eve



## "THE MAN WHO INVENTED CHRISTMAS"

December 18th "The Journey that led to Charles Dickens "A Christmas Carol", a timeless tale that would redefine Christmas



## Even though you need help each day, we agree that you're still in charge

Many seniors fear that moving out of their home into an assisted living residence means forfeiting control of their lives. At The Kensington, nothing could be further from the truth. We believe it is our role to support our residents, not to assume complete decision-making authority. Of course, as specialists in caring for older adults, we monitor routines, behavior and mood every day. If we see changes that concern us, then we talk with residents and their families immediately. Together, we all decide about making adjustments to care and services to preserve comfort, wellness and morale.

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## DOES MEDICARE COVERS COUNSELING SERVICES?

Dear Savvy Senior:

Does Medicare cover outpatient counseling services for its beneficiaries? Since the death of my sister last year, I've struggled with depression and anxiety and would like to get some help. Sad Senior

Dear Sad:

I'm sorry for your loss. Yes, Medicare covers both outpatient and inpatient mental health services to help beneficiaries with depression, anxiety and many other needs. Here's what you should know.

## Outpatient Coverage

If you have original Medicare, your Part B coverage will pay 80 percent (after you've met your \$198 Part B deductible) for a variety of counseling and mental health care services that are provided outside a hospital, like individual or group therapy, family counseling and more. They also cover services for treatment of beneficiaries who struggle with alcohol and drug abuse.

You, or your supplemental insurance is responsible for the remaining 20 percent coinsurance.

Medicare also gives you the option of getting treatment through a variety of mental health professionals such as psychiatrists, psychologists, clinical social workers and clinical nurse specialists.

To get this coverage, you'll need to choose a "participating provider" that accepts Medicare assignment, which means they accept Medicare's approved amount as full payment for a service.

If you choose a "nonparticipating provider" who accepts Medicare but does not agree to Medicare's payment rate, you may have to pay more. And if you choose an "opt-out provider" that does not accept Medicare payments at all, you will be responsible for the entire cost.

To locate a mental health care professional in your area that accepts Medicare assignment, use Medicare's online Physician Compare tool. Go to Medicare.gov/PhysicianCompare and type in your ZIP code, or city and state, then type in the type of profession you want to locate, like "psychiatry" or "clinical psychologist" in the search box. You can also get this information by calling Medicare at 800-633-4227.

## Inpatient Coverage

If you need mental health services in either a general or psychiatric hospital, original Medicare Part A covers this too (after you've met your \$1,408 Part A deductible). Your doctor should determine which hospital setting you need. If you receive care in a psychiatric hospital, Medicare covers up to 190 days of inpatient care for your lifetime. And if you use your lifetime days but need additional care, Medicare may cover additional inpatient care at a general hospital.

## Additional Coverage

In addition to the outpatient and inpatient mental health services, Medicare also covers yearly depression screenings that must be done in a primary care doctor's office or clinic. Annual depression screenings are covered 100 percent.

And if you have a Medicare prescription drug plan, most medications used to treat mental health conditions are covered too.

## Medicare Advantage

If you happen to get your Medicare benefits through a private Medicare Advantage plan, they must provide the same coverage as original Medicare does, but they may impose different rules and will likely require you to see an in-network provider. You'll need to contact your plan directly for details.

And for more information, call Medicare at 800-633-4227 and request a copy of publication #10184 "Medicare & Your Mental Health Benefits," or you can read it online at Medicare.gov.

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.



## OUT TO PASTOR

A Weekly Religion Column by Rev. James Snyder

## PROPER ETIQUETTE FOR RETURNING CHRISTMAS GIFTS

The Christmas frenzy is over, and the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage and Yours Truly are sitting back surveying our Christmas plunder. Only a few days ago, the house was ablaze with Christmas lights, and the rafters were echoing with Christmas delight. Now, much to my delight, quietness is tip-toeing through our house.



Why is it that something as wonderful as Christmas takes so long to prepare and goes by so quickly? As it stands today, there are only 360 more days until the next Christmas. I do not think I have enough time to get ready to do this all over again.

However, the countdown begins. With the odd chance that something can be done, I propose that we celebrate Christmas every even year because of so many odd years in my life.

In surveying my Christmas plunder, several thoughts, like sugarplums, are dancing in my head. The primary thought is simply, what am I going to do with all these gifts? I have enough gifts to last me the rest of my life if I live to be 100. Of course, if I live to be 110, I may need another gift.

My gifts range in several categories.

In the first category, there is aftershave, cologne and deodorant. Obviously, those who know me the best think I stink. The first thing that comes to their mind when they think of me is the Bible verse, "by now he stinketh" (John 11:39). At least they are biblical.

I just would like everybody to know that come Saturday night, regular as clockwork, and I take a bath whether I need it or not. I would give you that I need it more than I don't. The best time to sniff me is Sunday morning, fresh from my Saturday night shower and after I have doused myself with my Christmas cologne. Apart from that, I give no guarantees.

I am tempted, for some family function, to douse myself with every brand of aftershave and cologne I have received as Christmas presents. Maybe somebody will get the hint that I have enough.

The second category of Christmas gifts is clothing. This covers a large area ... I'm a big man. Two sizes are associated with the Christmas clothing I get each year. Either they are too small or too big. None of my relatives knows me that well.

The only clothing that fits me is neckties — and I have enough neckties to have a nice necktie party. I do have a candidate in mind, actually several candidates.

When it comes to Christmas presents, there are only two kinds I really accept each year. Presents I like, and presents from people I like. As a general rule, I do not accept presents from people I do not like.

As of this date, I have not had an occasion to refuse such a gift from such a person. But I still have my principle, if not their interest.

All this brings me to my current dilemma. What can I do with all these Christmas presents, especially the ones I cannot wear or use? What is the best thing to do, re-gift, or return these Christmas pre-sents?

I like the idea of returning presents I cannot use or wear in exchange for something I can use or wear. It is a simple matter of going back to the mall and negotiating the exchange.

Of course, before I can negotiate the exchange, I have to wage war with millions of people wanting to do the same thing. Although it is nice to know you are on the same page as other people, I just wish I were reading another book.

If you think the mall is a dangerous place prior to Christmas, try going there the day after Christmas.

It never fails, by the time I have waited in line for my turn to do the exchange; they no longer have my size and give me a rain check. I really hate it when it rains on my parade.

Then there is the idea of re-gifting. I am beginning to like this idea more and more. For this reason, when I unwrap my presents, I am very careful not to tear the wrapping paper. This way, I not only have next year's Christmas present, but I have the wrapping paper to go with it.

The first Christmas I thought of this was a high watermark day in my life. I was proud of myself to be able to kill several birds with one stone. Unbeknownst to me, the biggest bird I killed was myself.

This did not show itself until the following Christmas when, by not giving this proper thought, I gave people the gift they gave me the previous Christmas. Believe me; I had a lot of "splaining" to do.

Nobody tells you this about Christmas in those etiquette books, but if you are going to re-gift a Christmas present, make sure you remember who gave it to you in the first place.

It is difficult trying to find the perfect gift as only one person has mastered the finesse of it. The Bible says, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." James 1:17).

The gift God gives is one that you will have no reason to return.

Dr. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, PO Box 831313, Ocala, FL 34483. He lives with the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 1-866-552-2543 or e-mail jamesnyder2@att.net. His web site is www.jamesnyderministries.com.

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### Mountain Views News Mission Statement

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

## TOM PURCELL



"Twas the night before Christmas, when all through America, people were angry or de-lighted, and most uncomplimentary.

Despite it being the time of the year to unite, gather and share good cheer, the president's impeachment turned the country on its ear.

"High crimes for certain," his opponents did claim, "because since his election we've been taking aim."

"Not so fast," did his defenders retort, "high crimes" demand the highest bar and your argument fell short.

"He's an unconventional president," his defenders continued, "uncouth to be sure, but with good intent.

"The economy is flourishing, which is just what we need, to address other challenges and do so quickly indeed.

"The deficit is massive and requires trimming, our failing health care, roads and schools also demand reckoning."

"But what of the environment?" his opponents declare. "This president denies it's an issue and plumb doesn't care.

"He gets under our skin and makes us wild with rage, we must remove him from office and put him in a cage!

"Our goal is noble, why can't you see, that we must damage and discredit Trump before 2020.

"If he's elected again, and we fear he may be, he could appoint a third judge to the Su-preme Court judiciary.

"That we cannot allow and never will we agree, to leave elections up to the people in a fal-tering democracy."

And so commenced an unpleasant debate, one with no middle, just two sides of irate.

But Christmas and Hanukkah have finally arrived, a time of the year to reappraise.

We're not so divided as many may think, we are not yet near the brink.

In the history of our incredible republic, you see, we've survived far worse controversy.

## AMID SUCH A CLATTER, HERE'S WHAT REALLY SHOULD MATTER

Let's not forget our own Civil War, 620,000 Americans died in that awful uproar.

If only the country had heeded the words President Lincoln did speak, during his first in-auguration week:

"We are not enemies, but friends," he read, and warned about high passions straining our bonds of affection as they spread.

He urged us to rise above emotional thinking by every measure, by embracing "the better angels of our nature."

By failing to listen to what Lincoln said, our young country suffered misery, death and de-struction instead.

And though it may appear nobody knows "where to" from here, one principle remains clear.

This democracy is ours and should reflect the will of we the people. If you are not happy with what you are seeing, get to the voting booth promptly.

Call or write your congressperson and pen letters to the editor. Engage, speak out, help us regain a commonsense center.

Renew with your neighbors civil debate, be respectful and inquisitive, not filled with anger and hate.

The holiday season has arrived this year, let's get back to enjoying and spreading good cheer.

Our country is a continuous work in progress and much needs to be done, but let's re-member our blessings and how to have fun.

We have the power to love or to hate. We choose to be happy or irate.

Let's unleash our nature's better angels instead. Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Hap-py Holidays are what should be said!

May your homes be happy, your families be swell! May the New Year be your best year — and our country's as well!

*Tom Purcell, author of "Misadventures of a 1970's Childhood," a humorous memoir avail-able at amazon.com, is a Pittsburgh Tribune-Review humor columnist.*



## LEFT TURN/RIGHT TURN

### STUART TOLCHIN



I am writing this article on the day before Christmas, a week before the New Year begins. As is usual, this is a time of great confusion for me. In order to gain some clarity for myself and tell you some of the reasons for my

confusion. Perhaps you are feeling some of the same things.

This Christmas I am the proud new grandfather of my daughter's five month old daughter Justice Josephine. This relationship is inter-wound with my recovery from a double hernia surgery one week ago which prohibits me for the next month or so from carrying or lifting anything that weighs over 10 pounds. "JJ" although weighing below 5 pounds at birth, has admirably already reached 15 pounds. Do you understand the problem?

On Sunday I, my wife, JJ's parents, my son and his girlfriend met for what has become our traditional Sunday family breakfast. Everyone, pretty much has their assigned role with the baby's parents doing a lot of the cooking, my wife keeping everything in order, and my son, his girlfriend and I staying out of the way and cooing with "JJ." This Sunday I felt a particular need to talk about myself and my own parents to this next generation who really knew little about them. On top of a cabinet in the dining room there is a memory box, constructed by my wife with pictures of my Dad. I had to reach high to bring it down so that I could explain things about him to the rest of the family. Truthfully, at that time no one except me, was interested in hearing any description but everyone united in yelling at me to stop standing on my toes and reaching for the box as this would surely pop the stitches from the recent surgery. Still I persisted.

In my defense I had been isolated in my bedroom for the past week unable to get out of bed and taking prescribed opiates to deal with the overwhelming and unexpected intense pain. Finally, when I was able to get out of bed, I went immediately to the mirror, dropped my pants and was horrified by what I saw. I will not describe what I saw any further, but imagine the worst thing you can think of and cause it to be swollen and purple. I have not returned to the mirror since. I saw a doctor yesterday and have been told that, although this is hardly normal, there is some likelihood that in a month or so everything will be in its proper place.

This shock, combined with the effect of multiple days of regularly scheduled opioids undoubtedly has left me feeling more than a little crazy. I

### TRADITION

am retiring from law practice, really as of now, and it has all combined to make me fear the complete disappearance of my whole heritage from my children and grandchildren's lives. I pulled the box down and displayed the items. "I remember that grandpa was blind and couldn't see me except for one time, for about five seconds, he could see my face.(This had actually happened when once my father, who had been sightless for years, suddenly said he had seen my son's face in glaring sunlight.) What's with all these pictures my son and daughter wondered? There they were: pictures of my father as the foreman of a CC in the 1930's (gee, I hope you know what the CC camps were) pictures of my father in a stylish hat next to columns describing FDR's efforts to combat the great depression by hiring unemployed young men, "starving and sweltering" in the heat of a Chicago summer and transporting them to rural upstate Wisconsin where they built roads, and fought fires and grew fit and strong. A final picture was the most surprising! There was my father's name spelled differently from ours; TOLSCHIN. I explained that his name was really spelled exactly the same as ours and that his first name was Abraham but that he went by the name of Al. Why?

It's of course easy to understand if you are old like me but somehow in School we are never taught that long prior to Hitler and the 1930's and 1940's there was pervasive raging anti-Semitic and anti-Russian feelings viciously expressed in the United States. My father was both Russian and Jewish and I guess a small name change helped him avoid a few fights. We never talked about that or much else about his life-experience before walking across Poland, ending up in Liverpool, and a year or so later coming to America. In fact this lack of knowledge goes a long way in explaining my planned celebration of Christmas Eve tonight. Fifty years or so I ago I saw the movie Fiddler on the Roof, which at the time my college-graduated mind took to be a shallow, superficial, mainly inconsequential presentation inaccurately portraying historical religious conflict and ethnic differences which would soon be forgotten (the movie not the differences). Tonight I will go, accompanied by wife to the Laemmle Theatre's annual Christmas Eve Sing-Along to Fiddler on the Roof. Tradition!! Well, not exactly, my wife's Hispanic, but it's all I have left. I do not want my own life and presence to disappear from my children and grandchildren's memories like so much of my father's life has already disappeared. Can I be blamed for wanting my family to retain more of me and my dad's no matter how he had to spell his name? TRADITION -you just have to make the most of what is out there.

### MICHAEL REAGAN

## CELEBRATING A CHRISTMAS CEASE FIRE



What a great holiday season it is.

Know why?

Congress is on vacation, which means all the rest of us get a break from poli-tics.

We're in the middle of what amounts to a national Christmas ceasefire in our never-ending, 24/7 political civil war.

Political bombshells, childish name-calling, stupid tweet battles, partisan posturing, congressional hearings, Democrat primary debates, FBI leaks, trade wars, Brexit, Jeffrey Epstein's "suicide" ... all are almost totally absent from the news media.

The best present I received this year was that no one talked politics at my house all Christmas day.

The "Trump" word was never spoken. Neither was the "Pelosi" word or the "Im-peachment" word.

We actually wished each other Merry Christmas, opened gifts and watched our grandkids go bonkers opening their toys.

That's what Christmas Day in the U.S. is supposed to be all about – and used to be.

The nicest and most important present of all for me this year, however, was that my sister Patti came over and spent part of the day with us.

She and I share little common ground when it comes to politics, to put it mild-ly, and she had never even been to my house in Los Angeles before.

Actually, until this year, I hadn't spoken to her since 2004, when my father's will was read.

But when Patti was recently asked to do a TV program about our family for a cable station, she asked me for my help.

The project was going to be about what life was like for us Reagans before my father ran for governor of California and politics took over his life and changed ours forever.

The program idea didn't work out for Patti in the end, but it brought the two of us together this year for first time since 2004.

I met her for lunch a couple of times, but we had not been with each other at Christmas since 1992 or 1993, when the family got together at my dad's house when he was in the early stages of Alzheimer's.

On Wednesday Patti came over for several hours and saw my kids Cameron and Ashley. She met her grand-nieces Marilyn, who will be 4, and Penelope, who will be 2.

Patti and I sat down and talked about the family, what we've been up to lately and lots of other things – but not a word about politics.

We had no good reason to discuss or argue politics.

I know how she feels about conservatives and President Trump. She knows what I think. Why bring it up?

The two of us Reagans were able to enjoy Christmas Day without getting mad at each other because, as our father used to do when his politically divided family was together, we completely avoided politics.

If Patti and I can exchange gifts and have a wonderful time without letting it be ruined by politics, I don't see why everyone could not do the same.

In fact, keeping partisan politics out of Christmas – and all our family holiday gatherings — is the best resolution I can think of in 2020.

Happy New Year.

..Michael Reagan is the son of President Ronald Reagan, a political consultant, and the author of "Lessons My Father Taught Me: The Strength, Integrity, and Faith of Ronald Reagan."















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...improve upon during the new year!

Kids: color stuff in!

Many people all over the world ring in the New Year on the 31st of December at midnight. Some ring in their new year in a different season. Read my clues to learn about new year celebrations. Fill in the puzzle!

1. In \_\_\_\_\_ it is a time to pray, think about the old year and forgive (in the fall).  
2. People in \_\_\_\_\_ hang straw rope on their doors to ward off evil spirits; eat tasty rice cakes.  
3. In \_\_\_\_\_, schools are closed. People use New Year's Day to rest from the parties and fireworks they went to the night before!  
4. In \_\_\_\_\_, people decorate with colors: yellow for happiness, red for love, white for health!  
5. In \_\_\_\_\_, the "first footer" – the first person to come through your door in the new year – brings good luck!  
6. In \_\_\_\_\_, during the festival of Songkran, people splash water on each other for fun. Some even use elephants to spray water (April).  
7. In \_\_\_\_\_, parades are held with fireworks and dancing "dragons."  
8. In \_\_\_\_\_, people celebrate for 6 days with parties, fireworks and dancing.  
9. In the \_\_\_\_\_, people wear polka dots and eat round fruits for good luck; streets are lined with bright lanterns.  
10. In the \_\_\_\_\_ people watch a giant crystal ball drop at the stroke of midnight. People promise to better themselves in the new year.  
11. In \_\_\_\_\_, heads of households go door to door to wish neighbors well. Kids get sweets wrapped in colorful paper.  
12. In \_\_\_\_\_, people release a flower-filled boat for the ocean goddess, Lemanjá.

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13. In \_\_\_\_\_, the President addresses the country; people make toasts; exchange gifts.  
14. In \_\_\_\_\_ it is a joyful time, lasting about 12 days. There is a reading of the Koran at home. There are lighted candles. A leaf for each family member shows life and growth (March).





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